

# Madison County Remembers...

A Publication of the Madison County Genealogical Society

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## It's all about those precious memories.

### A message from the Betty

I've been walking down memory lane a great deal these days. Maybe it's the season or maybe going through my genealogy records and old pictures has awakened those long forgotten memories. There are certain memories in one's lifetime that retain their clarity forever. For me it's CHRISTMAS!

Somewhere between unpacking the Christmas decorations, testing the strings of lights and getting into the serious business of "decking the halls" I inevitably begin to reminisce about how it was when I was a kid. I was a farm kid growing up in the 30's. Money and material possessions were scarce but Santa always managed to stop at the Perske farm.

Programs in the one room school house decorated with paper chains that were an art project. Drawing names for the gift exchange. The "rule" was to keep your name strictly secret. Despite the poverty our families were experiencing, there were always the bags of candy and fruit.

Another memory that I will never forget is the Christmas program at church on Christmas Eve. My Dad drove that old model A nine miles into Pilger over snow packed roads each Sunday afternoon. In retrospect I don't know what the real motive was—to get me to program practice so I would know the real meaning of Christmas or for my Dad to have some quality time with his friends at the bar. There was always money for my new dress and if the corn crop was especially good, maybe a pair of those shiny black patent shoes. The most memorable dress was made by my stepmother. I was always a shy little girl but I couldn't hide the Christmas I wore that bright red satin dress with a huge white collar. Those long cotton stockings were pulled tightly over the long underwear that was a must but by the time you were called upon to say your "piece" in front of the congregation they were saggy and baggy. It was deemed worth it because you received another big sack of candy, nuts and store-bought fruit. And do you remember the men of the church carrying in those big bushel baskets full of the goodies?

I hope you have similar memories of Christmas and family.

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Cherish those times because those days will never be experienced again in the same way. I am looking forward to our holiday event that will take place at the Granary, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will meet for lunch at 1 PM. We will be ordering from the menu. We will play take away bingo for entertainment. We will also have a short meeting. RSVP to Betty Bohac, 371 2097. I am looking forward to seeing all of you.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!!!! Remember it's not too late for YOU to make some new memories.

*Betty Bohac*

#### MEETING NOTES

The regular meeting of the Madison County Genealogical Society was held on November 16, 2010, at Holiday Inn Express in Norfolk at 7:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by President Betty Bohac with 7 members and 1 guest present.

The minutes of the October meeting were read, the genealogical material at the Elkhorn Valley Historical Society was discussed, including review of a Memorandum of Understanding which was agreed to between The Elkhorn Valley Historical Society (EVHS) and Madison County Genealogical Society (MCGS) on February 20, 2001. A motion was made, seconded and passed to direct the Secretary to incorporate this Memorandum into our minutes reflecting that the material given to the Elkhorn Valley Society belongs only to that organization and they have full control of the material. In the absence of the Treasurer, the Treasurer's report was read by the Secretary with a balance of \$918.59 in checking.

After a discussion of low attendance at our meetings and our desire to present effective programs, a short discussion was held about research resources at the Elkhorn Valley Museum and the Public Library, where it was pointed out that Ancestry is available free of charge.

It was reported that John Dougherty painted the Abe Lincoln statue in the past and we may want to check to see if he wants to do it again.

Queries answered included about a Frazee. The marriage license was obtained which showed the middle initial. Marge Fuhrmann assisted a member of the Lindahl family who wanted to place a tombstone on a great-grandmother's grave. The grave was located and the tombstone is there. Pictures will be taken for review at a future meeting.

The Christmas party will be at the Granary on Saturday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 p.m. After lunch ordered off the menu, we will play take-away Bingo with prizes. The party should be over by 4:30 p.m. for those concerned about driving after dark.

The meeting of the Omaha Genealogical Society was reported to be a very good day by Betty Bohac and Frances Beck. The day included information about land records, storytelling and record-keeping.

