

# NEWSLETTER

Organized:  
27 June 1973

P.O. Box 347 Norfolk, Nebraska 68701

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Third Quarter

## WHAT IS A GENEALOGIST?

A genealogist is a collector of ancestors and all available information that can be found about them. We know that our physical appearance and personality traits are determined by the genes we inherit from our forebearers. As we have two parents, four grandparents, eight great grandparents and these keep doubling every generation, by the time we get back ten generations or so, many lines have crossed and we find a great number of persons wherever we go who are definite look-alikes to some of our immediate families. Strange as it may seem, these unknown persons probably have inherited some of the same genes that the members of our own families have inherited also. By the tenth generation we have 512 ancestors who are our 7th great grandparents. The tenth generation would take us back 200 to 250 years, so it is readily seen how our ancestors multiply very rapidly and account for our similarities and our differences.

What Is Genealogy? The Colonial Courier - summer 1985 via ANCESTORS UNLIMITED  
10:1-1986

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## DID YOU KNOW?

To get your genealogy into the Library of Congress you need only pay the postage to get it there, and your genealogy doesn't have to be copyrighted. Some of the expenses of the research can be tax deducted from your income taxes when such a gift is given to the Library of Congress. They will send you an acknowledgment describing your gift. Send your completed genealogy to: Library of Congress, Exchange and Gifts Division, 10 First Street S.E., Washington, D.C. 20540. Taken from: E.N.G.S. Vol. XV-No. 2 Feb. 1986; Olmsted Co. Gen. Soc. News, Rochester, MN via Sac Co. Gen. Soc., Early, IA.

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## SOCIAL SECURITY RECORDS

A number of societies' newsletters recently have published articles suggesting that copies of ancestors' original social security applications could be obtained by genealogical researchers. If you come across this information and planned on checking it out, save your time and stamp. However disappointing it may be, few of the government's records are more restricted than these are. Gleaned via E.N.G.S. Vol. XV-No. 3 March 1986 ...Leafy Branches, Adams Co. Gen. 1/86.

\* \* \* \* \*

## GOD'S MINUTE

I have only just one minute,  
Only sixty seconds in it.  
Forced upon me - can't refuse it,  
Didn't see it, didn't choose it,  
But it's up to me to use it.  
I must suffer if I lose it,  
Give account if I abuse it.  
Just a tiny little minute,  
But eternity is in it.

Author unknown.

Taken from ANCESTORS UNLIMITED, SWGS, Vol.9, No.4 - 1985.

Have trouble finding a place name in the United States? Have you looked in every possible atlas and gazateer in vain? Then contact the U.S. Board of Geographic Names, giving them as much information as you can on possible location and date, etc. The address: Donald J. Orth, Ececutive Secretary, Domestic Geographic Names, U.S. Board of Geographic Names, National Center Stop 523, Reston, VA 22092.

Taken from THIS 'N THAT, PVKS, Vol. 7, No. 3 - Dec.'85/Jan '86.

More Genealogical Helps - City Directories/Telephone Books:

1. Keene Memorial Library in Fremont has an extensive telephone book section.
2. Northwestern Bell Telephone Company in Omaha has a complete phone book library free for public use. There is also a complete phone book library housed at Grand Island Northwestern Bell building for public use.
3. W. Dale Clark Public Library in Omaha has an extensive city directory section which includes city directories throughout the U.S. It has an automatic update of any city directories printed in the U.S. This library has Omaha city directories dating back to 1859. Prior to 1920 they are on microfilm.
4. Norfolk Public Library, Norfolk, Nebraska has city directories for Norfolk and Madison county towns, from 1912, to present for public use.

Reprint from MCGS Newsletter July 1980:

With summer around the corner and reunions scheduled, here are "Twelve Ways To Make Your Family Reunion Something To Talk About" by Lois G. Kulibe

If family reunions were songs, they would not likely make the "top ten" on the activity list, but with thoughtful planning they could. The difference between a "ho-hum" reunion and an occasion to remember is the activity and involvement of family members. It takes imagination to make it sparkle!

If you family already holds reunions, you can go to the officers or organizers with ideas that will interest everyone from toddlers to the old folks. If you are going to organize a reunion for the first time, there's several steps in planning that you should consider first.

