



Warren County Genealogical Society

306 West Salem Indianola, Iowa 50125

VOLUME 15

FEBRUARY 1989

ISSUE 2

MEETINGS: 7:00 P.M. the third Monday of each month, except August and December, at the Indianola Public Library at 207 North B. Visitors are welcome.

UPCOMING MEETINGS: March 20, 1989 - "How Shall I Organize These Bits of Paper?" by Barb Rasko & April 17, 1989 - "Care and Storage of Family Photographs" by David Godwin

NEWSLETTER: Published each month except August and December. We encourage members to send queries and articles for publication. Editor: Marieta Grissom.

DUES: \$5.00 single and \$7.50 family membership. Dues are payable to Registrar: Molly Bowlin, 802 Kennedy Street, Indianola, IA 50125

ALL OTHER CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO: Thelma Pehrson, 306 West Salem, Indianola, Iowa 50125.

MEET "ME" YOUR NEW SOCIETY EDITOR: Marieta Grissom

Biographical Information:

The eldest of three children of O. Ray and Thelma Butler Pehrson, I was born at the hospital in Indianola, that no longer exists, grew up on a farm southeast of Indianola, graduated from Southeast Warren High School in Liberty Center, graduated from Simpson College in Indianola, and married David Grissom, whom I met through 4-H. When Dave served in the military, we travelled extensively throughout the Northeast living in Massachusetts for a year and throughout Europe when he was stationed in Germany for three years. We have three sons, David V age 13, Randall age 12 and Scott age 10. Dave and I are both employed in Des Moines; luckily we are able to commute together from Milo where we live.

Interest in Genealogy:

I have been interested in Genealogy for more than twenty years--shortly after Dave and I were married, I contacted "Aunt Maude" Wilkins, a charter member of the WCGS, for information that I had heard she had been gathering. Though we didn't have enough information at the time we were in Europe to do any real digging then, we did develop a deep interest in history from our experiences there. Since then we have enjoyed correlating genealogy and history, especially when I was asked to be a principal writer for the MILO BOOK 1880-1980. A committee of five researched, wrote and published that history book, taking more than 18 months of concentrated effort. In addition we have a photography hobby and for several years I ran a little sideline business, copying old photographs for people and developing them in my darkroom. Also, I have researched photograph preservation. For us photography, history and genealogy have become intertwined.

Goals for the Society Newsletter:

I plan to pack as much as possible into the newsletter! If anyone finds something they think could be included, please send it my direction. Since we are not all acquainted, I plan to include a "Meet ..." column. I am also interested in including book reviews, notes from previous meetings, highlights from the Iowa Genealogical Society Newsletter and from the National Genealogical Society Newsletter, queries, tidbits, upcoming events and information gathered from newsletters published by other genealogical societies.

(Editor's note: I found the following in current Cub Scout materials.)

THE FAMILY TREE OPENING CEREMONY

Equipment: None
Personnel: Cubmaster

CUBMASTER: A family is like a strong and beautiful tree. The family's faith in God are in its roots. The parents make up the trunk of our family tree, and the children are the branches.

A poet named Helen Crawford made that comparison in a poem I would like to read to you. It's called "The Family Tree" and it goes like this:

There's one thing in God's nature world
That means a lot to me.
It symbolizes much of life;
It is a lovely tree.
With roots so deep in God's rich earth,
It's not disturbed by weather,
Like families with faith in God
Who live in peace-together.
Its trunk, the body strong and firm
Like parents everywhere,
To guide, control, direct, sustain
The offspring which they bear.
The branches which like children spread
In every known direction.
Until the fruitage of their growth
Has reached its full perfection.
And so a tree appears to me
The gem of God's creation,
As it portrays our families
Which constitute a nation.

Each of us can do our part to make our family tree stronger and more beautiful. How? By loving all the family members. Children can do it by obeying their parents, and parents by showing love and fair play to their children. Let's all resolve to strengthen our family trees.