During the January party, we will discuss our meetings in 2011. We may want to consider different days of the week and different locations. After the business meeting, Jeannie Rix presented a program on her search for her family history. She has been interested in genealogy since she was in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. She researches the following families, Stedmans, Blatchfords, Olsons (from Sweden or Norway), and Currys (who lived in Count Antrim in Ireland, Scotland, Pennsylvania and Dixon County where they homesteaded), Her research has also included England and Canada and has also included members of the Everhart family. Frances Beck, Secretary

November Program  
By Jeanne Rix

Tonight I will tell you how I got started in Genealogy and some of the ways I gained information. 90 percent of my information is not documented but only hearsay. I do have copies of obituaries and funeral brochures. I have ordered some birth and death certificates and done Census searches. I also take pictures of all the stones I visit.

It started in 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade when our teacher asked us to go home and have our parents tell their family history. I got one or two generations back from my parents and went back to school. My maiden name was Blatchford. My great grand father, Walter Dennis Blatchford married Sara Jane Steadman. On my mother's side David Curry married Harriet Belle Enders. Harriet's maiden name was Rucker.

By high school I had been attending family reunions every year (the Steadman reunion started in 1925). Mom told of going across the Missouri river on a ferry on their way from Newcastle to Vermillion and on to Beresford, SD. This was my Dad's side of the family. I asked Dad for more information and his usual reply was "you will just find a horse thief." My mother told me her mother died when she was two. She started walking when her Dad stopped. He had polio.

Somehow I received a book Descendant's of George and Geneva Steadman of Owen Sound, Canada. Later I got another book that contains names up to the 7<sup>th</sup> generation.

George and Geneva Steadman had 54 great grand children. One of the great grand children was my grand father. Since Dad didn't want me to do genealogy, I decided to do the descendants of the 54 great grand children.

I wrote letters and sent family group sheets to family members hoping they would fill them out and a lot of them did. Many didn't get letters because we had lost contact with many of the family members.

My Uncle Ron had a letter from the Cousins Club located in Kansas which had a history started by Edward Owens asking for the history of George Steadman. He had the letter for five years and never answered it. By the time I found out about it and talked him in to giving it to me, they had published this book dated March 1975. Due to his stubbornness we are not in it. I do have the book and gleaned lots of information from it.

I continue to receive information on the Steadman Blatchford living relatives because I am Reunion Secretary and every year we add birth, death, and marriages to the Secretaries book.

The **Steadman's** came from England. George was a member of the Navy and died on ship to US in 1804. George II was a minister born 1783 and lived in Owen Sound, Ontario Canada from 1836-1869. My records show they moved to Union Co., SD around 1869 where the rest of the family was born. Some Steadman's went to Kansas but my line lived and is buried in and around Beresford., SD.

I have visited the Cemeteries at Beresford, SD. and the one on Interstate 29 where seven family members were buried. The farmer on Interstate 29 has tried to destroy it several times and my father and his brothers and sisters finally got a fence around it with a sign up. I have the original deed to that property.

The third generation that I have has Hemphill's, Hemstock's and Steadman's married to each other. I always thought sisters married brothers – Wrong. Thanks to Glen Hemstock I got the true relationship of the family and 40 more pages of information.

The **Blatchford's** were from England and lived in Owen Sound, Canada 1853-1870. My guess is that they were neighbors of Steadman's and the two families moved to Union, Co. SD about the same time. Sarah Jane Steadman married Walter Dennis Blatchford in Union Co. SD in 1873.

The Steadman's and Blatchford's were involved in the blizzard of 1873 where Sarah Steadman and Alfred Hemstock were frozen to death. Their daughter, Janet Hemstock, was then raised by Sarah's brother's family – the Maurice Steadman's. Maurice is my great grand father. During that time Walter Dennis and Sarah Jane Blatchford lost three children. They are all buried at the I-29 Cemetery. One of them is buried there after they moved to Nebraska. There are stones for the three children at the Obert Cemetery but I am 95 percent sure the bodies are at the I-29 cemetery. There are many Steadman relatives buried in the town of Beresford, Centerville, and Elk Point. SD.

Thus Walter Dennis and Sarah Jane Steadman Blatchford moved to Dixon Co., NE around 1887 or 1888. They originally lived in a sod house. They then built a house south east of the sod house. They are buried in Obert Cemetery in Cedar Co., NE. It is just a mile north west of the original house which is still there. My parent's lived south of it for a time. That farm stead is still there too. We drive by the place where the sod house was when we visit the cemeteries.

