

MADISON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

P. O. Box 1031

Norfolk, Nebraska 68702-1031

VOLUME 19 - NUMBER 74

January 1998

2nd 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

The Madison County Genealogical Society took a recess from our regular monthly meetings in the months of December and January. After our post-Christmas dinner meeting we should be able to get down to business in February.

The program for February will be given by Audrey Polenske titled "Love Letters Through Generations". Also all members who have old valentines will bring them to February's meeting to show and tell.

One of our members, Edith Clark has moved to Washington state to be near her family. Before she departed she donated two books to our library. These books are "Jubilee--The First 150 Years of Mount Holy Cemetery" located in Little Rock, Arkansas and written by Sybil F. Crawford. The second book "Connor/Connor Cousins" compiled by Richard J. Schneider and Mary Connor Kammerdiener.

Spring must be on its way because of the several seed catalogs that landed in the mail box. After this frigid weather it will be a pleasure for its return. Until next time.

Lottie Klein
Lottie Klein.

We welcome new member: Roger Plummer



Madison County Genealogical Society Membership List
January 16, 1998

Laura B. Allison - 1501 Girard Blvd, S. E., Albuquerque, NM 87106	266-1587
Aage Anderson - 84826 U. S. Hwy 81, Lot #77, Norfolk, NE 68701	379-8531
Joyce Barlow - P. O. Box 134, Osmond, NE 68765-0134	748-3429
Joyce Borgelt - Rt. 1-Box 188, Battle Creek, NE 68715-9764	675-3665
Arlene Charboneau - 171 N. 18th, Springfield, OR 97477	746-5371
Edith Clark - 1714 Martin Rd, Mt. Vernon, WA 98273	360-428-2871
Lois Craig - 1700 Prospect Apt 915, Norfolk, NE 68701-5659	371-0921
Bernice T. Dewey - 306 E. Prospect, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-0175
LaVonne Dike - 207 Hickory, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-3529
Marlene Edens - E. 3825 State Rd 29, Menomonie, WI 54751	715-235-2942
Rod Ewald - 2515 Madison Ave, Norfolk, NE 68701	379-2295
Verda Fisher - 910 South 16th Street, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-1926
Anna Frautschi - 211 S. Helen St., Valentine, NE 69201-2043	
Margerie R. Fuhrmann - 1215 Meadow Drive, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-3805
Doug Harbottle - 310 Cottonwood St., P. O. Box 1361, Norfolk, NE 68702-1361	379-0708
Celia M. (Ginger) Howser - P. O. Box 407, 202 South 5th Street, Battle Creek, NE 68715	675-5006
Betty Huebner - 1006 Meadow St., Watertown, WI 53094	
Lottie Klein - 1105 S. 10th, Norfolk, NE 68701-5707	371-2508
Wilber and Julie Koenig - 1307 South 2nd Street, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-9087
Charlene Kolterman - 1909 Maurer Drive, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-2887
Althea Larson - Box 1, Newman Grove, NE 68758	447-2744
JoNelle Linnaus - 2202 Elmers Lane, Norfolk, NE 68701	379-2978
Dr. Jeffrey L. Lofthus - 1220 Hayes Ave., Norfolk, NE 68701	379-9642
Iola Louthan - 2409 Westside Ave., Norfolk, NE 68701	379-0855
Marlyn and Betty Low - P. O. Box 97, Battle Creek, NE 68715-0097	675-2617
Harold J. Lyon - 604 So 14th Street, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-2589
Dale and Jean Masters - 608 East Bluff Street, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-2902
Bob Mather - Rt 2-Box 137A, Meadow Grove, NE 68752	634-2364
Eleanor W. Meuse - 6617 N. Windmont Ave. Parker, CO 80134	303-841-4290
Donald and Dorothy Monson - 905 East S. Airport Rd, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-4270
Joan Moody - 503 No 10th Street, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-3713
Della M. Moore - P. O. Box 205, Battle Creek, NE 68715-0205	675-0205 675-5002
Dennis Newland - 613 Magnet, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-0101
Audrey Nitz - 310 South 15th Street, Norfolk, NE 68701	644-7861
Edna Nykodym - 84020 560th Ave., Norfolk, NE 68701-1022	371-4357
Edward Otjen - 2105 High Mesa Drive, Hinderson, NV 89012	
Rev. Walter Pinnt - 411 Blaine, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-8196
Bob Plisek - 810 Volkman Drive, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-3468
Roger Plummer - 309 Aspen Drive, Norfolk, NE 68701	379-1113
Audrey Polenske - 407 N. Birch, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-1928
Frances Praeuner - Rt #1-Box 30, Battle Creek, NE 68715-9705	675-1697
Jennifer J. Prange - 700 Mulder Drive, Lincoln, NE 68510-3942	402-476-7474
Gerald W. Preece - P. O. Box 116, Battle Creek, NE 68715	675-2425
T. F. Preece - 246 Montair Dr., Danville, CA 94526	
Ann R. Rape' - 3219 W 18th, Grand Island, NE 68803	308-384-3661
Delia Reeder - P. O. Box 222, Dove Creek, CO 81324-0222	303-677-2571
Jeanne Rix - 1105 Channel Rd, Norfolk NE 68701-6185	371-2869



Jean Rumsey - 1900 Sunset Ave, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-0672
A. J. Scheerger - 908 Jackpine, P. O. Box 805, Stanton, NE 68779-0805	439-5021
Jan Schlink - 710 South Cactus Wren Street, Gilbert, AZ 85296-1134	
Leatta Stortvedt - 717 E. Norfolk Ave, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-7343
Richard R. Streng - 807 S. 8th, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-9216
Shirley Voecks - 219 Miller Ave, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-9377
Mary Ann Voss - 721 E. Park, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-2039
Jo Waara, P. O. Box 598 - Madison, NE 68478-0598 (w) 454-3500	454-3936
Susan Wattier - R. R. 1 - Box 225, Randolph, NE 68771	337-0138
Betty Weigert - R. R. 2 - Box 86, Wausa, NE 68786	586-2774
Robert Willett, 923 S. 15th Street, Norfolk, NE 68701	371-3276