THE ART AND MYSTERY OF BUILDING A FAMILY HISTORY

Sound research is the foundation of a good family history. Names, dates and places form the bricks with which it's built. A literature narrative provides mortar to hold it together. Photographs, maps and other illustrations form the trim. An index and footnotes turn a shack into a mansion.

from: The Record-Herald & Indianola Tribune
Wednesday, January 18, 1989

Simpson officials still seeking family to claim tombstone

By Amy Duncan

The search for the family of Evert Perry, whose headstone was found at Simpson College during the construction of West Hall last August, has reached a dead end, said Marilyn Leek, director of purchasing at the school.

Leek, who has handled much of the search, said she has followed up a few leads as to possible relatives of the individual, but with little success.

"We really would like to dispose of the headstone properly," said Leek. "We'd like to find the family so we can find out their preference."

Leek said the tombstone apparently belonged to an Evert Perry, the son of N.H. and Alice Perry. Evert died in October 1892 at age 8 years, 10 months and 12 days. The stone, which is at the college, is about nine inches square and 34 inches tall, she said.

An inscription on the stone reads "Asleep in Jesus, blessed asleep, from which none ever woke to weep."

Evert's parents, Alice and Nicholas H., are buried in the Ackworth Cemetery according to the Warren County Cemetery Book. Alice died in 1936 while Nicholas H. died in 1923.

The cemetery book lists stones for both Alice and Nicholas H., a family stone, a broken stone that could be the base for Evert's stone, which was found at the site of West Hall, and a plain stone. No grave was found at the site.

"If the broken stone at Ackworth is the right type, Evert's stone could possibly be broken from the top of it," said Sheryl Ledlie of the Warren County Genealogical Society.

Leek said anyone with possible information about the family of Evert Perry can contact her at 961-1675.



Evert Perry's tombstone was found this summer during construction of Simpson College's West Hall.

RHT staff photo by Thad White

PROBATE RECORDS

Ruth Hall, assisted by Edith Conn, presented the January 16, 1989 program on "Probate Records". Ruth described the abstracting (summarizing) project initiated in 1987 and undertaken by several members of the Warren County Historical Society and Warren County Genealogical Society. After the Probate Records from 1943-1973 were microfilmed at the Court House, these records, filling many boxes, were given to the Historical Society, and the abstracting project began.

Forms were developed and used to organize the information on the records. These completed forms are now kept at the Warren County Historical Society Library and Museum along with the complete probate records. Another set of the completed forms will soon be in the Genealogical Section at the Indianola Public Library.

The form is included in this newsletter because it would be good to photocopy for use whenever anyone is using probate records in their research.

Ruth also gave us a list of legal terms and meanings that were encountered during the project. (Her son, Steve, a lawyer, warns, however, that the meaning of these terms can get very complicated and when in doubt the researcher should contact a lawyer.)

PROBATE RECORD TERMINOLOGY HELPS:

ABSTRACT - a short summary by cutting down a larger work

AD LITEM - guardian ad litem represents the interest of a child or incompetent person

ADMINISTRATOR - intestate estate official

AFFIDAVIT - a sworn statement in writing under oath or on affirmation, before an authorized magistrate or officer

A.K.A. - also known as

APPRAISAL - expert evaluation of property for the purpose of assisting sale of property or for determining inheritance tax

BENEFICIARY - person designated to receive property under a trust or will

C.I.T. - Certificate of Inheritance Tax

CODICIL - 1) a legal instrument made subsequently to the will, and modifying it,
2) a supplement or addition to

COLLATERAL - property pledged as security for a loan

COLLATERAL HEIRS - not in direct line of descent--as brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews

CONSERVATOR - since 1964, one responsible for the property of another person

DECEDENT - one deceased

ESTATE - the assets and liabilities left by a person at death

EXECUTOR - testate official nominated by will

FEE SIMPLE - an estate held by a person in his own right without restrictions - the total interest possible in real estate

FIAT - authorization

FIDUCIARY - 1) an officer of the court such as executor, administrator or trustee
2) held in trust