The **Carson's** (mother of Sarah Jane Steadman) were from Dundalk, Armaugh Co. Ireland, where John Carson, Sarah's grandfather was born in 1775. They went to Ontario, Grey Co., Canada in 1844 and to Centerville, SD. I can now visit John and Ann Carson's grave in Vermilion, SD now that the bridge is open. The Carson's never came to Nebraska.

The **Olson's** came from Vermaland, Frykerug, Sweden. One source says Andrew Olson was born in Norway. They were in Hector, MN in 1882 and to Dixon County in 1884. Marie Olson married Maurice Blatchford in 1899 in Dixon Co., NE. Marie's brother Adolph Olson went back to MN and became Governor. He changed his name to Eberhardt because there were so many Olsons in MN. In his book he explained that he picked Eberhardt because he liked the way it sounded.

I received information on my Grandmother Olson and her family thanks to my cousin Merlin "Lefty" Olson who visited Sweden. His wife pushed his wheel chair up and down hills so that he could get the Olson history back to around 1690.

My mother's maiden name was **Curry**. The **Curry's** were in Antrim Co. Ireland before 1849. That year they moved to Scotland and then came to Philadelphia, PA in August of 1853. In 1865 Daniel (born 1818) moved his family to Dixon Co., NE. My grandfather David was born in a log cabin on Powder Creek in Dixon Co., NE. The Currys eight siblings owned many sections of land. He married Harriett Belle Enders in 1893 in Dixon Co.

I was blessed with a cousin who did a Curry book. One of the cousins went to Northern Ireland and took a picture of the rock building that was the Curry residence there. They discovered that Daniel Curry born about 1778 died in 1858 in Mosside, Antrim Co., Ireland. This is interesting because my dad's Carson family (John Carson Sr. born 1775 and his son John Jr. born 1803) came from Dundalk, County Armaugh Co., Ireland. John Jr. was born in Dundalk. I searched the Ireland map on Yahoo and discovered that back in the 1800's they may have lived about 100 miles apart as the crow flies. You can't find Mosside, Ireland and I need to investigate that further.

The **Enders** family came to America from Germany and settled in Schoharie, NY in 1709. I discovered information on the Enders family because I snooped through some microfiche at the Latter Day Saints library in Lincoln. I looked over the boxes and found two from Schoharie, NY. That got that family back to 1709 Palatine families. I wrote to a Henry Jones (hoping he was legitimate) and then purchased his two volumes of the Palatine Families of New York, 1710 which had my Bertram Enders in 5419 Freirachdorf, Germany. That verified my research from the marriage and baptism books from the Reformed Church in Schoharie, NY. He corrected my misreading from the Church books. I also had an Enders relative that did research on that family that filled in more blanks.

Family births trace them to Wisconsin in 1844 and Iowa in 1854. They arrived in Dixon Co. in 1865. Several of them are buried in the Ponca Cemetery. Jesse Ender's was a member of the Iowa Infantry who fought in the Civil War.

Remember when we listed our genealogy charts in the Newsletter? Joyce Borgelt was going through the Holt County History Book and discovered Isaac and Martha Enders. I said it should be Isaac and Mary Enders. This mentioned a Clifford Wells. I contacted their daughter, Sheryl Wells Mullin, and discovered that Isaac had married my Mary and had 10 children. After Mary died he went from Iowa to Red Bird, NE and married Martha and had 10 more children. So I had solved my question about two names for his wife. Clifford Wells lives on the original Enders place and I should visit them but never have.

The **Rucker** family came to Virginia in 1690. Peter received his naturalization papers in 1704. They have researched for years and still are not sure where he came from. Their best guess is Bavaria or Germany. They also have many stories of how he landed in the United States. Peter's son John came to US in 1699. They settled in Orange Co., (now Green Co.) in 1731. The Rucker magazine reports that when John Rucker needed some legal advice, he went to T.J., - Thomas Jefferson. They were neighbors or at least good friends. Some of the Ruck-

er's owned slaves. The Rucker Magazine that is still published has a group known as the Black Rucker's who do family research. The Rucker group has also set up a DNA reporting system. Rucker's fought for both the north and the south in the civil war.

They were in Monroe Co., Ohio when my Great Grand mother Mary Polly Rucker was born in 1844. Great Grand father John Enders married Mary Polly Rucker in Buena Vista, Co Iowa in 1862. They came to Dixon Co in 1865.