HONORARY MEMBERS

Harlow Butcher - 1006 Logan Ave, Norfolk, NE	371-3897
Mary Carlisle - 1316 Prospect Ave., Norfolk, NE	371-1791

Civilian Conservation Corps -- Was your ancestor in the Civilian Conservation Corps? If so, do you know where to look for those records? Records of Civilian employees of the federal government are stored at the National Personnel Records Center, Civilian Records Facility, 111 Winnebago St., St. Louis, MO 63118. These old records can contain much personal information, but due to privacy laws the contents of some files may not be available until they are 75 years old. For details on how to request information from the Records Center, contact them at the above address, or call 314-425-5761. There is a Web site: <http://www.nara.gov/nara/frc/cpr.html> (.) There is also a CCC alumni association: The National Association of CCC Alumni, 16 Hancock Ave., Box 16429, St. Louis, MO 63125.

-- Genealogy Bulletin #37 (Jan.-Feb. 1997)

Ohio Land Records Transferred -- In Nov. 1994 the Ohio Office of the State Auditor transferred to the State Archives in the Ohio Historical Center the original land survey field notes, land survey plats, tract and entry books, and index cards related to the Federal lands and Virginia Military District lands in Ohio. Also transferred were the School (Section 16) and Ministerial (Section 29) land records. These original early Ohio land records now will be preserved with the 265 cubic feet of AOS land records previously sent to the Archives. So wrote Ohio State Auditor Thomas E. Ferguson to state historical & genealogical societies.

Researchers may use these records at the Archives/Library, Tues-Sat., 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., or send a research inquiry to: OHS Archives/Library, Ohio Hist. Soc., 1982 Velma Ave., Columbus, OH 43211-2497.

Deeds for real property owned by the State of Ohio & official copies of deeds conveying State of Ohio land (Governor's Deeds) since 1837 will continue to be maintained & available at the Auditor of State's Land Office, 1272 S. Front St., Columbus, OH 43206. These deeds are not being transferred at this time [but] sometime in the future will be housed in the Dept. of Administrative Services, Division of Real Estate.

-- letter reproduced in *The Muskingum*, Zanesville, OH, Dec. 1994.

Current and Deceased Physicians -- The American Medical Association has long maintained a deceased physicians file, and now that database is being filmed by the Family History Library (look for it in 1998). This file is an alphabetical card file of physicians in the U. S. from the 1820s to the 1960s with some cards including addenda (like newspaper clippings). Until this file shows up in the FHL Card Catalog, you must write directly to the AMA for this information: 515 N. State St., Chicago, IL 60610, or phone 616-464-5000. The AMA keeps a Web site offering some basic information about the association and a searchable database of about 650,000 current physicians. Access this at: <http://www.ama-assn.org> (.) The Deceased Physicians Masterfile is not currently online. -- Genealogy Bulletin #37 (Jan.-Feb. 1997)

Colonial Tavernkeepers -- Ever heard of the Flagon and Trencher Society? This is a group descended from Colonial Tavernkeepers, the Colonial equivalent of a Texaco, McDonalds, and Motel 6 all in one. This group has been around for a couple dozen years, and has compiled eleven volumes of descendant members' biographies. For information, contact Barbara Carver Smith, C. G., Keeper of the Tavern Records, 850-A Thornhill Ct., Lakewood, NJ 08701-6661.

Source: Adams Co. Gen. Soc. Jan. 1997

-- Genealogy Bulletin #37 (Jan.-Feb. 1997)



ANCESTOR CHARTS

The Library Research Service (LRS) is an important aid to those unfortunates who live too far away to use the WRHS library facilities. It is also valuable to all of the volunteers who do the research, since it broadens our knowledge of the library holdings. However, far too many first requests are returned to their writers with a note - and an enclosed blank five-generation chart. We ask the chart be filled out, starting with the writer, and point out that places are of equal importance to dates in research.

So, no matter where you write or go for information, a vital prerequisite is an ancestor chart. These rules will assist you in preparing a chart so others may help you.

1. PRINT all SURNAMES in block capital letters.

2. Do both maternal and paternal lines, starting with yourself as #1. If your particular problem is in the sixth generation (or beyond) transfer that person and their ancestor number into slot #1 on a new chart.

NOTE: Make up ancestor charts without any numbers and copy these to both sides of a standard 8½ x 11 paper. Then, if your problem is with #20, put him on the front with #20 before the #1 space. Put his wife, #21 on the back of the sheet. Follow the mathematical formula to fill in the rest of the numbers. In this case, $20 \times 2 = 40$, is the number for the father of #20, and $20 \times 2 + 1 = 41$, which is the number for the mother of #20.

Using this method, on just two pieces of paper, you have the full information for eight generations. There is not enough space on the last lines, the fifth and ninth generations, to provide noting event places.

3. Put all dates in the format 4 Jul 1776 - or day, month abbreviation, and then year. This way no punctuation is necessary, and there is no confusion between 4-7 and 7-4. Remember that before 1752, a system of double dating is used, as prior to this, the 25th of March was the first day of the new year. March was then the first month of the year, and not the third month.

4. Put in towns, counties, and states for all events - or as much as you know. If you are unsure of the exact location, include the name and a question mark. A hint or a hunch is better than nothing. These locations should represent a place where an official record can be found. County boundaries changed over time, and records remain in the counties in which those records were filed.

5. If you know it, note the place of burial. Give the name of the cemetery, town, county, or state. Try to include a section and lot number with some idea as to what part of the cemetery.

6. Mark in some way, those items for which you already have **proof**. For instance, by using an asterisk before a date, *b. 22 Feb 1732, it means that you have some documentary proof for that fact - such as a bible record, birth certificate, tombstone inscription, or the Doakes genealogy. Then on your family group sheet, be very specific as to the nature of this proof.