Choose a locality that is near as many persons as possible. Remember elderly family members may not want to travel far. Select a site for the reunion a school, auditorium, church, large home, park, restaurant or motel resort, or a combination, depending on the events you plan. Make reservations early.

Begin a card file index of family addresses. If you don't know addresses you may be able to find them in phone books located in the library of most major cities.

Duplicate a letter by mimeograph, ditto or xerox. The letter should tell the time, place, accommodations available and any activities that are planned. If you plan a sharing table, picture displays or a talent show, now is the time to request participation. It is also a good time to find out if the family would prefer to contribute money for the food expenses, eat in a restaurant or go potluck (which you can assign evenly in the follow-up letter). Send a reminder approximately a month before the reunion to those who have responded.

Several committees should be set up ahead of time. Have a welcoming committee to be in charge of a guest book, make up name tags and pass out a paper and pencil ice-breaker game. There should also be committees for food, advertising, decorations, entertainment and historical displays or a sharing table.

There are many ways to have fun at a reunion. There shold be a variety of activities so you can involve both young and old. The reunion could be planned to cover three days instead of one - with different activites scheduled each day. If the group is large or scattered, put up a poster telling the time and location of the events scheduled, or pass out a sheet containing information.

Here are twelve ideas that will enrich any family reunion:

1. PLANNED GROUP ACTIVITIES.

Several sporting events or outings could be planned for one of the days. This might be a fishing derby, a "best ball" golf tournament, bowling (which could have mother and sons versus fathers and daughters, or husbands and wives together), a motor-boar race, life-raft duel to see who can keep from being dunked, inner tube races, a hike or treasure hunt to a specific point and later in the day a cookout with froup singing by the campfire.

2. DRAMATIZATIONS AND MUSCAL PROGRAMS.

Short skits dramatizing humorous moments in family history are fun for the children or teens to put on. The props should be limited to simple carry-on/off items. If you have members of the family who play musical instruments, sing or dance, a program is a fine idea. You will need someone with a great deal of self-assurance to act as "master of ceremonies". He/she might even tell some funny litte anecdotes about family members in between acts. If the family reunion is being held in honor of someone's birthday or anniversary, a "This is Your Life" program is appropriate. Here you tell the story of their life and ask people who were present at any major event to tell in their own words about the happening.

3. SLIDE PRESENTATION OR HOME MOVIES.

To present an interesting program of slides, ask for people to bring slides on a specific subject; first birthday of all grandchildren, graduation pictures, wedding pictures, favorite vacation, etc. Type up a narrative to explain the slides and tape record it ahead of time. Play it while you are showing the slides. If you have someone interested in family history, they could visit old homes or towns of ancestors, taking pictures of what they find. They might also take pictures of any old-timers who remember the family and then tell their story when the slides are shown.

4. GAMES.

As a warm-up to the party you can play "Hello Bingo". Give everyone a card with twenty-five empty squares (5 down & 5 across) and have them get a different relative to autograph each square. The names of the signers are placed on separate slips of paper in a container. As the names are called the players corss out the name on their sheet. The first person to get five names in a row, any direction wins the game.

Another game can be prepared ahead of time with about 25 questions like: Who won a contest? Who is wearing blue socks? Who took a trip to Pennsylvania? Who has six children? Who's birthday is in June? Who went to college? The questions can be tailored to fit your family and be made both specific and general. Have people ask the questions to each other and get signatures when they find the right persons. The first person to get all 25 signatures wins.

Using the same type of questions based on accomplishments of family members such as: Who plays the violin? Who can fix a car? Who took a trip to Virginia in 1927? Who is the last baby in Uncle Max's family? How many Children have red hair in Aunt Mary's family? You can play the game Twenty Questions. Divide the family into teams to play the game or by family brances. Each question guessed correctly wins a point.

A relay using family branches as teams is also fun. You can ask for simple items people usually carry in their pockets or purse and have them race to the front of the line as each item is called out. The team getting the most items wins.