Sheryl, the one who solved my wife with two names, discovered the Rucker Family Genealogy book and so I ordered it and got the history of my Great Grand mother Mary Rucker Enders and her genealogy back to Peter Rucker who settled in Virginia in 1690. There is a Rucker Cemetery, town of Ruckersville, etc. The Rucker newsletter's editor is a grand daughter of the lady that wrote the book.

The **Curry's, Ender's and Rucker's** were in Dixon Co. before Nebraska became a state. I ordered the Family Recognition Certificate from the Nebraska State Historical Society which is hanging on my wall in my office.

Remember when I said my Dad didn't want me to do genealogy. My greatest thrill was watching him go through the book I wrote in 1989 with his cousin from California and the cousin saying how wonderful it was.

My cemetery run every May includes 10 cemeteries and over 100 graves. It covers Dixon County and Vermilion, SD.

I got my first computer program in the 1980's. I visited Don and Dorothy Munson and watched them work with their 5000 names already on the computer. I now have over 5000 names on my computer and that does not include the Rucker's, Curry's or Enders. I do have print outs of the Curry's and Enders that were on my first program. I never transferred them to the new program. It would only be a duplication of the books I already have.

I did a Steadman-Blatchford book in 1989 with the information I had then. Since I have access to the reunion books I also have access to the over 120 pictures they have collected through the years.

In 2002 I did a calendar with the Walter Dennis Blatchford house (where they homesteaded) as a cover and the wedding pictures of them and their family.

In 2007 I did a book of all the pictures in the reunion box. I also did a CD and a DVD. I sent my information to a relative back east and he put it on Ancestry.com which I did not appreciate.

These are the notes that Jeanne made for her talk, not a verbatim account of her program.

## **GENEALOGY**

**Genealogists Examine Needed Evidence At Lots Of Grave Yards**

## NORFOLK'S STANDPIPE HILL

By Bernice Walters

Who remembers the "Standpipe Hill" -- where was it -- and how did it get its name? In the 1940s if one drove north on Eleventh Street to Elm Avenue, on the northeast corner of that intersection of North Eleventh and Elm was an iron water pipe that stood 115 feet tall at the top of that hill, which became known as the Standpipe Hill. Those of us who were Norfolk residents before 1942 remember well the Standpipe as it was visible in most all directions, and served as the city water reservoir for over fifty years.

Very quickly the landmark pipe became more than just a water reservoir. It turned into a popular challenge for those wanting to prove their "macho" by clambering up the iron ladder that ran to the top on one side. If they made it clear to the top, they would have been shocked to see that there was no "top" -- it was an open pipe, and climbing back down was probably not as much fun. In the early years Elm Avenue from First Street west was unpaved. From Seventh Street west it sloped upwards sharply to Eleventh Street, so that its steepness made it a natural for popular sports such as cycling in the summer, and sledding in winter snows. Then the city blocked off those streets to allow for such winter sports. Sledding the old Standpipe Hill was the challenge for many Norfolk youngsters.

Norfolk was growing rapidly in the 1880s and bond issues supported construction of sewer and waterworks. The "Standpipe" was built in 1888 and held about 30,000 gallons. It served Norfolk well as a water reservoir for many years, but was empty and abandoned in the early 1940s—replaced by a new water tower and earth covered reservoir built west of the city on North 25<sup>th</sup> Street. Water commissioners said it was not practical to put the Standpipe into serviceable condition as it needed cleaning and painting, and without a top to the tank, it was not sanitary. In addition, its water supply would last the city only about fifteen minutes.

It was "wartime" in 1942 and "scrap collecting" rivalry was under way all over the city and county. The old cast iron standpipe represented tons of metal and was eyed by Legionnaires looking for scrap, and a chance to boost the Legion treasury. The American Legion Commander, Dr. T. A. Hamilton, Post 16, appointed a scrap iron committee, which included Jack Harsch, Tracy Leedom, Ed McCune, Al Howser and Clyde E. Reed. They approached the City Council, which decided Uncle Sam needed the scrap iron more than the city needed a standpipe of such little value. They authorized Mayor A. W. Breyer and City Clerk A. O. Hazen to sign a contract relieving the city of all liability in the water tank razing. It was agreed that its weight estimated at 40 to 50 tons would be added to the total tonnage of scrap metal being collected all over Norfolk.