7. Make several copies.

8. Highlight the problem areas. These may be different according to where you are researching or where you are writing for assistance.

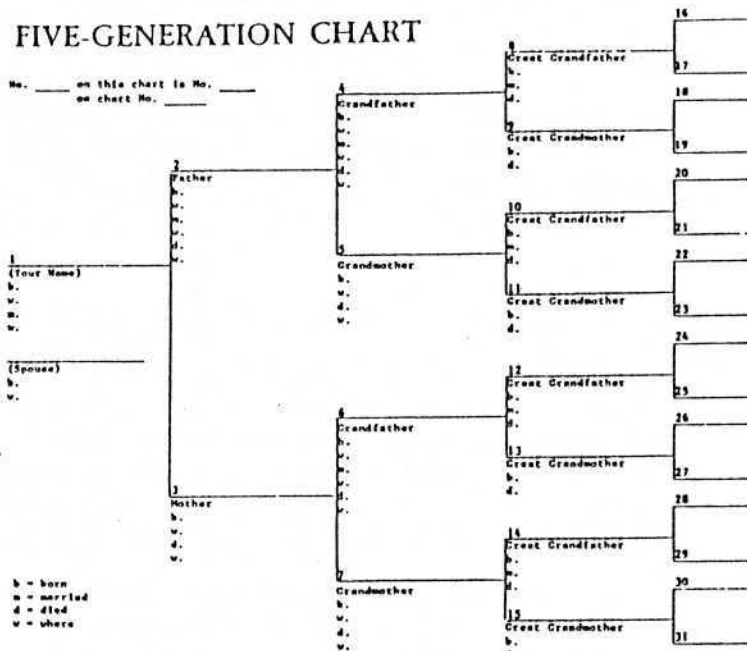
If you wish to use the reverse side of the ancestor chart for your letter, it will keep you brief. It is a cardinal rule: be succinct. Do not ramble on about unrelated items. It is better to have a separate letter for each problem, since the sources searched will probably be quite different.

Type your letter, or have someone type it for you if at all possible. Follow the same rules as in completing the ancestor chart as far as SURNAMES, but include variations in spellings. Use the same system for dates and places and documentary proof. Many hours have been wasted because of illegibility. Think of your own searches in census, marriage records, and probate records, and how difficult it is to read others' handwriting.

Also, consider that many present-day clerks have probably not seen "cursive" writing since grade school. They deal ONLY with the typewriter or a work processor.

Jeanette Grosvenor

FIVE-GENERATION CHART



Source: Western Reserve Historical Soc.
Winter 1993

Obituaries Are Used As Cultural History

THE KANSAS CITY STAR

Kansas City, Mo. — Old Dr. Barry took nothing but whiskey for five days before he died. Still, the story of his death was careful to note that although "his habits of intemperance had reduced him to rags, he retained the manners of a gentleman."

Sophia Stroud, described in her obituary as "Earth's fairest flower," was "taken from us to be transplanted in her heavenly home."

And when yellow fever killed John S. Barrow at age 29, "the fell destroyer came in a moment when he was least expected, and robbed society of one of its brightest ornaments."

These are but a few examples of the old language of death in the United States. To Janice Hume, an assistant journalism professor at Kansas State University, that language offers clues to our cultural values.

For more than a year, Ms. Hume pored over death notices in several U.S. newspapers. She read more than 8,000 obituaries as part of the research for her doctoral dissertation at the University of Missouri.

Here's some of what she found:

■ Obituaries in the 19th century spoke about the person's character; in the 20th century they detailed the person's work and wealth.

■ In the days when women were valued mainly for their relationships with men, their obituaries were about the men in their lives.

■ News was news, even then. Obituaries were written about people who might not ordinarily end up in the papers, because they died in unusual ways or had connections to well-known persons. The obituaries Ms. Hume studied from 1910 and 1930 included lots of people who claimed to have witnessed Abraham Lincoln's assassination.

The study focused on three periods: a decade before and a decade after the election of Andrew Jackson in 1828; five years before the Civil War started and five years after it ended; and before and after 1920, when the 19th Amendment was ratified, giving women the right to vote.

Ms. Hume used newspapers from New York City, New Orleans, Baltimore, Chicago and San Francisco, along with two early national papers, Niles' Weekly Register and the National Intelligencer.

"An obituary is more than a bare-boned recitation of someone's life," Ms. Hume said. "It's a commemoration."

In the earliest years, she said, the newspapers wrote obituaries about men who were Revolutionary War heroes, patriots or public servants. Sometimes a death was newsworthy because of whom the dead person knew.

In 1818, Benjamin Walker's obituary referred to him as an aide-de-camp and friend of George Washington. That was "epitaph enough," said the National Intelligencer. "Would you add more?"

Patrick O'Flinn was remembered as a man who kept a public house where Washington often stayed. "It was remarked on a certain occasion, by one of the gentlemen in Washington's suite," said Niles' Weekly Register, "that in all his journeys with the president, he had never seen him so much at home, in a public house, as in captain O'Flinn's, or ever met a man with whom he discoursed more familiarly than with him."

Even a man's similarity to a famous person could merit a note. The obituary for Mr. Lilly compared his experience as a frontiersman with Daniel Boone's.

"It is worthy of remark that this very old man never owned or had a bed in his house," the notice said. It was not worthy of remark to mention Mr. Lilly's first name.

Men who died in the early 19th century were remembered as patriotic, brave, gallant, vigilant, bold, honest, skilled, industrious and devoted to duty.

In the same period women were described as patient, resigned, obedient, affectionate, amiable, pious, gentle, virtuous, intelligent, educated, tender, innocent and useful.

The National Intelligencer in 1818 said Sarah English "chose to be useful rather than gay. Her domestic concerns were managed with the most admirable economy, exhibiting at the same time a degree of comfort and neatness not to be surpassed."

