


# Madison County Remembers...

A Publication of the Madison County Genealogical Society

Volume 39

Issue 190

Published at Norfolk, Nebraska November-December 2017



**GREETINGS -- fall is here** and brings a definite change of tempo to meet the challenge of freezing temps and once again 'real time', so our cue is to 'button up and finish up'. October was favorable for a couple field trips so off to Lincoln, Nebraska, where we had a productive day at the Nebraska State Historical Society library, searching microfilm papers, immigration lists and probate records. A stop at the Health and Human Service office for a certified copy of a death certificate was icing on the cake for one of our members, and we topped off the day with a late lunch back in Norfolk.

Our October 21<sup>st</sup> meeting was the tour of the Madison County Museum in Madison, NE. The sheer volume of its many unique displays and scope of artifacts is really mind-boggling. One which always tops the list is the working telephone system so completely built that they can actually make calls, even from a pay phone there. Another exhibit is the extensive model railroad, being continuously enlarged, so that it requires its own building. The historic Carnegie building (former library) has been restored and currently displays artwork, including the sad history and photos of the devastating Madison tornados. We learned Madison history we never knew from the one of a kind original displays on former Madison life. Photos and history of the rural schools that were closed, gave some answers to one member's search for her school. Early Madison history held our attention through the noon hour as all was so well presented by Director Carol Robertson. Many thanks Carol for such an entertaining and educational tour. It was much appreciated by us, and we encourage everyone who has not been to Madison, Nebraska, to visit this Museum.

For our last meeting of the year, November 18<sup>th</sup>, a small group came to review the fun tours taken, and to discuss meeting plans for next year. The newly enlarged and updated Norfolk Public Library is opening December 1st. The Madison County Genealogical Society plans to hold several meetings there, with considerable interest in the possibilities for additional genealogy and historical research. Several members anticipate volunteering in that department.

There is no meeting in December, but we will meet for lunch at 12 noon on Saturday, January 20, 2018, at the Granary on South 13<sup>th</sup> Street, for our post Christmas celebration, and to discuss future meeting plans. A reminder will be sent.

With the best Thanksgiving ever now a delectable memory, we wish Happy Holidays and a good New Year to all.

## THE NAME IS WEGENER, FERDINAND and FAMILY--

This is the story of Ferdinand Wegener (not Wagner) and family. From the Wegener records Ferdinand Julius Leopold Wegener was born August 9, 1828, in Albrechtsbruch, Brandenburg Province of Prussia, son of August Ferdinand and Marie Elisabeth (Hammel) Wegener. Albrechtsbruch is a small agricultural village easterly of the Oder River (the border between Poland and Germany), and not far from Berlin. Father August, born May 12, 1796, was a cottager—a small farmer in the Lippehne area—the historic walled town a few miles farther east created in the 13<sup>th</sup> century by the Duke of Brandenburg. With light damage in World War II historic churches and buildings still stand there today. August's wife, Marie Elisabeth (Hammel), was born Dec. 24, 1805, in the nearby locale of Gennin by Landsberg...all these villages are not far from the border of western Poland. Many civil records were held in different towns or districts, for birth, marriage, and death, so it's important to know the village of each event in order to obtain a civil record of that event. Also, many village church records are available only in a large central church archive.



Wegeners were among the great class of farmers whose entire livelihood and existence were embedded in the land they farmed, often not owned by themselves, but belonging to others-- the common lot of ordinary folk--until for many in the mid 1800s the immigration urge became unbearable. That urge could not be denied by Ferdinand who made his way to Hamburg that summer of 1851. Alone and at the young age of 23, he joined the passengers on the Bark Copernicus, sailing under Captain C. J. Rolufs. Ferdinand's voyage was probably no better or worse than many of those early travels, told and retold later by those who were toughened up by survival of miserable shipboard conditions, so common in the earliest years. But Ferdinand was on a pilgrimage to a new life and that goal was foremost in his mind, so weeks of unsavory ship existence was a small price to pay.

He disembarked from Copernicus in New York on September 6, 1851, and soon made his way west where the land was, heeding the talk he had heard already at home, and from optimistic passengers. He had become acquainted with many like-minded travelers, especially the Joachim Hans family who came from Furstenfelde, Brandenburg Province, not far from his own farm home. Wisconsin was the goal for most immigrants and Ferdinand as they headed west in 1851, many of them settling in Jefferson County. Ferdinand hired out there as farm labor for three years. The Hans family was like his own family back home and a great support. On April 30, 1854 Ferdinand married Amalie Wilhelmine Hans, daughter of Joachim and Dorothea (Juhre) Hans, born June 18, 1835, in Furstenfelde. Hard working Ferdinand opened a saw mill to support his family as their first child was Gustav Adolph, born February 12, 1855. He sold the saw mill in 1859 and in Watertown they operated a general store for ten years. During those years, although successful in business, misfortune struck and they were able to bring only three of their eleven children to adulthood: Gustav Adolph 1855-1928; Elizabeth Dorothea 1858-1933 (married Widaman); and Edmond (Admond) 1865--?



