

# Reno County Genealogical Society Newsletter

Volume II, Number 4

Hutchinson, Kansas

November 1980

From the desk of  
the  
PRESIDENT



Several members of the society and I traveled to Emporia October 24 to attend an Everton Workshop. A program was presented on the basics of research. We learned some new tricks that should help us in our research.

Our members are now back from their summer vacations and we are ready for a nice, long winter of working on our genealogy. We are all busy and very interested in the work of the society.

We are working on plans for a terrific workshop for beginners to be held in the spring with a real expert at the helm. If enough interest is shown by the community, we hope to hold additional workshops for people who are more advanced and those who have special areas of interest.

Several of our members have expressed interest in our society planning a chartered bus trip to Topeka to visit the Kansas State Historical Society. We would be staying overnight in Topeka, so we should be able to get in a day and a half of work at the library. This trip is still in the very early planning stages. If you might be interested in such a trip, please let me know about it.

If you have ideas for activities you think our group would enjoy, tell us about it. We need new ideas and projects to keep our society growing and moving.

--Maureen Bellizio

## WRITING YOUR PERSONAL HISTORY HOW TO GET STARTED

Begin today to start your personal history and never underestimate the influence that your history will have upon your posterity. Can you imagine how delighted your great-great grandchildren will be when they read it?

To get started, get a package of 3 x 5 cards. At idle moments during your day, jot down little happenings as they occur to you. Put down the date and event, then file the cards chronologically. For example, one card might read: 1938 - Attending Creston Jr. High School in Grand Rapids, Michigan. We lived at 2122 North Prospect. We were all dancing the "big apple" and the "susie-q" and they called us "jitterbugs".

Begin with your full name and your birthday--when and where. Put down your parents names as well as the names of your sisters and brothers. Be sure to mention what jobs you held, courtship and marriage, church activity, early playmates, names of teachers, what you liked best in school, civic and political activities as well as your plans and hopes for the future, etc.

### CEMETERY RECORDS OF RENO CO., KS

425 pages softbound - 44,000 persons buried in 70 cemeteries. Indexed. Burials from 1860s through 1978. \$20.00 plus \$1.75 postage and handling. KS residents add 70¢ sales tax. Reno Co. Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 5, Hutchinson, KS 67501

November 1980

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Cemetery Records Book Project Treasurer

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Obituary File

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Registered Agent

Roy A. Gardner 662-8192

Editor

Jayne (Koepke) Purcell 662-4966

The Reno County Genealogical Society, Inc. of Hutchinson, Kansas was founded in 1978 for the purpose of fostering genealogical research, promoting the exchange of information and encouraging the deposit of genealogical and historical records in established libraries and archives.

We are affiliated with the Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies.

Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month (excepting December) in the Kansas Room of the Hutchinson Public Library, 9th & Main, 7:00-9:00 PM. Guests are welcome.

SURNAME FILE

Members are asked to submit a four generation Pedigree Chart. The information from these charts is transferred to the surname file. Jolene Cook reports that only a few members have not handed in their charts. Please help us to make this file complete by giving Jolene your chart. We have about 930 different surnames in the file now.

MARRIAGE RECORDS

Everett Wells says the marriage records are about 72% complete.

EDUCATION

Would you like to take a bus trip to Topeka to visit the Kansas State Historical Society? Call Delma Ashcraft at 665-7946 or Maureen Bellizio at 662-8592 and let us know what you think about it.

Delma is taking people on tours of the Court House and Funeral Homes. Go along on one of these mini-tours sometime and see how much you can learn.

KANSAS COUNCIL OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES

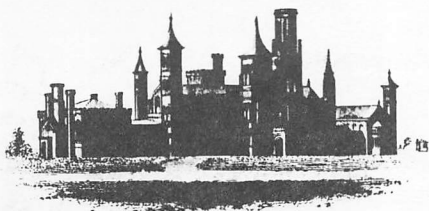
Joyce Hensen, President of the Kansas Council went to the World Conference on Records last August in Salt Lake City, Utah. She reports that the LDS plans to build, in the very near future, a new Genealogical Library. It will be a five-story building with approximately 136,000 square feet of floor space "to more effectively serve our members and our friends throughout the world". The church offices will be expanded into the place now occupied by the library. A companion building will be built next to the new library and will house a new Museum of Church History and Art. These buildings will be built west of the temple where the Hotel Utah Motor Inn now stands.