You can make an acrosstic puzzle containing the first names of every person in the family. To do this mark off on ditto paper 8 1/2 x 11 inches fifteen half-inch squares across and twenty half-inch squares down. Fill in the letters for the names going any direction forward, backward, up, down or diagonally. Then fill in the blank spaces with any letters as long as they don't spell words. At the botton of the sheet or on a separate sheet give people a list of the names included in the puzzle and tell them to circle each one they find. The person who gets the most correct names wins the game.

5. DISPLAYS.

Make a picture wall or arrange snapshots in a picture frame to display family history. Number each picture and have a sheet telling who and what each picture is about. If you have more trivial memorabilia such as programs, ticket stubs, dance cards, high school souvenirs or travel folders, a good way to display them is to decopage' them onto a screen or room divider.

If you have an artist in the family have them get some large sheets or paper or a continuous sheet off a roll of "butcher" paper to make a family tree mural. You can start with the grandparent couple or great-grandparents and list all the descendants. To show them either neatly letter all the names or post photos with the names printed nearby.

A memory chest is another "talk-about" item. Take an old trunk and refinish the outside. Then line the inside with velvet, quilted material or perhaps an old quilt. Place inside the treasures of a beloved ancestor; glassware, china, silver or crocheted doilies, diaries, journals and other old books should be included... and don't forget treasured items like a wedding dress or a military uniform or papa's old watch.

6. SHARING TABLE.

This is the place for family member to display their own talents - a jar of jelly, a handmade quilt, craft items, school pictures, papers or report cards that rated a high grade, poetry or prose that have been written, prize roses, pictures where a pet won a show ribbon, a prize coin collection, a bowling trophy or any other accomplishment that deserves recognition.

7. ORAL HISTORY TAPING SESSION.

Bring a tape recorder. Pass the microphone around to each person. As them to tell something they remember about family history. If you can have subjects in mind ahead of time, it will help folks start thinking. If not, ask questions like: Describe a place where you lived as a child. Tell how you met your spouse. Tell what you remember about your mother/father. Tell something that happened when you were going to school.

After the reunion is over type up the stories and offer to send them to those who are interested.

8. OLD-TIME PARTY.

Everyone should come dressed as one of their ancestors. The activities should include old-fashioned skills such as butter-churning, wood-splitting, nail driving, rug-braiding, and hooking up a plow and harness. If you don't have the real thing, make a substitute for the sake of the game. At an appropriate point in the party each person should tell briefly about the ancestor they represent and the costume they are wearing.

Costumes would be judged next. While the refreshments are being prepared, the men will enjoy a horsehoe tournament. Old-fashioned scones and homemade jelly with buttermilk, cider or rootbeer will top off the evening.

9. FIELD TRIPS.

If your reunion is near the "old family home" relatives will enjoy visiting landmarks like the old store, the school, the courthouse, the place where grandpa brought his grain or cream and the graveyard where ancestors are buried. This will give the genalogists in the family opportunities to take pictures and gather notes. If there is a good library in the area include this in the itinerary. You might meet an old town character who can tell stories the history books never mentioned.

Field trips could also be scheduled to famous landmarks or historical spots in the area as well as present day amusements that are well known.

10. GENEALOGY SCAVENGER HUNT.

A halloween setting would enhance this idea, but since family reunions are usually held in the summer, it's still fun to do. Make arrangements with the local cemetery board ahead of time, so they won't think you are vandals. Type up a list of items that can be found on gravestones in the cemetery; find a person who died in 1850; find a family who all died the same day, find a man with two wives buried by him, find the oldest person in the cemetery, find a person who came from Sweden, how many women named Elizabeth are buried here? Teenagers will particularly like this type of hunt if it is done by flashlight at night. A "hay-ride" is a nice way to end the evening.

11. FUN FOR THE CHILDREN.

Put together several blank sheets of paper in a manilla cover. Decorate the cover with cutouts or drawings that children will like. On each page put a title that will pertain to children: This is a picture of my family. This is a picture of my dog. This is where I like to play. This is a picture of me going to the circus. This is a picture of me swimming. This is my school class. This is a picture of our family reunion. Have the children draw and color their own pictures, then write a story about each picture. It should keep them busy many hours.

12. COLLECTIONS.

Both adults and youth will enjoy collecting flowers and leaves they can press, or finding special rocks they can take home to place in their garden as a reminder of the best family reunion they ever went to.