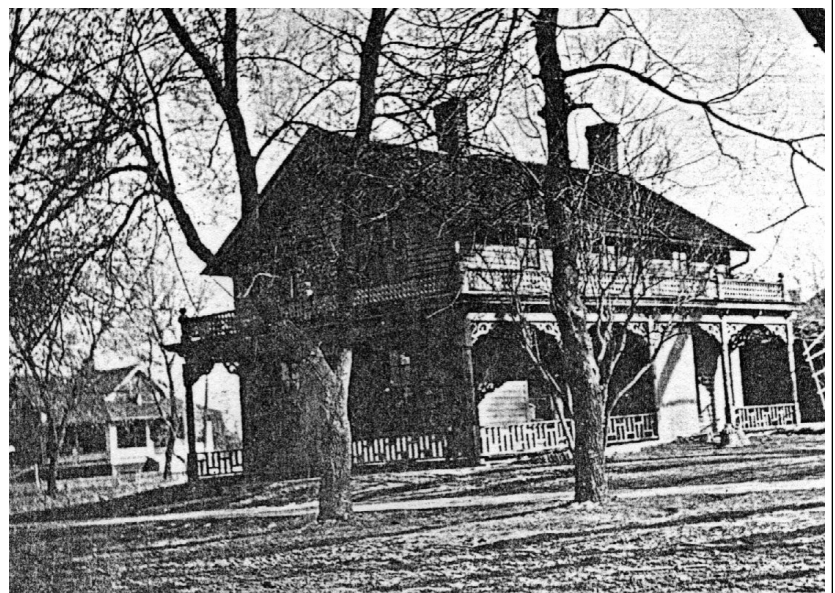
It could be that the death July 24, 1868 of their last child, Ferdinand Emiel, convinced them to leave Watertown and turn a new leaf. The Nebraska fever was growing stronger all around and influenced Ferdinand. He listened to good reports coming back from those who had located there in 1866 and established a new settlement; that there was plenty of land for all. So in 1870 Ferdinand and Amalie loaded their wagons and turned their oxen to the trail of the earlier wagon trains, toward the frontier hamlet of Norfolk on the North Fork River. Same as those pioneers before them in 1866 had struggled and began with the barest shelters, upon arrival they also rough camped for a short time in their wagons and with crude makeshift roofs. It was painfully obvious to Ferdinand --the great need was for hotel type accommodations.

Wasting no time, he built a substantial boarding house-saloon on the south side of Braasch Avenue near the corner of First Street, probably on Lots 1 and 2, Block Six, which he had purchased from Herman Braasch in September of 1871. In 1873 he also purchased Lots 3 and 4 from Herman Braasch. All of these Lots are in the Original Town of Norfolk, platted by Herman Braasch in December of 1869.

A few years later this building was moved to the north side of Norfolk Avenue near the corner of Second Street, on Lot 10, Block 6, purchased by Ferdinand Wegener. The large two story frame structure was rebuilt, with the typical high false front and became the Norfolk House Hotel. It was the first real hotel in the Norfolk community. Early photos clearly show the 'Hotel', with other buildings between it and the First Street mill corner. (The MCGS newsletter Nov-Dec 2015 gives details of Norfolk House guests in 1880 Federal Census.) Today the Reimer Law Office occupies that corner of Second Street and Norfolk Avenue.

Ferdinand Wegener then moved his icehouse from Braasch Avenue near the river, to the corner of Braasch facing First Street, and built it into 119 North First, the house where William H. Widaman lived until his death in 1912. William Widaman and Elizabeth (Wegener) married in 1878, and they purchased from Ferdinand and Amalie Wegener those Lots 1 to 4, Blk 6, in 1885 and 1902. Norfolk's public auditorium was built on that corner of First Street as a WPA project during the depression years of 1938-39.

As advertised, the Norfolk House was the first real hotel in the settlement providing first class meals at all hours of day or night, and reasonable terms. An 1882 railroad journal noted that the Norfolk House had good accommodations and low rates to the traveling public; a livery and feed stable was also advertised. The first liquor license in Norfolk was issued in 1871 to Ferdinand Wegener in his Norfolk House. Family history relates that several of



the Wegener children worked at the Norfolk House as they were growing up. The Norfolk House held an important place for many years in Norfolk history, embellished with anecdotes of some eccentric activities in its domain. An unusual incident related by the Norfolk Daily News in 1936 was the finding of a luggage tag from the Norfolk House, thought to date from about fifty years earlier. Mrs. Herman Potter, 405 North Twelfth Street, while working in her yard early in May made the startling find of this relic, tag No. 33. From Norfolk Avenue to North Twelfth Street is quite a stretch...we'll never know the story it could tell.