At least Miss English was remembered for her own virtues. Mrs. Albert E. Plant, whose obituary was published in the New York Times in 1910, was listed as the woman "whose husband is the first cousin of the late Henry B. Plant, the railroad and steamship owner."

As early as 1838, said Ms. Hume, papers include death notices of women who were nuns, writers or actresses. But most were remembered for their relationships with men.

By the 1930s women started being remembered for their own contributions, she said.

The deaths of black people and American Indians were not often noted in the newspapers, Ms. Hume said, unless they provided an opportunity to moralize or the people died in unusual ways.

One black woman was featured because she died when her kerchief caught fire. A black woman slave was remembered because she was obedient to her mistress and many "respectable" women attended her funeral.

While the obituaries of the 19th century focused on the character of the dead person, the 20th century notices were filled with details about the deceased's work and wealth. The abrupt change startled Ms. Hume.

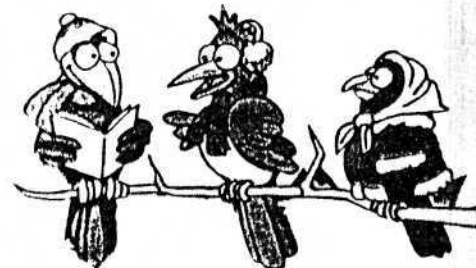
In this century the newspapers extolled men who worked right up to the time they died. These items focused on university affiliations, careers and how much wealth these men had amassed.

"It was such a stark contrast between remembering someone for their strong character and remembering someone for the size of his bank account," said Ms. Hume. "To see it there reflected in these obituaries, I was really amazed."

Ultimately, said Hume, the obituaries showed how Americans valued life, and they celebrated the nation's ideals.

"I'm using obituaries," she said, "as a little window — a tiny little window — to look at cultural values."

Source: Omaha World Herald



Reminiscing . . .

LOOKING BACK

Reading in last week's Battle Creek Enterprise about the movie projector building to be moved to Heritage Park in the Parks of Pride Arboretum reminded people of past times in Battle Creek. The best night of the week was Wednesday night with a band concert at dusk and then a free show. Ruth Doering made the perfect ice cream, solid and rich, costing pennies for a heaping cone. From the book "Centennial Reminiscing, A Story of the People of the Community of Battle Creek, Nebraska 1867-1967" compiled by Charles C. Zimmerman."

Musical Organizations

As early as 1886, Battle Creek music lovers had been elevated from mouth harp and fiddling for music to the organization of a brass band. Most of the early members came from Wisconsin where they had a neighborhood band. These were George and Peter Zimmerman, cornetists; Fred Brechler, bass; Joe Brechler, Louis Merz, George Miller in the harmony section, all from Wisconsin. Others were Billy Hoover, snare drums; Tim Preece, bass drum and Harry Barnes, cornet. In the fall of 1886, after the organization of the band, M.G. Doering came as a teacher in the Lutheran Parochial School. Being a skilled musician he joined the band and from then on directed it. Other old-timers who followed in the years were Fred Meinche, George Brechler and Otto Mass.

By 1906, M.G. Doering trained a number of youngsters and the membership of the band then consisted of M.G. Doering, Otto Rodekohr, Charles Lambert, Peter Zimmerman, and Paul Hogrefe, cornet; Louis Rodekohr, Ed Doering, Elmer Doering and Carl Ditrach, clarinet; Will Zimmerman and Will Oetting, bass horns; G.C. Benning, baritone; Joe Maas and Ed Rodekohr, trombones; Charles Zimmerman, tenor; Billy Hoover, Ed Cutkosky and Albert Merz, alto; Ben Warneke and Jess Hoover, drums. Mr. Doering directed the band until 1940 when his sight failed. He served for 54 years without compensations and too often without appreciation. People often are taken too much for granted.

About 1903 or 1904, the Rodekohr family came from

Missouri. They, being a musical family, contributed much to the community in band, orchestra and song. Otto organized the Battle Creek Valley Orchestra with the following membership; Otto Rodekohr and Henry Praeuner, guitar; Ed Rodekohr, Carl Eyl, Billy Hoover, Otto Schott, Carl Schott, Ed Tegeler and Will Oetting, mandolins; Charles Lambert, cornet; Ed Doering, clarinet; Will Zimmerman, cello; Charles Zimmerman, violin and Louis Rodekohr, drums. No Art Rodekohr has not been forgotten. He was too young to be in that band. He and his brother, Carl, came on later.

Aside from the instrumental music organization, our community has always been blessed with good singing groups. Relying entirely to memory, a few of the early day vocalists should be mentioned as they added much to the cultural life of the community by their effort. These include: Laura (Hurford) Tanner, Lizzie Brecheisen, Nell (Craig) Huddle, Minnie (Zimmerman) Roemer, Emma Beyer, Mrs. Robert Schlach, T.L. White, Peter Zimmerman, Fred Brechler, M.C. Doering, Jennie (Hall) Vandenberg and others. In later years came Wm. Flesner who had a round, deep bass voice, Ruth (Winter) Doering with a high soprano, the younger Rodekohr children, Carl and Art, tenors, and their sister, Sewerna (Rodekohr) Preusker, soprano, and Frieda (Rodekohr) Scheerger, alto. Still later the Freudenbergs came over from Madison, first Rudolph and then Walter to add good bass voices. We have many good singers in our community now. They are not history, they, and others who followed, are still making it. i.e. history and music.

The community of Battle Creek is coming full circle. There is a music in the park committee to furnish entertainment in the gazebo. Members are Doug Vyhldal, chairman, Del Fuelberth, co-chairman, Karen Osborn, secretary, Pat Kropp, publicity, Christie Cleveland, Leo Koopman, Linda Scranton, Scott Miller, Roger Prauner, Rex Laughlin and Laurie Bierman. With the involvement of such talented people, the summer of 1994 should be great!