The scrap iron committee checked around, but found that contractors capable of dismantling the tank wanted as much for the work as the metal was worth. Discouraged but persistent, several men went to Omaha to bargain with firms there for its sale. It was a unique stroke of luck that they found an iron works firm that was looking for just such a tank. The company wanted to erect it at Mead, Nebraska, and would pay a premium price for it, provided it was taken down in undamaged sections and numbered so it could be re-assembled. They would not take it down, but would pick it up at the site. The U. S. Government was at that time building a large ordnance plant at Mead, and the entire area was mobilizing to deal with the

influx of people and new construction, which influenced interest in the Norfolk water tank. The iron tank consisted of five-foot high sections, divided into four or five curved pieces, and heavily riveted together. After much thought and discussion on how to dismantle it, McCune came up with the novel idea that proved successful. He built a raft in the bottom of the tank out of planks and oil drums, and filled the tank with water. The raft floated to the top. Several men on the raft chiseled off the heads of the thousands of rivets that held the tank together, and with rope they carefully lowered each piece to the ground undamaged. This work took several weeks, but day by day the tank height gradually decreased, as the water was released and sections were removed.

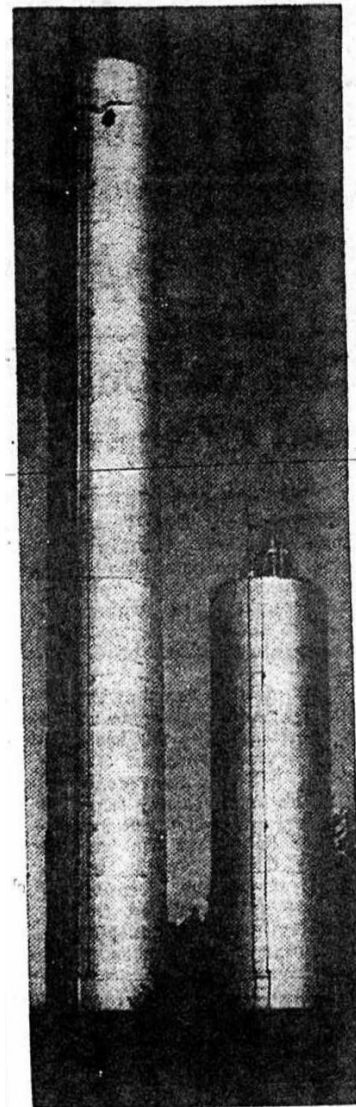
Water Commissioner Carrick later told an amusing story about how a water department employee was sent on call, as the water needed to be lowered, to open a valve and let out the water. It was controlled by a left hand valve to lower the water, but the valve was inadvertently turned the wrong way, in fact, raising the water level, and nearly washing the raft and its crew over the top.

The project was completed the latter part of October, 1942, and the company hauled the tank sections to its new location at Mead, Nebraska. The Norfolk Daily News of October 7, 1942 carried a photo of the original standpipe and its diminished size as it was half dismantled.

Mead, Nebraska, population then of 260, was in the midst of a huge ordnance plant construction project begun in October, 1941, by the United States Government, where bombs were made for the War effort, stored on location, then transported. The development in a matter of months of such a huge undertaking was truly remarkable, and taxed the resources, patience and human spirit of the people displaced from their homes and farms, the village itself, as well as the workers who arrived from all over, with the accompanying problems of housing, school, transportation, etc. But it was through the loyalty, co-operation and dedication of all involved that the 17,000+ acre complex fulfilled its mission so successfully.

It is unclear whether the Norfolk water tank was actually utilized by the village of Mead, or the Ordnance Plant itself. A number of water tanks were built on plant grounds and old Ordnance Plant photos are only recently being identified and catalogued. So an answer may yet be found as to its actual use, and its final phaseout.

It is entirely possible that it was indeed sold for scrap, instead of being reassembled, if that effort proved to be too costly or difficult a project. In any event, it served a useful mission in its last years by contributing to the War effort.



Daily News Photo Engraving  
**STANDPIPE 'SHRINKS'** — Daily Norfolk's old standpipe, use of which was discontinued early last summer, is getting smaller as it is being taken down for scrap. The picture shows the standpipe as it appeared on Norfolk's horizon for more than fifty years, and as it looked Tuesday afternoon when dismantling was about half finished.