Unfortunately, an untimely end came to the Norfolk House in a fire termed 'spectacular' in the midst of an intense blizzard on January 29, 1909. It burned to the ground despite all efforts by firemen and spectators who, it was said, looked like snowmen as they battled the blaze. Speculation was that the fire started in room No. 14 probably from an overheated chimney.

Gustav, Ferdinand's 18 year old son, came to Norfolk with his parents and turned his hand to whatever work was available, also working at the Norfolk House, which he helped manage in later years. It was at the Norfolk House where he met Wilhelmine Dorothea Villnow, born February 2, 1861, daughter of Carl Friedrich and Charlotte Friedericke (surviving twin daughter of Peter Lambrecht/Maria Jaekeln) Villnow. The Villnow family had immigrated in 1873 from their village Kuhtz, Prussia, near the ocean. They first settled in Buffalo, New York, and lived there near cousins for several years. They attended the St. Matthews Church in Buffalo where Wilhelmine was confirmed. Villnows came to Nebraska later in the 1870s. Gustav and Wilhelmine were married April 16, 1880 by E. W. Sims, Madison County Justice of the Peace, and began married life at the Norfolk House. They then farmed west of Norfolk, and five of their children were born in Madison County. In 1883 they bought farmland in Stanton County: N ½ of NW ¼ Sec. 7-23N-1E from Herman Degner, and the S ½ of SW ¼ Sec. 6-23N-1E from Herbert Hoxie. Wilhelmine never forgot the rough depression years, and was content and determined to live on this farm for the rest of her life. Their last two children were born in Stanton County. The life story of Gustav and Wilhelmine is well known and written, as it centers on their family with all the typical manual farm work and concerns, but also devoted to love of the family—the sorrows and joys experienced with raising their seven children.

Gustav never lacked for energy and earlier was determined to assist his brother Edmund who applied July 29, 1910, for a homestead in Garfield County, Nebraska, on 640 acres in the "sand hills": E ½ Sec. 10 and W ½ Sec. 11 all in T23N-R13W. (Homesteads were allowed 640 acres in the "sand hills"). Edmund and several partners had been grazing cattle there since early 1904, and after Edmund met all the requirements and made payment, he was issued Patent No. 184244, dated March 16, 1911, and filed July 21, 1911, by T. G. Hemmett, Garfield County Clerk.

Edmund (also shown as Admond) was born September 6, 1865 in Watertown, Wisconsin. He and Lulu Francis Doty, were married on February 25, 1889, by George N. Beels, Justice of the Peace, Madison, Nebraska. Lulu Francis is the daughter of Amos Doty of Illinois. (The Doty lineage reaches back to the Mayflower.) A sod/wood cabin was built on the sand hills

acreage but it's unknown how long they lived there. Apparently their life in the sand hills was too difficult for Lulu who soon left Edmund, and for a short time Edmund also disappeared. Gustav and family, including mother Amalie, lived briefly on the homestead while the Wegener and Hans families continued to graze cattle, hoping Edmund would return and take charge. But Edmund had lost interest in living there alone, and shortly thereafter disposed of his interest in the sand hills ranch, perhaps to those who had originally pastured cattle on the acreage. The family lost contact with Edmund and he gave no forwarding address. The photo of his sod/wood house follows. Sentiments expressed in an old folk song, popular versions recited by many in those difficult early days, most likely expresses how Edmund must have felt as he walked away!

**Disillusionment of many homesteaders:**

**"How happy am I on my government claim,  
Where I've nothing to lose and nothing to gain  
Nothing to eat and nothing to wear,  
Nothing from nothing is honest and square.  
But here I am stuck, and here I must stay,  
My money's all gone and I can't get away,  
There's nothing will make a man hard and profane  
Like starving to death on a government claim."**



Gustav Wegener by the remains of the sod/wood shanty about 1910

This disillusion may fit this story, but the lives and times of the Wegeners continues on in happy and productive ways. Family reunions are frequent and they keep in touch with one another. Ferdinand and Amalie Wegener lived life to its fullest and had no regrets. Ferdinand died from consumption during the evening of April 5, 1890, leaving Amalie to carry on with the Norfolk House, with Gustav's assistance. Amalie passed on August 21, 1911, her family cares and labors done. Both are buried in the Prospect Hill Cemetery, Norfolk, NE.

Gustav died May 25, 1928. Wilhelmine died peacefully February 24, 1951 on the farm she loved, and both are buried in the Prospect Hill Cemetery, Norfolk, NE. Their church affiliation was with Christ Lutheran Church, South Fifth Street, Norfolk, NE.