Source Battle Creek Enterprise
4-20-94

Most of these short articles can be backed up by facts and are basically true. Some of the stories' origins are similar to the childhood game of "grapevine"; after having been retold a number of times, the story barely resembles the original! But its still a mighty good story! So, for interesting and entertaining reading, here are some:

FACTS AND FALLACIES

The Battle Creek vicinity may have harbored Jesse James overnight in a farm building east of town. He was known to be on his way to South Dakota to claim his brother's body, the victim of a gun fight, naturally. The man's appearance, his actions, his pride in his guns, closely resembled James. And the Flannagan bridge across the Elkhorn was about the only way to cross the river with a top buggy which he was driving.

Court records show that early in our town's history, two young men were given a lengthy trial and a stiff sentence of a \$35.00 fine for pouring a fluid fuel on a stray dog and igniting the helpless creature.

John and Rosina Lucht were the owners of a clock which traveled from home to home, especially in the winter time when there was sickness in the neighborhood. The clock, a scarce item among pioneers, was used to time medicinal dosages. The clock is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Reeker of Meadow Grove.

Many, many years ago an elderly negro lived in Battle Creek. He was crippled and his nickname was Nigger Joe.

The land now known as the Zimmerman and the Hunt ranches was at one time a part of a large ranch owned by a French nobleman and was called "La Chapelle Ranch". Purebred horses were raised here and a large, imposing house was one of the attractions of the ranch.

The Village of Battle Creek was originally laid out in 30 ft. lots with the railway station as the central point. For some reason the home builders and businesses started springing up to the south and the east of this original plan.

Battle Creek Enterprise
7/16/64

LOOKING BACK

The Battle Creek, Nebraska Centennial Observance Committee was really looking back into history this week. They are grateful to Ernest Prauner for calling their attention to a cache of old papers that he rescued recently. These newspapers, whose earliest dates are 1892, include copies of The Battle Creek Republican, the Battle Creek Enterprise, and other city newspapers.

The committee would like to save these boxes of newspapers but do not have a mouse and weatherproof container. If anyone has an old unused trunk or such, please contact Marion Preece or Adelaide Scheve.

During the next months we would like to share some of these priceless news items with you.

The editor of the Battle Creek Republican in his November 1, 1895 issue has this lament to share with other editors:

NEWS

News, news, news! It's enough to give a man the blues. Nobody married and nobody dead; nobody broken an arm or a head; nobody come to talk of the "crap"; no one boozy and started a scrap; no one got run in taking a horn; nobody buried and nobody born. Oh! for a racket, a riot, a fuss! Someone to come in and kick up a muss; someone to stir up the peace laden air; somebody's comment to give us a scare. Somebody thumped within an inch of his life; somebody run off with another man's wife; someone come in and pay up his dues; anything, anything; just so it's news.

Every issue had a railway time table. This one is dated September 13, 1895:

TRAINS GOING EAST

Mail and Express

No. 4 11:48 a.m.
Freight No. 24 5:15 p.m.
Freight No. 28 7:00 p.m.

TRAINS GOING WEST

Mail and Express

No. 8 7:00 p.m.
Freight No. 23 7:25 a.m.
Freight No. 27 9:50 a.m.

The Elkhorn Line is now running reclining chair cars daily, between Omaha and Deadwood, free to holders of First class transportation.

A new baby in the community was given a lengthy writeup. Here are two items from issues in 1895:

A bright girl baby is a new and interesting acquisition to the family of Mr. and Mrs. R. Fred Smith. The guest arrived yesterday while Fred was absent but he is expected home tonight. Great caution will be taken in breaking the news to him and it is really hoped that his joy will not be the cause of his demise - at least not until after he sets 'em up.

The "coming woman" took up its abode with the Pierce Call family last Tuesday morning at 1:15 o'clock. It tipped the scale at ten pounds, and maybe you think its "pa and ma" ain't proud of it; as a matter of fact so are its grandpas, grandmas, uncles aunts, and all its neighbors. Corey Montross of the Battle Creek Republican thinks he has a bonanza in the future president of the U.S., but the Calls have a prize in a future president's wife, which we think is much nicer. The mother and child are improving nicely - especially in this case with the baby's voice.

W. B. Fuerst offered his weekly bargains in the grocery line in October of 1895: 2 loaves bread, 5c; 1 box herring, 25c; 22 lbs. sugar, \$1.00; pail fine tobacco, 25c; apricots, 15c.

"Fuerst, the Dutchman, has got the finest lot of sorghum you ever saw - cheaper than dirt - try a pail."

Perhaps present day county agents would know how to handle this incident at the county fair in September of '95.

"A sad misfortune befel the 18 year old son of Washington Simpkins while attending the county fair at Madison on Wednesday. He was lying in a tent and had in his pocket a small calibre revolver. He found it an uncomfortable pillow to lie upon and decided to change it to another pocket. In the act the revolver was in some manner discharged. The ball entered the thigh close to the body and sped down toward the knee, making an ugly flesh wound . . . Doctors from Madison and Meadow Grove probed for the ball and at last reports they had located it near the knee joint."

AT ONE TIME BATTLE CREEK

-golfers had a golf course north-east of town on the land now farmed by Orand Unkel.

-had a horse racing track west of the city limits. It was owned at that time by Herman Hogrefe.

-had a millinery shop owned and run by Miss Minnie Tegeler.

-had a photo gallery above the Battle Creek Hardware Store.

-had imposing July 4th celebrations for many years with long parades and Miss Liberty was the focal point of the happy affair.

-had "old Highway No. 8" running through it. Originally the road was called the Blue Pole Highway. At this time, there were 6 or 7 busy oilstations in and around the town.