Organized hikes to points of interest such as waterfalls, creeks or national parks is a good way to get this started. In other areas people might search for arrowheads or items found in the desert.

At the end of your family reunion as everyone is enjoying a sense of belonging and resolving to keep in closer contact with family members, it is a good time to plan ahead for the next reunion, or start up a family newsletter. Don't just say you'll do it, say when and where. Be sure to take advantage of this spirit, it is well worth the effort!

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IF YOUR FAMILY IS PLANNING A REUNION THIS SUMMER, NOTIFY THE EDITOR OF THIS NEWSLETTER OF THE PLACE AND TIME SO IT CAN BE PUBLISHED IN THE JULY NEWSLETTER.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING....

May 2-3 N.S.G.S. 9th Annual meeting at Pioneer Village in Minden "Tracing Your Overseas Ancestors in England, Scotland, Wales & Ireland." speaker: Donna Hotaling.

May 20 M.C.G.S. monthly meeting 7:30 pm. "Nebraska Genealogical Research Resources" speaker: Ann Reinert, N.S.H.S. Liaison

May 28-31 National Genealogical Society Annual Conference, Columbus OH. For details write NGS Conference, P.O. Box 2625, Mansfield, OH 44906.

JUNE THERE IS NO MEETING THIS MONTH.

July 15 M.C.G.S. 12th annual meeting - election of officers.

August M.C.G.S. FAMILY PICNIC details will be announced later.

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Norfolk Daily News, January 15, 1918, p.2, c.5:

List of letters remaining uncalled for at post office at Norfolk, Nebraska.

Ladies

Mrs. Minnie Ackins  
 Miss Ruth Davis  
 Miss Etta Kelso  
 Mrs. T.T. Hinzmann  
 Mrs. W. C. Monney  
 Mrs. Ben Ray  
 Mrs. Edith Steinbaugh  
 Mrs. Will Staley  
 Mary Sorby  
 Miss Margaret Slobodney  
 Mrs. J. G. Wilcox  
 Ella Whitwer

Gentlemen

A.O. Burg  
 E. J. Broel  
 E. C. Burns  
 J. F. Carter  
 L. E. Fagan  
 A. M. Futzinger  
 L. E. Gamet  
 Jack Griese  
 Arthur Hays  
 Everette H. Maagan  
 J. D. Hansen  
 Art Haid  
 Raymond Lee  
 F. H. Miller  
 Frank Nickerson  
 Joe Pienolt  
 J. W. Prue  
 W. J. Ryan  
 C. M. Robinson  
 August Uecker  
 T. B. Vizzard  
 Fred A. Wiewald  
 C. C. Wright

If not called for in 14 days will  
 be sent to dead letter office.  
 Persons calling for any of the  
 letters above, please say  
 "advertised".

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WHAT HAPPENED IN 1886?

- The Statue of Liberty was unveiled and dedicated by President Cleveland.
- 334,203 aliens arrived in United States.
- The first issue of "The World Almanac and Book of Facts" went on sale.
- The first typewriter ribbon was patented by G.K. Anderson in Memphis, Tennessee.
- The first soup company to organize in America was Franco-American in New York City.
- The infamous tuxedo was first introduced at the Tuxedo Club Autumn Ball, Tuxedo Park, New York.
- Norfolk, Nebraska reached a population of 1000 and was declared a city of second class on March 6, 1886.
- Cosmopolitan magazine was founded in New York.
- Apache Indian Chief Geronimo captured in Arizona, virtually ending Navaho & Apache Indian fighting in U.S., and Mexico (nearly 300 years, beginning in 1598, under Spanish, then Mexican rule).
- Congress approved incorporation of National Trade Unions.
- Alcatraz Island in San Francisco Bay became a military prison.
- The National debt reached \$1,775,063,013.00.
- President Grover Cleveland and Miss Francis Folsom were married in the White House.
- Members of the Norfolk, Nebraska fire department were required to wear uniforms to the meetings.
- The Koenigstein Block on the corner of 5th street and Norfolk avenue burned, it housed the Pacific Hotel. It was rebuilt in 1887.