Since our society is a member of the Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies, each member of our society may subscribe to the council publication "The Review" for \$3.00 per year. Send your check for \$3.00 to Alberta Dennis, Treasurer, 510 Eugene Place, Garden City, KS 67846.

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NEED FAMILY GROUP SHEETS?

The society has family group sheets and pedigree charts for sale. Call Lynn Stansel at 663-8678.



### A BOOK REVIEW - OUR ENGLISH ANCESTORS

History is closely allied to genealogy. A knowledge of the historical, economical and social background of a period can aid the genealogist in determining where to look for records of his forefathers. A book that gives this kind of information is THE LIVES AND TIMES OF OUR ENGLISH ANCESTORS by Frank Smith, Logan, Utah: Everton Publishers, 1974. Unlike most histories, this book does not emphasize political history, but rather it gives a picture of the lives of ordinary men and the events that changed their destinies. Also, the author calls attention to information that should be of particular interest to genealogists.

After sketching the lives of men in the early beginnings of England, the author describes the lives of the people during one hundred year spans from A.D. 1100 to 1900. Thus the reader learns how men dressed, how they built their homes, what recreation they liked, and what economic events changed their futures. To help the reader, the author has included a large number of maps, pictures and charts; however, readers will need to use a magnifying glass to read the printing on some of the maps.

As a bonus of sorts, the author points out the origin of certain words and names in common usage today. For example, in the making of cloth, girls usually did the spinning; therefore, the spinners who did not marry became known as spinsters. As for names, many surnames in use today were originally designations applied to people in certain occupations. Hence, the "hayward" made sure the hay was cut and divided among the tenants. The "woodward" took care of the forests, the "swinherd" looked after the pigs in the forest, and the "shepherd" tended the sheep.

For an easily read book on our English progenitors, I recommend THE LIVES AND TIMES OF OUR ENGLISH ANCESTORS. Certainly it will prove to the reader that the lives of his ancestors in old England were not always merry.

--Betty Morgan

RENO COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

### DATES TO REMEMBER

1 December 1980 - Executive Comm. Library

4 December 1980 - Houston Devine will talk about "Organizing Your Family History" at the Newton Public Library, 720 N. Oak, Newton, KS. 7:00-9:00 PM.

5 January 1981 - Executive Comm. Library

8 January 1981 - Jane Jones of the Newton Public Library staff will conduct two workshops at the library at 720 N. Oak, Newton, KS. 7:00-9:00 PM. "How to Get Started - Part I".

19 January 1981 - Reno County Genealogical Society work night, library, 7:00-9:00 PM. Come and work on your genealogy.

2 February 1981 - Executive Comm. Library

5 February 1981 - Newton Public Library, 7:00-9:00 PM. "How To Get Started - Part II".

16 February 1981 - Library closed for Lincoln's birthday.

17 February 1981 - Reno County Genealogical Society meeting 7:00-9:00 PM, Public Library, Rebecca Sue Hatton will speak on her trip to Salt Lake City to the "World Conference on Records - 1980".

2 March 1981 - Executive Comm. - Library

5 March 1981 - Newton Public Library, 7:00-9:00 PM. Rebecca Sue Hatton and Jane Jones will talk about their trip to Salt Lake City to the "World Conference on Records - 1980".

16 March 1981 - Reno County Genealogical Society meeting, 7:00-9:00 PM library. Carla Miller on "Handwriting".

2 April 1981 - Newton Public Library, 720 North Oak, Newton, KS. 7:00-9:00 PM. Some of the members of the Reno Co. Gen. Soc. will present a program about our society and the sources available in the Hutchinson Public Library.

### CORRECTIONS TO THE CEMETERY BOOK

All corrections must be submitted in writing. Either mail your corrections to the society or hand them to Art Graves.