Following Ferdinand's lead, his parents August and Marie Elisabeth Wegener, had also immigrated to America in 1853 with some of their children, sailing on the Bark Nord America under Captain G. N. Peters. They chose to remain in the Watertown, Wisconsin area and took up farming, the life they knew so well. August died Nov. 5, 1873, and Marie Elisabeth died Oct. 13, 1887. Both are buried in the Ebenezer Moravian Cemetery in Watertown, Wisconsin.

January 29, 1982, in recognition of the contribution to the development of the State of Nebraska the Nebraska State Genealogical Society issued a Family Recognition Certificate to Ferdinand J. L. Wegener and wife Amalie Wilhelmine (Hans) Wegener, Norfolk, Madison County, 1870, the ancestors of Dorothy Wegener Monson, whose family history contributed to this article.

### St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Norfolk, Nebraska Cemetery

St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Norfolk was founded by members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Ixonia, Wisconsin in 1866. The cemetery has Highway 81 on the west and Georgia Avenue on the south.

#### St. Paul Lutheran Cemetery as walked by the MCGS.

| Name              | Birth Date | Death date | Additional notes   |
|-------------------|------------|------------|--------------------|
| Miller, Fred      | 1869       | 1957       | Lot 142            |
| Miller, Caroline  | 1872       | 1956       | Lot 142            |
| Hille, Herman     | 1871       | 1946       | Father, Lot 143    |
| Hille, Bertha     | 1875       | 1935       | Mother             |
| Deitloff, Dean W. | 1927       | 1942       | Lot 63 Outer Drive |
| Deitloff, William | 1902       | 1976       | Lot 63 Outer Drive |
| Deitloff, Ella    | 1904       | 1996       | Lot 63 Outer Drive |

#### Section E, Row 5 South to North

|                        |             |             |                                                       |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Schwanke, Herman       | 13 Jan 1853 | 24 Jan 1907 | Father, Lot 148                                       |
| Schwanke, Caroline     | 14 Mar 1850 | 16 Jun 1930 | Mother, Lot 148                                       |
| Luebcke, Ernest O.     | 1877        | 1952        | Lot 149                                               |
| Luebcke, Christina H.  | 1880        | 1978        | Lot 149                                               |
| Luebcke, Annie         |             | 7 Aug 1906  | wife of E. O. Luebcke, Age 31 ys, 2 ms, 20 ds Lot 149 |
| Luebcke, Oscar W.      |             | 12 Apr 1910 | son of C. H. and E. O. Luebcke age 10 months          |
| Eyler, Lucille Mary    |             | April 1920  | infant daughter of Arthur and Greta Eyler             |
| Witt, Reverend John H. | 1872        | 1949        | Lot 150                                               |
| Witt, Bertha E.        | 1875        | 1947        | Lot 150                                               |
| Witt, Carl             | 18 Mar 1905 | 18 Mar 1905 | Infant son of Rev. J. and B. Witt                     |
| Witt, Paul J.          | 1919        | 1962        | son of Rev. John Witt                                 |
| Raasch, Myrna E.       | 1920        | 2011        |                                                       |
| Raasch, Darius P.      | 1889        | 1983        | Lot O                                                 |
| Raasch, Clara B.       | 1894        | 1989        | Lot O                                                 |
| Wichman, Ernest        | 1876        | 1964        | Lot 151                                               |
| Wichman, Emma          | 1881        | 1963        | Lot 151                                               |
| Wichman, Irene         | 1914        | 1915        | Daughter                                              |
| Dommer, Ruben W.       | 1899        | 1977        | Lot 152                                               |
| Dommer, Emma H.        | 1901        | 1992        | Born Uecker Lot 152                                   |
| Dreesen, Carl C.       | 1891        | 1975        | Lot 152                                               |
| Dreesen, Louise E.     | 1894        | 1974        | Lot 152                                               |
| Muller, Alex           | 1893        | 1965        | Lot 153                                               |
| Muller, Minnie         | 1892        | 1988        | Lot 153                                               |
| Muller, Gust           | 1860        | 1937        | Father Lot 153                                        |
| Muller, Emilie         | 1868        | 1919        | Mother, Lot 153                                       |