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NEBRASKA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
BOX 82554  
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA 68501

PRICE LIST FOR GENEALOGICAL SERVICES AND MICROFILM, EFFECTIVE AUGUST 15, 1983

1. Genealogical Research - \$5.00 minimum charge for research on up to 5 items including copies when found. Additional items requested will be charged at the rate of \$1.00 each. Minimum charge includes tax for Nebraska residents.
2. Silver Halide Microfilm duplicates - 35mm roll film - \$24.00 per roll plus tax for Nebraska residents. Advance payment or institutional purchase order required on all microfilm orders.

For information about microfilm holdings, contact the State Archives, Nebraska State Historical Society, Box 82554, Lincoln, NE 68501, (402) 471-3270.

NEBRASKA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
1500 R STREET, LINCOLN  
MICROFILM COPY ORDER

Name and Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

FOR NEWSPAPERS: Give name of paper, date, page number, column number, title of article.

FOR CENSUS: Give date, state, county, precinct, family name, frame number. FOR CENSUS WITHOUT FRAME NUMBERS: give enumeration district, sheet and line numbers. DO YOU WANT A COPY OF COLUMN HEADINGS?

FOR OTHER RECORDS: Ask for assistance in identifying.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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The following pages include newspaper microfilm of Madison County, Nebraska early newspaper holdings by the Nebraska State Historical Society at Lincoln.

SUMMARY OF MADISON COUNTY NEWSPAPER MICROFILMS

BATTLE CREEK

- 1. The Battle Creek Blade. 1885-1888, 1 short reel with 6 issues from 1885.
- 2. Battle Creek Enterprise. 1887- . 29 reels, Apr. 1888-Dec. 1981.
- 3. Battle Creek Republican. 1894-1905. 3 reels, Oct. 1895- Oct. 1903.

BURNETT see TILDEN.

MADISON

- 1. Madison Chronicle. 1874-1921. Variously known as Madison County Review, Weekly Review, Madison Review. Absorbed by the Madison Star-Mail, 1921. 11 reels, Jan. 1874-Apr. 1921.
- 2. Madison County Democrat. 1886. 2 issues on NSHS filmstrips reel #15.
- 3. The Madison Mail. 1902-1903. 1 reel, Jan. 1902-Feb. 1903.
- 4. The Madison News. 1927-1933. Absorbed by the Madison Star-Mail, 1933. 3 reels, 1927-1933.
- 5. Madison County Reporter. Variously known as the Madison County Democrat, and Madison Independent Reporter. Moved and became the Newman Grove Reporter, 1911. For film, see Madison County Democrat and Newman Grove Reporter.
- 6. The Madison Star-Mail. 1893- . Variously known as the Madison Star. 30 reels, June 1896- Dec. 1981.

MEADOW GROVE

- 1. The Meadow Grove News. 1912- . 20 reels, May 1919-Nov. 1977.
- 2. Meadow Grove Press. 1900- ?. 1 issue on NSHS filmstrips reel #15.
- 3. Meadow Grove Tribune. 1890-1898. Absorbed by the Norfolk Times, 1898. 1 issue 1895 on NSHS filmstrips reel #5. 1 reel, Nov. 1895-May 1898.

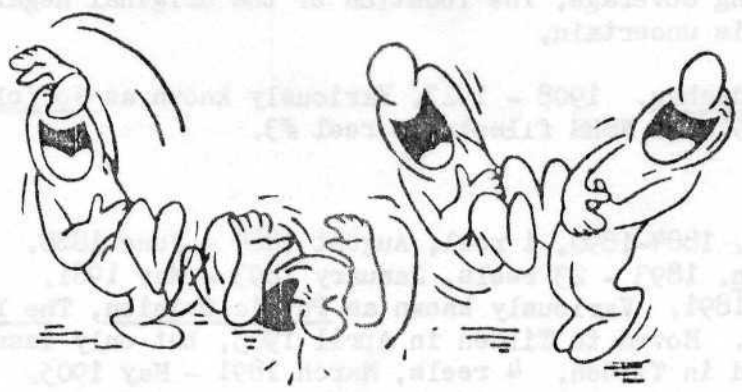
NEWMAN GROVE

- 1. The Weekly Herald. 1887- ? . Variously known as the New Era, and the Newman Grove Advertiser. 1 reel, May 1892- June 1900.
- 2. Newman Grove Reporter. 1886- . Formerly the Madison County Reporter, moved to Newman Grove in 1911. 26 reels, Mar. 1886- Dec. 1981.
- 3. The Newman Grove Weekly Gazette. 1894- ? . 1 reel, Oct. 1895-Dec. 1896.