Source Battle Creek Enterprise
4/14/66

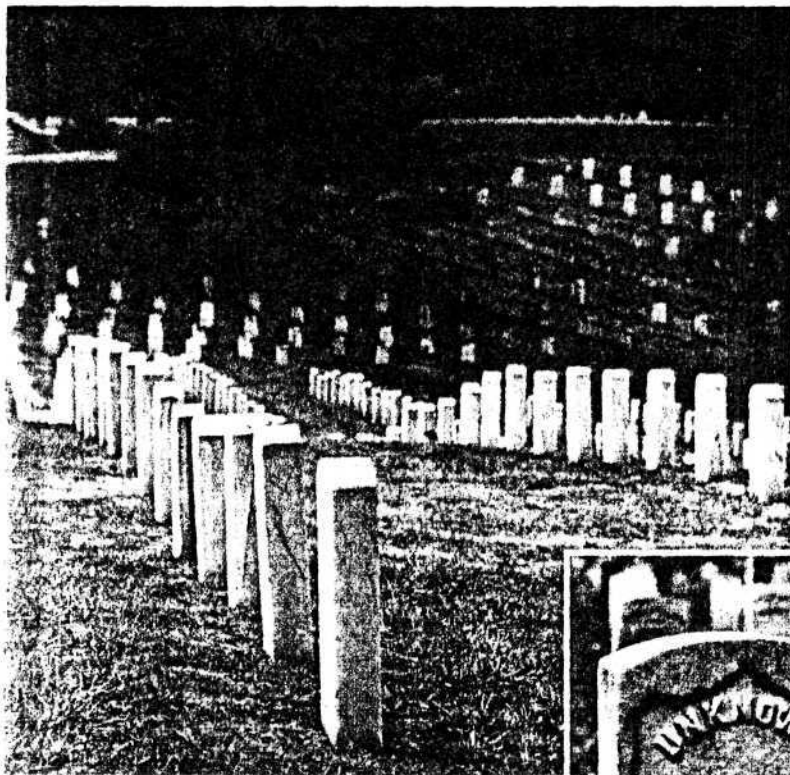
CONFUSION

If a reference is made to a person having been born in Virginia as early as 1728 and as late as 1863, it could mean he was born in: any part of Illinois from 1781 to statehood in 1818; any part of Indiana from 1781-statehood in 1816; any part of Kentucky from 1775-statehood 1792; any part of Maryland from 1775-statehood in 1779; any part of North Carolina from 1728-1779; any part of Ohio from 1778-statehood in 1803; any part of Pennsylvania from 1752-1786; any part of Tennessee from 1760-1803; or all of West Virginia from 1769-1863.

(Via Antique Week, May 1996 and LLC GS July, 1996)

Source: New Brass Key
Summer 1996





UNKNOWN SOLDIERS

NATIONAL CEMETERY T·R·I·V·I·A

President Lincoln established the first ones in 1862 "for the soldiers who shall die in the service of their country."

Now, 2,406,170 veterans or family members are buried in 130 national cemeteries in 39 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

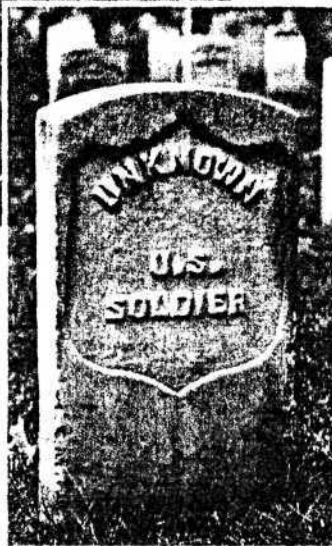
Fifty-seven are filled and another two are scheduled to open: one in Seattle next year and one in Dallas the year after.

The white marble headstones supplied by the Government are 42 inches high, 13 inches wide, 4 inches thick; they weigh 230 pounds.

The graves are 5 feet wide, 10 feet long and 7 feet deep.

Certain commissioned officers of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Public Health Service are eligible for burial in national cemeteries, as are World War II merchant marines and some members of the National Guard.

About 72,000 people are expected to be laid to rest in them this year.



When World War I ended, officials from the Allied countries – Belgium, France, Great Britain, Italy and the United States – had to deal with the bodies of many soldiers killed in battle who could not be identified. The governments decided to honor the memory of those soldiers in special ways.

Each government chose a symbolic unknown soldier (probably male since females were not sent into battle at that time), buried the remains near its national capital and built a monument in honor of that soldier.

Belgium placed its unknown soldier in a tomb at the base of Colonnade of the Congress in Brussels.

France buried its unknown soldier beneath the Arc de Triomphe in the

center of Paris and keeps a perpetual flame burning over the grave.

Great Britain buried its unknown soldier in Westminster Abbey.

Italy's unknown soldier lies in front of the monument to Victor Emmanuel in Rome.

The unknown soldier of the United States was one of four unidentified war dead taken from American cemeteries in France. An American soldier, Sgt. Edward Younger, selected the soldier from these four. The remains were brought to the U.S. Capitol to lie in state.

Seventy-five years ago, Armistice Day, November 11, 1921, the soldier was buried in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, across the Potomac River from Washington. The tomb, completed in 1931, has a white marble sarcophagus over the grave and bears the inscription, "Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God."

Congress later directed an unknown soldier from each of three wars – World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam – be buried near or beside the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The World War II and Korean War unknown soldiers were buried on Memorial Day in 1958 in marble crypts at the head of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The unknown soldier from the Vietnam War was buried between them.

A memorial amphitheater, built by the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) to honor members of the armed forces killed in battle, stands near the tomb. Members of the Honor Guard Company of the 1st Battle Group, 3rd Infantry, Fort Myer, Va., keep a sentry on duty at all times at the tomb. The sentry is changed every hour during the day and about every two hours at night. Source VFW Auxillary Nov. 96

WHERE'S THE NEWSPAPER ??????????

Often a family historian would like to search a local newspaper for historical or genealogical documentation. The problem of identifying and locating out-of-date newspapers can be solved fairly easily using sources at the WRHS Library.