#### Section E Row 6 South to North

|                        |             |             |                     |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Moritz, Arthur P.      | 1890        | 1979        | Lot 71 Outer Driver |
| Moritz, Hattie M.      | 1893        | 1957        | Lot 71 Outer Driver |
| Dederman, Arthur H.    | 9 Sep 1888  | 27 Jun 1977 | Lot 158             |
| Dederman, Josephine M. | 24 Jan 1896 | 11 Jan 1993 | Lot 158             |

|                       |             |             |                                     |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| Kaufman, Adolph       | 1904        | 1927        | Lot 158                             |
| Adams, Hezekiah David | 21 Dec 1989 | 14 Nov 1990 | Our beloved son                     |
| Wagner, Paul          | 11 Feb 1879 | 5 Feb 1963  | Lot 159                             |
| Wagner, Ida H.        | 23 Jan 1883 | 28 Jun 1963 | Lot 159                             |
| Wagner, Esther B.     | 25 Jul 1906 | 24 Apr 1928 | Lot 159                             |
| Wagner, Robert        | 1938        | 1938        | Infant sons of Her. and Elv. Wagner |
| Wagner, Royel         | 1938        | 1938        | Infant sons of Her. and Elv. Wagner |
| Wagner, Louis O.      | 1882        | 1938        | Lot 160                             |
| Wagner, Selma E.      | 1888        | 1978        | Lot 160                             |
| Wagner, Scott Wayne   | 4 Feb 1973  | 18 Jan 1974 | Son of Wayne and Edna Wagner        |
| Wagner, Infant son    | 12 Feb 1939 | 12 Feb 1939 | Infant son of H. and H. Wagner      |
| Winter, Frank E.      | 1874        | 1943        | Father                              |
| Winter, Anna P.       | 1873        | 1950        | Mother                              |
| Wichman, Edgar        | 28 Dec 1917 | 30 Aug 1992 | Married Dec. 15, 1940               |
| Wichman, Hulda        | 8 Feb 1918  | 11 Nov 2003 | Married Dec. 15, 1940               |
| Pettitt, Leroy F.     | 1892        | 1964        | Lot P                               |
| Pettitt, Elsie W.     | 1895        | 1996        | Lot P                               |
| Hellweg, Henry A.     | 1886        | 1953        | Lot P                               |
| Hellweg, Minnie M.    | 1884        | 1959        | Lot P                               |
| Daniels, William A.   | 1891        | 1956        | Lot P                               |
| Daniels, Bertha E.    | 1892        | 1963        | Lot P                               |
| Baker, Albert M.      | 1911        | 1995        | CPO USN Retired Lot P               |
| Baker, Laura C.       | 1912        | 1995        | Lot P                               |
| Wachter, Ferdinand H. | 1881        | 1940        | Lot 161                             |
| Wachter, Emma         | 1878        | 1957        | Lot 161                             |
| Wegner, Wm. H.        | 2 Mar 1892  | 25 Jun 1937 | Lot 161                             |
| Wegner, Hedwig        | 19 May 1887 | 8 Mar 1989  | Born Raasch Lot 161                 |
| Christians, J. M.     | 1856        | 1945        | Lot 162                             |
| Christians, Anna      | 1867        | 1946        | Lot 162                             |
| Christians, Marvin O. | 23 Apr 1927 | 17 Aug 1946 | WWII killed in Germany Lot 162      |
| Ohlmann, Henry D.     | 1868        | 1949        | Lot 163                             |
| Ohlmann, Emma         | 1867        | 1959        | Lot 163                             |
| Ohlmann, Herman       | 1901        | 1990        |                                     |
| Ohlmann, Elsie        | 1909        | 2001        |                                     |
| Glaze, Richard E.     | 1919        | 1993        | Lot 70 Outer Drive                  |
| Glaze, Irene C.       | 1918        | 2007        | Lot 70 Outer Drive                  |
| Glaze, Janet F.       | 1944        |             |                                     |

**Section E, Row 7, South to North Right on into new addition**

|                   |      |      |                   |
|-------------------|------|------|-------------------|
| Hausman, George   | 1891 | 1960 | Lot 4             |
| Hausman, Rosa     | 1896 | 1966 | Lot 4             |
| Uecker, Arthur R. | 1900 | 1967 | US Veteran Lot 5  |
| Uecker, Martha A. | 1897 | 1983 | Lot 5 born Raasch |
| Raasch, Frank H.  | 1890 | 1964 | Lot 5             |
| Raasch, Ida M.    | 1895 | 1980 | Lot 5             |

To be continued in the next issue.

**The Norfolk Veterans Home has built a Veterans Memory Plaza** to honor any veteran, living or deceased. There are three styles of tiles. One style can be linked to a website where you can upload unlimited data, photos, movies, songs, etc. of your veteran. The second style has the veteran's photo and service dates. The third option is no photo but the veteran's name and dates of service. This veterans memorial is beautiful with the flags, engraved benches, life size bronze statues and an eternal flame. Tiles are available for purchase. For more information visit the website at **<http://supportheroespark.org/veterans-memory-plaza/>** Continuing in each issue will be the list of veterans and organization that have tiles already on the walls. Tiles are being added regularly. These tiles are some of the ones added in 2017.