NORFOLK

- 1. Anzeiger. 1886-1908 ? . Variously known as Norfolk Monatlicher Anzeiger. Absorbed by the Norfolk Press, 1906. 2 issues, one from 1887, one from 1892, on NSHS filmstrips reel #3.
- 2. Daily News. 1887- . 286 reels, Jan. 1888-Dec. 1981 (NSHS inventory for same period is on 258 reels).
- 3. Daily Times-Tribune. 1898-1900? . 1 reel, Oct. 1898-June 1900.
- 4. Herald. 1888- ? . 7 issues on NSHS filmstrips reel #15.
- 5. Journal. 1877-1900. Absorbed by the Norfolk Weekly News, 1900. 6 reels, Nov. 1877-1900.
- 6. Elkhorn Valley Mirror. 1926-1927. Absorbed by the Madison Star-Mail, 1927. 1 reel, May 1926-May 1927.
- 7. The Morning Herald. 1892- ? . 2 issues from May 1892 on NSHS filmstrips reel #15.
- 8. The Norfolk Press. 1901-1938. Variously known as Norfolk Weekly Press; merged with
- 9. The Shoppers Guide, 1938. 9 reels, Sep. 1904-Oct. 1938.
- 10. Norfolk Times. 1880-1881. 1 reel, Sep. 1880-Sep. 1881.
- 11. Times-Tribune. 1896-1909. Variously known as Norfolk Independent, Madison County Times, and Norfolk Times. 4 reels, Feb. 1896- Jan. 1909.
- 12. Weekly News-Journal. 1881-1917. Variously known as The Elkhorn Valley News, and The Norfolk Weekly News. The number of reels of microfilm is not precisely known, but there are indications that there may be as many as 13 reels, with





"YOU FOUND WHO IN YOUR FAMILY TREE?"