GUARDIAN - one responsible for the care of another person

HEIR - one who receives the property of a deceased person under the intestate laws of the state

INTESTATE - not having made a will before death

JT WROS - joint tenancy with right of survivorship

JUDGMENT - an obligation (as a debt) created by the decree of the court
NUNC PRO TUNC - a correction to original property description
O.T.P. - original or old town plat
PER CAPITA - for each individual
PER STIRPES - the right of children taken collectively
PROBATE - action or processing of proving before competent legal authority that the document offered for official recognition and registration. That the last will and testament of the deceased person is genuine.
PROBATE COURT - a court having jurisdiction of the proof of wills, guardianships and settlement of estates
PROBATED - admitted and recognized as genuine
QUANTUM MERUIT - compensation is merited
SURETY BOND - a bond guaranteeing performance of a contract or obligation
TESTATE - having made a will before death
TRANSCRIPT - legally official copy
TRUSTEE - person to whom property or the management of property is committed

COLONIAL EXPRESSIONS STILL IN USE by Richard Bauman

Some of the colorful everyday expressions we use have been around for more than 200 years. Many even pre-date the American Revolution.

Phrases such as "sleep tight," "read between the lines," "beat to a pulp," "eat my hat" and "pulling the wool over his eyes" all originated in the 1770s.

When you tell someone to "sleep tight," you might think it means snuggle down under the blankets and keep warm. That's not what it originally meant. In colonial times, mattresses were suspended in bed frames by ropes. To sleep comfortably, it was necessary to tighten the ropes each night using a huge, key-line device. The saying referred to firming-up the mattress ropes for a pleasant sleep.

"Beat to a pulp" and "read between the lines" were colonial expressions. One came from the paper-making process and the other from using paper.

When someone wrote a letter and had a lot to say, the person would write from top to bottom on the page, then turn it upside down and write between the lines going the other way. The recipient had to be able to "read between the lines" in order to get the full message.

Rags were the main ingredient in paper 200 years ago. They were soaked in water, then broken down to minute fibers by beating with stone or iron implements. The result was a pulp used to make paper.

Fashionable men wore wigs in colonial America. The wealthier a man was, the greater his importance and the larger his wig. A "bigwig" was (and is) an influential or important person.

If someone grabbed a fellow's wig and pulled it down over his face so he couldn't see, he'd had "the wool pulled over his eyes."

A small, out-of-the-way place is often called a "jerkwater town." The expression comes from the early days of railroading when locomotives had to stop periodically for water for the boiler.

The nursery rhyme, "Hickory, dickory, dock" describes a common event in colonial times. Clocks with oak gears weren't unusual. Animal fat was used to keep the wooden gears lubricated, but the scent attracted mice that would get inside and gnaw on the gears. To discourage the mice, most clocks had loud chimes or bells. When the clock would strike the hour or half-hour, mice inside were driven away by the noise.

ABSTRACT OF WILL OR PROBATE RECORD

Film # _____
Docket # _____, page _____
Box # _____

Surname _____
File # _____

Will or Administration of _____
Full name age Address

Place where will was written _____
County State

Place where will was recorded _____
County State

Date written _____ Date entered into Probate _____

Date of Codicil(s) _____

Names of Witnesses to Will: _____

Date of death _____ Place of death _____

Names of Executor(s)/Administrator(s) _____

Relationship _____

Names of appraisers of estate _____

Bondsmen _____ Bond _____

Description of land or other property _____

Names of heirs and others mentioned in will, relationship, age, address,
division of estate:

QUERIES:

- COZAD
ACKORS Seek info on John J. COZAD family. John J. was a Methodist Minister in Indianola, also a Justice of the Peace. Was his son John W. married? to whom? and where? Need information on the children of Elias and Rebecca Jane COZAD ACKORS family. Have info on Ephriam ACKORS family. Betty Fox, Box 171, Yale, IA 50277
- CHURCH Seek copies of the obituaries for Frank CHURCH d. 10 July 1925 and Sarah CHURCH d. 28 April 1926. Phyllis J. Mannhardt, 2321 Fulton Ave., Davenport, IA 52803
- OTTO Seek info on Christian OTTO b. 1832-33 in Prussia, in Iowa about 1864 at Churchville. Does anyone in that area have access to church records? Wilma Werner, 741 Buffalo Valley R#47, Cookeville, Tenn 38501
- GRIFFITH Seek the parents of Mary GRIFFITH, wife of George GRIFFITH. She is buried in IOOF Cemetery, Indianola. B. 17 Dec 1796, Uniontown, PA. D. 18 April 1861. Mrs. Sam Wise, Rt# 1, Box 18, Donovan, IL 60931
- WILSON
SCHULTZ
HARSH Seek children or grandchildren of Thomas J. WILSON who lived in New Virginia in the early 1950s. Also seek descendents of James W. WILSON and Miriah Jane SCHULTZ. Have information to share about them and also John Jacob HARSH. Judith A. Bean, 830 South Velare St., Anaheim, CA 92804, 1-714-995-1873
- BELTZER Seek info on Jesse C. BELTZER listed in 1860 Iowa Census Index in 1912 Sandyville Twp. Frank J. Belzer, 727 Washington, Wapello, IA 52653
- McCLELLAND
BOTTOMFIELD
WOOD Seek info on James McCLELLAND, married to Phoebe BOTTOMFIELD. Lived in Hammondsburg, then moved with others to Milo. Also seek info on Charley WOOD. Vivian Cox, PO Box 67, Mountain Home, ID 83647
- ACKWORTH
SCHOOL
McCOY Seek info on ACKWORTH SCHOOL. Mary Celmentine McCOY b. 1858 taught there. What type of school was it? Any records? Laura North, Cylinder, IA 50528
- TILLEY I have received Family Group info on Anthony TILLEY from Joseph W. Foulke, Wilton, Conn. Contact Thelma Pehrson, if interested.

"GLENN GLEANINGS"

A family newsletter for 2 1/2 years known as "Glenn Gleanings" covering all branches of the Glenn surnames and allied lineages, is published quarterly at a cost of \$15.00 yearly--has free, unlimited queries. Frances Brengle (editor) 6619 Pheasant Road, Baltimore, MD 21220

Teneny Brinkman sent the correct spelling of her first name and her correct zip code 48322. Please make appropriate corrections.

YOU NEVER KNOW where you might find a relative or when you might even be talking to one!

The December 1988 issue of MIDWEST LIVING contained an interesting article on "Orphan Trains".

HIGHLIGHTS from NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER Nov-Dec 1988

The 1989 NGS Conference that convenes in Minnesota's capital, St. Paul, 17-20 May, will be a memorable "Journey into Your Past."

Topics covered will include Norwegian-American genealogy in both the United States and Norway, Swedish-American church records, Welsh history, Luxembourgers, German records, Czech-Bohemian research, Polish, Irish, Swiss and Finnish research. There will be guidance for those with research problems in specific regions in the U.S. A number of sessions will deal with migrations. Other sessions will cover federal land records, federal court records, Civil War records, naturalization records and passenger lists, divorce records, cemetery records and Catholic and Lutheran church records. Still other sessions will explore genealogical resources such as Libraries and Archives. Other lectures are planned for those who are ready to write and publish family histories.

Two innovative aspects of the 1989 program will be a new Computer Aided Genealogy Learning Center and a five-part Seminar for Educators, designed for nongenealogists who want to integrate genealogical instruction into their curricula.

For further information send SASE to NGS Conference, 4527 17th Street, North, Arlington, VA 22207-2399.

For a list of tape recordings of NGS programs given at the National Archives available for loan to members, send a SASE to NGS Tape Rental Program, 4527 17th Street, North, Arlington, VA 22207-2399. There is a loan charge of \$3 for each tape borrowed. No more than two tapes may be borrowed at one time. They may be retained for two weeks.

NGS annual membership is \$30 for individuals and \$25 for organizations. Write to the Arlington, VA address listed above.

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