| Name                       | Panel, Row, Column |   |   | Website located at:<br><a href="http://www.forevermissed.com">www.forevermissed.com</a> |
|----------------------------|--------------------|---|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Kahler, Harold H.          | 21                 | C | 1 | No website                                                                              |
| Kahler, Darrel L.          | 21                 | D | 1 | No website                                                                              |
| Drake, Kenneth V.          | 19                 | F | 4 | No website                                                                              |
| Hemenway, Oscar            | 19                 | F | 5 | No website                                                                              |
| Brandenburg, Don           | 20                 | H | 6 | No website                                                                              |
| Roker, David T.            | 19                 | B | 1 | No website                                                                              |
| Johnson, Roland W.         | 1                  | E | 1 | <b>See website</b>                                                                      |
| Nelson, Richard (Dick) Lee | 23                 | F | 7 | <b>See website</b>                                                                      |
| Wiseman, William           | 11                 | C | 8 | No website                                                                              |
| Miller, Gerald             | 1                  | I | 1 | No website                                                                              |
| Uttecht, Dale              | 17                 | E | 4 | No website                                                                              |
| Indra, Donald              | 23                 | F | 6 | No website                                                                              |
| Schultz, Harold            | 19                 | F | 3 | No website                                                                              |
| Rotherham, Maurice Michael | 1                  | G | 1 | <b>See website</b>                                                                      |
| Rotherham, Robert William  | 1                  | H | 1 | <b>See website</b>                                                                      |
| Moody, Roger Norris        | 23                 | F | 8 | <b>See website</b>                                                                      |
| Podany, Jr. Stephen J.     | 19                 | F | 2 | No website                                                                              |
| Trampe, Doug               | 23                 | F | 4 | No website                                                                              |
| Meisinger, Jerald "Jerry"  | 23                 | F | 3 | No website                                                                              |
| Dinslage, Norbert J.       | 19                 | G | 3 | <b>See website</b>                                                                      |
| Bruns, Joseph              | 19                 | G | 4 | No website                                                                              |

The websites are located at **[www.forevermissed.com](http://www.forevermissed.com)**. This website started as a place to post information about a deceased loved one but has evolved into a place for all persons to save their information, memories and life history even while still living.

To be continued in the next issue.



### Norfolk High School Class of 1892

May 29, 1892 was a momentous day. Eleven students graduated from Norfolk High School being the largest class in school history.

Class members in no particular order were:

**Charles Rolvin Hays**, born 1875 in Nevada, IA. Earned a Law degree from Iowa State University. Was a purchasing agent for the American Beet Sugar Company headquartered in Denver, Colo. through the 1920s. By 1930 he was an attorney in private practice. He married Grace L. Whitcombe. Charles died in 1964 and Grace in 1980. They are buried in Denver. They had 3 children; a son George, and daughters Lenore and Charlotte.

**Alfred N. Gerecke** was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman E. Gerecke. He was 1st Sergeant Company L, Second Regiment of the Nebraska Volunteers in the Spanish American War. He married Anna Gayhart on June 6, 1900; she died in 1914, and he then married Jessie. Alfred and Anna lived in Holdredge, Neb. He died Feb. 12, 1925. Jessie received his Spanish American War pension as he was listed as an Army invalid. Jessie died August 1950 in Kansas City. Alfred had one daughter Carolyn, and worked as a store clerk/druggist in a drug store. Jessie is a post office assistant in 1920.

**Esther "Essie" Nichol** was born July 9, 1873 in New Sharon/Richland, Mahaska Co., Iowa, and came to Nebraska in 1881, the daughter of John R. and Sarah R. Nichol. Essie became a teacher and educator, holding positions in Willowdale and Neligh, Antelope Co., and was acting Principal of Gates Academy. She also taught in Oklahoma, was principal of the Normal School in Perry, Alabama. By 1940 she was retired and living in Caldwell, Canyon Co., Idaho, with her sisters, Margaret and Mary, also retired teachers. She died March, 1974. She never married.

**Clara Jeanette "Nettie" Nelson** was born Dec. 11, 1871 near Orion, Henry Co., Illinois. Her family moved to Iowa in 1874; to Nebraska in 1878 and Norfolk in 1889. She attended Teachers College in Lincoln, Neb. She taught school in Norfolk, and was later the County Superintendent of Schools in Burt County, NE. Then after earning her Master of Arts from the Univ. of Nebraska in 1916, she became Supervisor of Geography and Normal Training in the high school of the Teachers College. She never married; died April 19, 1921, and is buried in West Side Cemetery, Oakland, NE.

**Jane Bawden** was born Nov 11, 1869 near Galena, Joe Davies Co., Illinois, daughter of Richard and Jane (Tracy) Bawden; lived there until 1890, then came to Norfolk, NE to live with her aunt and uncle. Married Victor Seymour in 1897 in Lincoln. They had 2 children that survived, daughter Ellanor, and son Robert Victor. Jane died April 25, 1938 and is buried in Wyuka Cemetery Lincoln, NE

**Helen Ruth Olney** was the daughter of John and Charlotte (Mathewson) Olney, born in Norfolk, Nebraska on 11 May 1873. She spent summers in

Connecticut with relatives and taught school for a short time near Plainview. She was also a postal clerk in Carpentaria, CA, lived in Minneapolis and Chattanooga, TN. She died May 25, 1934 in California at the age of 61.