**Norfolk Daily News**

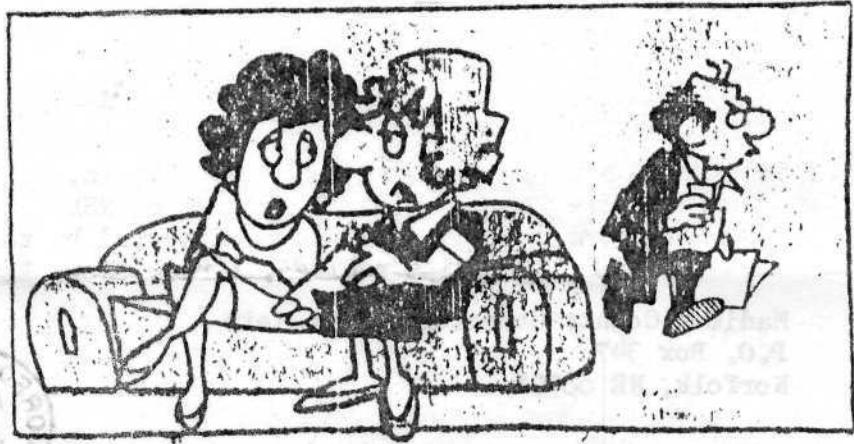
Tuesday, July 9, 1985

**Reunions**

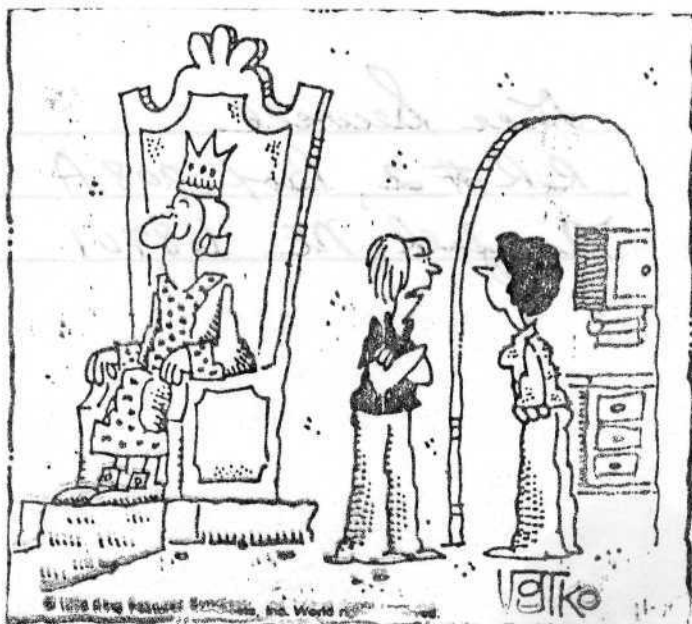
The Voss family reunion was held June 30 at West Point Park with 40 people present for the covered dish dinner.

Oldest people present were Fredia Opfer of Hoskins and Jim Troula of Omaha. The youngest were Emily Howlett of Council Bluffs, Iowa, and Don Kay of Wakefield. Emily Howlett traveled farthest for the event.

The 1986 reunion will be held the last Sunday in June at West Point Park. New officers are Orville Voss, president; Opal Kroeger, vice president; and Loretta Voss, secretary-treasurer.



"SURE, LEROY HAS A FAMILY TREE....  
IN FACT SOME OF THEM STILL LIVE IN IT."



"Sometimes I wish he'd never had his ancestry trade."

**ZIGGY™**



some overlapping coverage. The location of the original negatives of at least 3 reels is uncertain.

- 13. Die Westliche Rundschau. 1908 - 1923. Variouslly known as Norfolk Umschau. 1 issue from 1916 on NSHS filmstrips reel #3.

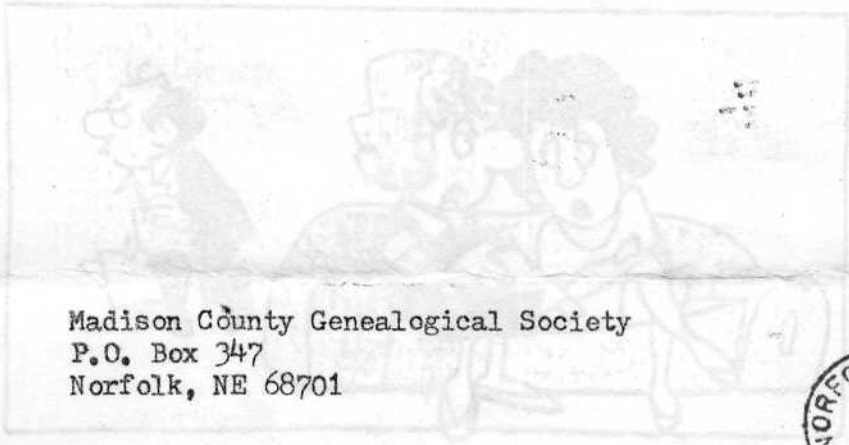
TILDEN

- 1. The Burnett Blade. 1884-1890. 1 reel, August 1884 - June 1888.
- 2. The Tilden Citizen. 1893 - 23 reels, January 1893 - May 1981.
- 3. The Tilden News. 1891. Variouslly known as Public Opinion, The Yeoman, and the Neligh Yeoman. Moved to Tilden in April 1905, but only issue on micro-film was published in Tilden. 4 reels, March 1891 - May 1905.

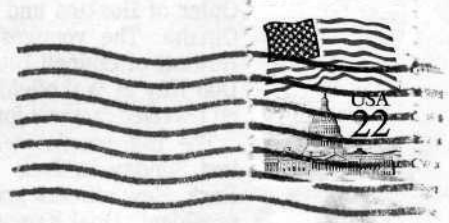
SEE ORDER BLANK FROM NSHS TO ORDER COPY FROM MICROFILM.

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"YOU FOUND WHO IN YOUR FAMILY TREE"



Madison County Genealogical Society  
 P.O. Box 347  
 Norfolk, NE 68701



IMPACT SOME OF THEM STILL LIVE IN IT... SURE, LEROY HAS A FAMILY TREE...

Lee Sewell  
RR #2, Box 208 A  
Norfolk, NE 68701