SOURCES: AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF NEWSPAPER FINDING AIDS

1. Ayer, N.W. & Sons, *American Newspaper Annual and Directory; a Catalog of American Newspapers*, a carefully prepared list of all newspapers and periodicals published in the U.S., territories, and Dominion of Canada, Cuba, and the West Indian Islands, with valuable information regarding their circulation, issue, date of establishment, political or other distinctive features ... lists of ... religious and agricultural publications, all newspapers printed in foreign languages ... Philadelphia, PA. N.W. Ayer & Sons, 1880 -

The title says it all! This is a listing of newspapers for the entire nation plus Canada and the other localities for each year! WRHS Library has the volumes for the following years: 1880, 1884-85, 1897, 1904-5, 1909, 1910-1914, 1917-8, 1920-1967, 1969-71, 1973-79, 1981. WRHS Call # Z6951/A976

2. Gutgesell, Stephen, ed., *Guide to Ohio Newspapers, 1793-1973*. Ohio Historical Society, 1976.

This is a complete bibliography of all extant newspapers published in Ohio from 1793-1973, an estimated 3,500 titles, at 200 academic, public, and special libraries. It includes both hard copy and microfilm copies and their availability at libraries in 1976. WRHS Call # Z6952/03G9.

[Note: This book is held at registration desk for quick reference.]

3. Gregory, Winifred, ed., *American Newspapers, 1821-1936*. A Union List of Files Available in the U. S. and Canada, H. W. Wilson Co., NY, 1937.

This volume shows location of extant newspapers nationwide in 1936. It is arranged alphabetically by state, then locality. It lists dates and holdings by specific libraries.

[Note: Because of its fragile condition, this book is held behind the registration desk, and must be requested.]

4. WRHS Finding Aids, ask at registration desk to use.

a. "Inventory of Newspapers, Boxed, Wrapped, & Labeled." A listing of hard copy newspapers available at WRHS Library, alphabetical by locality.

b. "Newspaper-Index, WRHS August 1986."

Held in a binder, this index lists newspapers on microfilm at the WRHS Library.

RESEARCH STRATEGY

A. Using sources 1, 2 (Ohio localities only), and 3 above, determine the name(s) of the newspapers you would like to search. Isolate dates or time periods of particular interest.

B. Using sources 4a and 4b, determine if the newspaper is held in the WRHS collections.

C. If the newspapers are not available at WRHS, contact Cleveland Public Library (General Reference) or the newspaper room to have the CAMLS (Cleveland Area Metropolitan Library System) *Union List of Periodical Holdings 1990*, checked. This is a multi-county Regional Library System. Any newspaper, hard copy or film, held by a library participating in this system, will be listed.

D. If it is an Ohio newspaper, the Ohio State Historical Society may have it on film, available for inter-library loan. Ask your local library to request INTER-LIBRARY LOAN from OHS, 1982 Velma Ave., Columbus 43211. Latest fee rate was \$8.00 for loan maximums of 12 reels of film.

E. If the newspaper is out of state, contact the Public Library in the town or locale in which the newspaper was published, for information on obtaining copies. Often they will search their files for a specific article or notice. The best source for locating microfilmed copies of the paper for inter-library loan for a personal search, is to contact the State Library in the state you are interested. Most state libraries have collected their state's extant newspapers and aggressively microfilmed them for preservation.

WHERE'S THE NEWSPAPER ?????? The **ANSWER** to that question is: If it wasn't used in the parakeet's cage, you can probably find it!

Ronna K. Bryant

Source: Western Reserve His. Soc. Winter 1993

DATE A TOMBSTONE

One way to figure out the era your ancestor was buried is to examine the material that the tombstone is made of. If your ancestor's stone was made of slate or common fieldstone, chances are the stone dates from 1796 to 1830. Wooden markers were used by the pioneers. If the stone is flat top hard marble, it would be dated about 1830 to 1849. If your stone is round or pointed and made of soft marble with cursive inscriptions, look for a time period of 1845 to 1868. Masonic four-sided stones were used from 1850 and are still used today. Pylons, column and all exotic-style monuments date from 1860 to 1900. Zinc monuments date from 1870-1900. Granite, now common, came into use around 1900.

--from Rocky Mountain Buckeye, via The Illuminator, 12:1

Source Bureau Co. Gen Soc. Sept 96

Begin Now To Include Children In Family History!

A FIRST happened in this family. On a Saturday in March, Mary Ann, the two and a half year old granddaughter attended her first club meeting with Grandma.

Grandma was surprised by the instructions from Mary Ann's mother, "Mother, be sure and take the camera and get a picture of Mary Ann and you. In the years to come Mary Ann may look at that picture and be proud to say, "This was my first club event with Grandma!" The picture was taken and properly entered in the family archives.

To include the children, of all ages, to be aware of their place in family history, one must promote to them family importance, heritage and encourage interest in the journey to family roots. **BEGIN NOW!!!**

PBS's programming of Ancestors stressed the 'good' some times gained from learning family roots, the thrill of the paper trail and the ultimate discovery of ancestors. Printed elsewhere in this newsletter is an article by Vicki Lansky, Sharing History. [Unfortunately the article's source has been lost, but the article may have come from the Kansas City STAR.] This article suggests what families may need to know to add to Journals, Histories or Scrapbooks.

Here are a few suggestions: Be sure children know the origins of their names. Share the old photos and the fun of

identification. Mark the photos with names, ages, location and DATES. Identify possessions, especially those that have a history. For example, Grandma's cake plate, or Uncle Joe's saddle. Children won't be interested unless you TALK and SHOW! Let the children write pages for the family records. For example, the night they viewed the Hale-Bopp Comet, and note who viewed, where and maybe why. Cameras now date the photos and videos record action with sound. Most modern children are very good. Let them be the photographer or camera person.

Graduation, Proms, Awards Night, Memorial Weekend, Family and School Reunions, Mother's Day and Father's Day are upcoming events that bring families together. Pictures, videos and memories abound. If the family has never had a journal, **BEGIN NOW!!!**

Record events on videos, word processors or the old-fashioned method of black pen and loose leaf notebook paper. Sign the page, record the family members and ages and be sure the location and date is included.