**Laura Pearle Mackey** was the daughter of J. W. and Amy C. Mackey, born July 4, 1876 in Rose Hill, Iowa. She was a teacher at Stanton, Bloomfield, and Herman, Nebr., and Minneapolis, MN. While in Minneapolis she met her husband William Edgar Hushaw. They married in Council Bluffs, Iowa on July 5, 1923; he was 54, she was 47, a first marriage for both of them. William died in 1930 and is buried in Stanton Cem., Stanton, NE. Pearl never remarried, and by 1940 she had moved to Chicago and was selling corsets. She died Dec. 16, 1950 in Kankakee, Illinois at the age of 74.

**John Beaumont Barnes, Jr.** was born in Ponca, NE 10 Sep 1875, to John Beaumont Barnes (1846-1921) and Ida Frances (Hannant) Barnes (1857-1942). He graduated from Nebraska State University in 1897 with the degree of B. A. and rank of First Adjutant; commissioned May 1898, as Captain to form a company of light artillery (Spanish American War). John married Alta Rowe and they had 3 children: John B., Mary E. and Ida Belle. John died Dec. 12, 1946 in Denver, Denver Co., Colorado: buried in Fairmount Cemetery, Denver. He taught in Hoskins, NE public schools for a while before moving to Casper, Wyoming, and then Denver as a practicing lawyer.

**Frederick Franklin Teal**, the son of Frank and Emma Teal was born in Jan. 1875 in Council Bluffs, Iowa, moved to Omaha at age 3. The family came to Norfolk in 1889. Fred married in 1900 to Maude Sedgwick Merriam, born Dec. 1879 in New York. Children of Fred and Maude were Dorothy M. Teal, Frederick F. Teal, Jr., Philip R. Teal, and an adopted son, William Putney. Fred was a physician, practicing first in Lincoln then Omaha. He died January 1968, and is buried in Forest Lawn, Omaha.

**Edgar Herman Gerecke**, the son of William and Adele Gerecke, was born October 4, 1875. William was the Stanton County Clerk. Edgar was the Field Superintendent of the American Beet Sugar Co. and Deputy Stanton Co. Clerk. After moving to Rocky Ford, Colorado, he was Assistant Manager and Manager of the Sugar Beet Co. He married Ada E. Ellerwood on Dec. 31, 1902. He and Ada had 2 children: Gladys and Edgar H. Jr. He died July 14, 1937 and is buried in Valley View Cem., Rocky Ford, Otero Co., Colorado.

**Charles Foster Chillson** was born Feb. 1875 near Marion, Marion Co., Ohio; lived there 4 years then Massachusetts for three years. At age 12 he and his family moved to Kansas for three years, then moved to Nebraska—mostly in Norfolk, except a few months in Randolph. He married Ida Lee in Pope Co., Arkansas in 1897. She was born Sept. 1877 in Arkansas. His occupation was listed as a boiler maker and also as a real estate dealer in Randolph, NE. He had 1 child. Charles and Ida may have been divorced. Charles died June 1928, and is buried in Omaha in an unmarked grave in Springwell Cemetery.

**Madison County Genealogical Society**  
**P. O. Box 1031, Norfolk, NE 68702—1031**

**2017—2018 Officers**

Phyllis McCain, Bobette Ferguson, Bernice Walters

**Our Society Website is at**  
**[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nemcgs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nemcgs/)**

**Our future meetings**

October 21 Road trip to Madison  
 County Museum

November 18

December—no meeting

**Join us and bring a friend**

**Information and queries:**

Nancy at [mcgs@telebeep.com](mailto:mcgs@telebeep.com)

**Membership and newsletter:**

Bernice at [btwalters@cableone.net](mailto:btwalters@cableone.net)

**Memberships** are \$15 per year from September 1 through August 31. Join anytime (\$3 per issue pro-rate). Newsletters by email or snail mail.

**Research Requests:** \$10 and a family group sheet to: MCGS, PO Box 1031, Norfolk, NE 68702-1031

**Website:** [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nemcgs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nemcgs/)

**Meetings** generally on the 3rd Saturday of each month with exceptions at 10 a.m. at 515 Queen City Blvd., Norfolk, NE., in the Elkhorn Valley Museum and Research Center, or at 703 E. Klug, Bernice Walters' home.

**Check with Bernice at**  
**402-371-0543 or email at**  
**[btwalters@cableone.net](mailto:btwalters@cableone.net)**



Class of 1892 Students not identified.