## Further information on the Best Family, Best Cemetery Tour and Best Cemetery



John Best was here in Norfolk last summer and had this picture. Does anyone know anything about it. We are assuming that this is the picture of Johnny Best home with Grandma Best standing on the front porch?

Karen Reed did some research for him and then he decided to come to Norfolk. He was here 2 1/2 days and she took him to various court houses and cemeteries. "We found some records that I had not searched for and he had a wonderful time."

A tour of the Best Cemetery was enjoyed by members of the Madison County Genealogical Society during the August, 2010 meeting. Members of the public and relatives of some persons buried there were also in attendance.



Cleo Deuel



This is an example of the new lot markers being used here. They are a metal stake or bolt with a flat metal top or large washer with a plastic cattle ear tag attached. These are used to mark all of the corners of lots and have already been proven to be helpful in the winter when it is difficult to locate proper burial spaces, and the cost is minimal and easy to make.

### **34 WAYNE COLLEGE MEN IN ARMY, NAVY 13 ARE SENIORS, 14 JUNIORS, 6 SOPHOMORES, 1 FRESHMAN**

Wayne, Neb., Oct. 7 — Thirty-four of the students now attending Wayne State Teachers college have enlisted in the armed services of the United States.-

Of these, four are in the army enlisted reserve corps, Allen Hayek, Clarkson; Arthur Thomson, Wakefield; Vernon Kozisek, Stuart; and Kermit Leonard, Bassett.

Nine are in the army air reserve corps, Jack Akins, Decatur; Milo Blecha, Clarkson; Clayton Christensen, Moorhead, Ia.; Joe Chas. Heeney, Hubbard; Russell McManigal, Orchard; Charles Muffly, Meadow Grove; Elliott Olson, Moorhead, Ia; Lynn Paege, Wisner, and Kenneth Whorlow, Wayne.

Sixteen are in the naval reserve corps, Melanchthon Anderson, Wausa; Philip Bass, Laurel; Warren Best, Stanton; John Cory, Smithland, Ia.; Orin Currie, Elgin; Fredrick Doctor, Wakefield; Harold Fitch, Seattle, Wash.; Lowell Magdanz, Pierce; Milan McKnight, Tilden; Robert Olsen, Cherokee, Ia.; Loren Page, Pilger; Aldon Sederberg, Kiron, Ia.; Harold Thomsen, Osmond; Juel Warner, Norfolk; Robert Webb, Madison; and Robert Westphal, Tilden.

Three are in the navy air reserve corps, F. Boyd Backhaus, Wausa; George Bergland, Laurel, and Craig Magwire, Battle Creek.

Two are in the marine reserve corps, Edward Jiracek, Verdigre; and Julian Torgerson, Sioux City.

In this group of thirty-four is one freshman, who has signed with the marine reserves; six sophomores, distributed among the navy reserves, the marine reserve corps, and the army air corps; fourteen juniors, distributed among the air reserve corps, naval reserves and the navy air reserve corps, and thirteen Seniors, apportioned to the army enlisted reserves, army air forces, navy reserve corps and the navy air reserves.

(Norfolk Daily News, October 7, 1942)

**GIVE-AWAY: Do you have a connection to this ship? I'm cleaning out and found a copy of this book. If you are willing to pay the postage I will mail it to you.**

#### **U. S. S- TOLEDO - 1943 - 1958**

In 1946 she was commissioned the first ship to be named for the city of Toledo, Ohio. Her full story includes a world cruise, through eleven tours of duty, action in Korea 1950-1952, evacuation of Tachen Islands in 1955. But the big story is of her twelve captains, hundreds of officers, thousands of men who served her, and the wives, sweethearts and families who wrote untold numbers of letters while awaiting the return of their Toledo men. This is the story of her eleventh Far Eastern cruise, leaving February 19, 1958, under Captain Harry L. Reiter, Jr. U. S. N. and Commander Arthur H. Berndtson, U. S. N. with names of the entire crew with marvelous photos, as they toured Hawaii, Japan, Korea, Okinawa, Australia-the Eauripik Islands, Hong Kong, and their return to Long Beach, California, August 26, 1958.