To share the family with the children may have a reward one day when a descendant may say, "This was my Grandma and I at the first club event I attended. Grandma loved club!"

BEGIN NOW!!!

Source: Tri-Corner Gen . --Hannesina Shafer
Soc. Humboldt, NE. May 1997

Public Library adds new reader-printer

The Norfolk Public Library has added a new Minolta microfilm/fiche reader-printer in its reference department.

The new machine is in the public area and is coin-operated. The reader-printer is "user friendly" and totally automatic. It loads film automatically and can copy from 16mm and 32mm film.

The machine has auto exposure so a good copy is possible without any setting needed from the operator. It can copy positive-to-

positive and negative-to-positive without changing the toner cartridge. Customers can copy from microfiche, too, without changing the film carrier.

The new machine is expected to be useful to genealogists wishing to make copies of their relatives listed on census microfilm or for copying obituaries from the Norfolk Daily News.

The Norfolk Public Library has the Norfolk Daily News on microfilm, starting in 1888 and continu-

ing to the present. People doing research projects will find many magazines with older publication dates on film at the library, too. Business people are also welcome to bring in their own microfiche or film that they need to copy.

The addition of the new machine brings the number of reader-printers available to the public to two. There are also one microfiche and two microfilm readers available. The machines can be used during regular library hours, which are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Sundays.

Source: Norfolk Daily News
1/12/98

DOCUMENTING ILLINOIS DEATHS BEFORE 1877

As the seasoned Illinois researcher well knows, few Illinois counties recorded any deaths before 1877 and the State of Illinois did not keep death records until 1916.

What is the poor researcher to do, then, if he wishes to document deaths prior to 1877? Obituaries may help, if one is lucky enough to find one, and the Illinois State Historical Library has an extensive file of these. Cemetery records are good, when available, and many Illinois genealogical and historical societies have cemetery publications. Coroner's records are also rare for the years prior to 1877 and they do not cover the majority of deaths anyway.

Perhaps the most useful substitutes for reliably kept death records are probate or estate records. Not everyone who died prior to 1877 would show up in probate records, of course, but the chances are that anyone who died with a substantial amount of real or personal property will appear in the probate records of the county in which he resided.

The probate records generated depend upon whether the deceased died "testate" (having left a last will and testament) or "intestate" (having left no will). If the decedent died testate, his estate will be settled by the "executor" he designated in the will who carries out the terms of the will. If the decedent died intestate, an "administrator" is appointed to settle the estate. Unlike the executor, the administrator is required to identify all of a decedent's heirs.

In either case, the date of death should be recorded in the Probate Journal or Minutes or among the papers filed in the "probate packet." Illinois law required executors to report the death within 30 days and administrators were required to present proof of death or affidavit of death before they proceeded to settle the estate.

Probate records are currently kept by the county circuit clerks, and inquiries should be directed to that official in the appropriate county. You may also want to check the probate records held by the Illinois Regional Archives (IRAD).
—from ISGS newsletter 16:6, via Moultrie Co. H&GS Feb 1996

Moultrie Co. Editor Sue Durbin adds this note:
I have also found mention of deaths in the "Miscellaneous Records" that are on file in the county clerk's office. Also while you are with the circuit clerk, don't forget to check the Chancery Index.

GERMAN - POLISH

Are you searching for place names in areas of Europe which were formerly German, but became Polish following World War II? If your ancestors migrated from 18th or 19th century Germany to "Galicia," their locations may not be found on today's maps.

Our BCGS member and friend Leo Wastler may be able to help other BCGS members. He has a very large cross-language "dictionary" of geographical place names in post-World War II Poland. [This is not a published document available for purchase.] He is willing to check his source for old place names and try to provide you with the current Polish name. He asks that you be patient, as he is busy with his travel service, and he cannot guarantee that he'll find every place.

BCGS members may write to Leo Wastler, PO Box 775, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-0775. BCGS appreciates this very generous offer.

DANISH RESEARCH

When searching for Danish records at the Family History Center, look under a parish's probate section. The names of the farms are given. At the beginning of the Danish fiche, names of the parishes are given and the county each parish is in is given. If a date of birth is not given in the baptismal records, check the confirmation records about 14 years later where the date of birth will be found.

Another tip is to use military levying roles to further your male lines. The father's name is given with the son's name which helps when so many names are similar. This pertains to dates up to about 1860.

From 1840 until about 1875, Danes had to check out of parishes when they left and into new parishes upon arrival. It may therefore prove helpful if your family was on the move to try for these parish records.

—from Scandinavia Saga Vol. 18 #2, et al.

Source: Bureau County Gen Soc
Sept 1996

HOW FRIDAY 13TH GOT ITS REPUTATION

(Not by Bad Luck)

by Harry Levins



... A half hour spent with the World Almanac's perpetual calendar can turn up some interesting, if utterly useless, trivia about Friday the 13th. For example:

*When Friday the 13th falls in either May or June, no other month that year will have a Friday the 13th.

*When Friday the 13th falls in March, the following Nov. 13th will always be a Friday

*When Friday the 13th falls in September, the following Dec. 13th will always be a Friday.

*The only months that ever have Friday the 13th consecutively are February and March. The 20th century has 11 years with a Friday the 13th in February and again in March. The last was 1987, and the next is 1998.

*Most years have either one or two months with a Friday the 13th. The 1990's have five years with two, four years with one--and a single year, 1998 again, with three.

None of the 12 months gets stuck with Friday the 13th more than any other month. IN all, we have 14 possible combinations for a year's calendar--and over the course of those 14 calendars, each month gets a Friday the 13th twice. Source Boone-Nance Co. Gen Soc. Sept 96

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 and death, and Cemetery & County. B. Morrison 1306 S. 9th St., Beatrice, NE 68310-4919. Source unknown.

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



Bernice Dewey
306 E. Prospect Ave
Norfolk NE 68701