**Board of Education**

IRA G. WESTERVELT, PRESIDENT

E. G. HEILMAN, VICE-PRESIDENT JOHN R. HAYS, SECRETARY

C. J. Chapman C. W. BRAASCH, C. B. Durland

**Teachers**

Prof. J. A. Hornberger, Superintendent

Miss Ivy Reed.

Miss Rose Weinlander.

Mrs. E. P. Hornberger.

Miss Minnie F. Allen,

Miss Lillian Watrous.

Miss Clemmie Morrison.

Miss Laura Brome.

Miss Mary Hyde.

Miss Lizzie Rees.

Miss Minnie Gregory

Mr. W. W. Shultz

Miss Eva C. Nye

Miss M. Louise Swaynie.

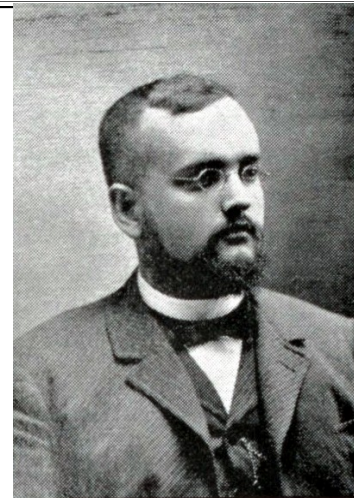
Miss Fannie Brome.

Miss Tentie Kepler,

Miss Edith Hays,

Mr. E. H. Shultz.

Mrs. P. E. Mason.



Prof. J. A. Hornberger  
 Superintendent

**Class Colors:**

**Black and Gold**

**Class Motto:**

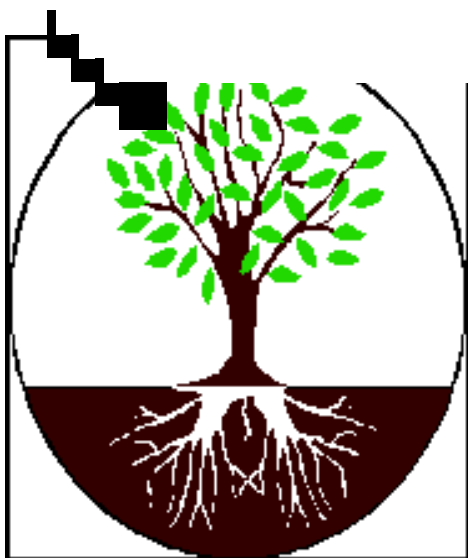
**Forward**

**Class Flower:**

**Scarlet Geranium**

## MADSON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PO Box 1031, Norfolk, NE 68702-1031



The date on your label is your membership renewal date.

**TEMP RETURN SERVICE      FIRST CLASS**

### Upcoming Events

**Sunday, January 7, 2018 Female Connections are the Best Road to Research Success** (Community Genealogy Course) 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm Walt Library 6701 South 14th St. Lincoln Irish Research - presented by Kevin Cassidy of **GreenGenes** Genealogy Services. <https://llcgs.info/eventListings.php?nm=96>

**Sunday, February 11, 2018 Follow Your Family Through Their Chain Migration** (Community Genealogy Course) 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm Walt Library 6701 South 14th St. Lincoln Irish Research - presented by Kevin Cassidy of **GreenGenes** Genealogy Services. This recognizes that few Irish immigrants left home and had no contact with their families ever again. Most did follow a path where they would have familiar faces and job prospects. This course examines the naturalization papers, passenger lists, sacramental and census records among others to find the link between the immigrant and his relatives and neighbors in the home country and the new.

**Family Discovery Day —March 10, 2018.** This one will be held at 12009 S. 84th St., Papillion. From 8:30 to 12:00 FREE <https://gogsmembers.wordpress.com/>

**March 15, 2018 – Irish workshop** Our Spring 2018 Workshop will be an Irish workshop with the Ulster Historical Foundation from Ireland. There will be 2 sessions. There will be one session in the afternoon and the other in the evening. The workshop will be held at The Thompson Center on the campus of University of Nebraska, Omaha. The Ulster Historical Foundation is a non-profit organization established in 1956 to promote interest in Irish genealogy and history. The Foundation is one of the leading genealogical research agencies in Ireland and a major publisher of historical, educational and genealogical source books. <https://gogsmembers.wordpress.com/>

### Index for this Issue:

Page 13 — MCGS meeting notes and program information; Pages 14-17 — The name is Wegener ; Pages 18-19 — St. Paul's Lutheran Church Cemetery continued; Page 20 — Norfolk Veterans Memorial Plaza continued; Pages 21-23 — Norfolk High School Class of 1892 member information ; Page 23 — Society Contact Information; Page 24 - Upcoming Events, Index for this issue