This is a hard cover book in Navy Blue cloth, 9" by 12", in excellent condition. If any person, museum or library is interested in having this for historical or genealogical value.

**Please send a money order for \$10.70 to Bernice Walters, 500 North Boxelder, Norfolk, NE 68701. It will be shipped Priority Mail. Contact me at [btwalters@cableone.net](mailto:btwalters@cableone.net)**

**MADISON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY****PO Box 1031, Norfolk, NE 68702-1031****Information and queries:**

mcgs@telebeep.com

**Membership and newsletter:**

nzaruba@kdsi.net

**Memberships** are \$15 per year.**Research Requests:** \$10 and a family group sheet to:  
MCGS, PO Box 1031, Norfolk, NE 68702-1031**Meeting Information:** Subject to change  
Call Nancy 402-379-4654 or Richard 402-371-9216**Website:** www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nemcgs/  
or <http://mcgs.nesgs.org>**2010-2011 Officers**

President: Betty Bohac

Vice-President: Phyllis McCain

Secretary: Frances Beck

Treasurer: Bernice Walters

Newsletter Editor: Nancy Zaruba

**Website Address** Please note the new address for one of our websites. The Nebraska State Genealogical Society moved their website to a new server which therefore changed the address. Our new address is now: **<http://mcgs.nesgs.org>** which stands for: mcgs is Madison County Genealogical Society and nesgs for Nebraska State Genealogical Society and its an organization not a commercial business which is why its .org not .com - this might make it easier to remember actually. (Note: there is NO www in front)

**Membership Reminder**

The date above your name on the mailing label shows when your memberships is expiring. Membership renewals will continue your membership for one year after your expiration date. Thank you for your renewal. Your donations to our society are greatly appreciated.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Nebraska State Genealogical Society 2011 Annual Conference, Nebraska City, NE, first Friday and Saturday of May 2011, [www.nesgs.org](http://www.nesgs.org)

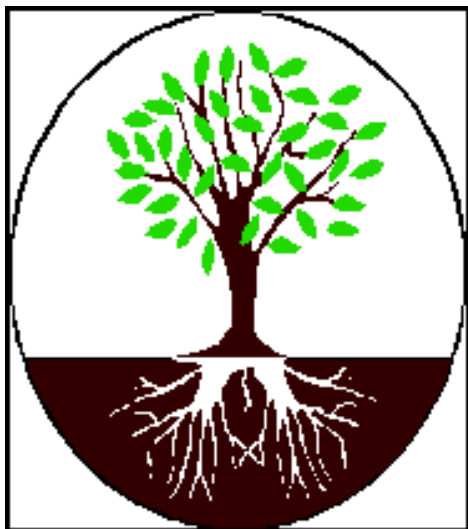
**INTERESTED IN POMMERANIAN ANCESTRY?**

If your ancestors came from Pommerania or northern Germany along the Baltic, our database may be helpful. Our library includes the original "Pommern Vorfahren Index" for the first 20 Bands (volumes) beginning 1978 through mid-1998, which include all names in those original letters.

Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope for a free check of your names. Send to Madison County Genealogical Society, Attn. Bernice, PO Box 1031, Norfolk, NE 68702-1031. If any of your names are listed in the Index, immigration dates, villages, and such ancestral names as are given in the Newsletters, plus the original submitter, will be supplied so you can do further research directly. We gladly make this database available as an aid to fellow genealogists without charge except for copies and postage. Be sure to give the full names, or variations, that you wish to have checked.

**MADISON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

PO Box 1031, Norfolk, NE 68702-1031



The date on your label is your membership renewal date. Please check it and renew to save postage/printing costs.

**TEMP RETURN SERVICE      FIRST CLASS**

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**MCGS Meeting Announcements**

**The annual Genealogical Society CHRISTMAS PARTY WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 22 AT 1:00 PM AT THE GRANARY.** Come and order off the menu and have a good time visiting with fellow genealogists. Take-away bingo will be played for fun and excitement.

**The February program will be presented by Betty Bohac. We're going to try something new. On SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, WE WILL MEET AT BETTY'S HOUSE AT 1111 LONGHORN DRIVE AT 9:30 AM FOR BRUNCH.** Betty will present the program and meeting.

Saving and Remembering the Past, Preserving the Memories for the Future