THE EBENEZER CHURCH now known as the  
BUHLER MENNONITE BRETHREN CHURCH,  
Buhler, Kansas (Reno County)

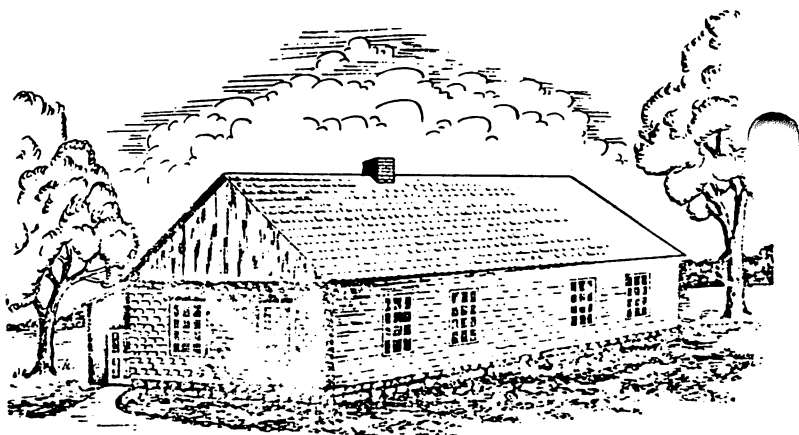
A number of churches were established shortly after 1874, however it was in 1879 that the Ebenezer Church was formally organized. Its site is along the road which has been known for nearly a hundred years as "Dutch Avenue". On either side of this road, the early immigrants purchased land, built up their homesteads and made this part of the Kansas prairies into rolling wheatfields in a relatively short period of time. The road begins on the Little Arkansas River west of Buhler and extends east to Hesston and beyond.

When the Mennonite settlers came to explore the area to purchase land, they came from Hutchinson, which at that time was the easternmost extension of the Santa Fe Railroad. Proceeding northeast from Hutchinson through the sandhills, they came to the first hill beyond the Little Arkansas River (the present site of Buhler) and stopped to view the site looking north and east. It was an expanse of endless rolling prairies. The vegetation was predominantly buffalo grass with a few cottonwood trees along the creeks. The dark soil promised productivity. A monument on the northern edge of Buhler, along Dutch Avenue, commemorates this historic event.

Elder Abraham Schellenberg and his family, along with 12 other families, arrived 4 July 1879 from Rûchenau, South Russia of the Molotschna Settlement, for the purpose of organizing a Mennonite Brethren Church in this region. Those coming with Rev. Schellenberg were:

Baerg, Anna (single)  
Bargen, Gerhard and family  
Block, Cornelius (single)  
Dûck, Franz and family  
Ewert, David and family  
Sawatzke, Katharina (single)  
Toews, Franz and family  
Vogt, Gerhard and family  
Vogt, Kornelius and family  
Wall, Abraham and family  
Warkentin, Abraham and family

Upon hearing of the plans for building a church, the Mother Church in Rûchenau, Russia sent two hundred rubel. The building



The first church building—as a local artist remembered.

was a simple rectangular structure of sun-dried bricks which were made on the scene. The church was fifty by thirty feet with a seating capacity of 400. The interior was simply one large room with the pulpit at one end and the choir seats on both sides, which corresponded to the arrangement of the main part of the sanctuary: one side for men and the other for women. The seats were wooden benches without backs. The entire structure cost only \$600 with no mortgage to worry about.

The group who became members is 1879, but who had arrived earlier, is as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Arrival</u>	<u>Place of Origin</u>
Adrian, Peter	1874	Russia
Balzer, Heinrich	1874	Molotschna
Bârg, Johann	1876	Russia
Bârg, Peter	1876	"
Bârgmann, Peter	1876	"
Dalke, Peter	1874	Molotschna
Ediger, David	1874	"
Ediger, Franz	1877	"
Esau, Jacob	1877	Russia
Franz, Gerhard	1874	Molotschna
Franz, Heinrich	1874	Russia
Friesen, Jacob	1874	Molotschna
Friesen, Klaas	1874	Russia
Goertz, Franz	1874	Molotschna
Goertz, Herman	1874	"
Heidebrecht, Jacob	1874	"
Hûbert, Klass	1876	"
Janzen, Heinrich	1876	Russia
Klassen, Johann	1875	Molotschna
Kliewer, Gerhard	1874	"
Kliewer, Heinrich	1874	"
Kôhn, Jacob	1878	"

Lorenz, Heinrich	1874	Molotschna
Löwen, Bernhard	1874	"
Martens, Daniel	1874	"
Nikkel, Franz	1875	"
Nikkel, Heinrich	1874	"
Nikkel, Jacob	1875	"
Nikkel, Johann	1875	"
Nikkel, Peter	1874	"
Nikkel, Peter J.	1874	"
Penner, Jacob	1876	"
Potzkowski, Jacob	1876	Volga
Ratzlaff, Heinrich	1874	Molotschna
Ratzlaff, Jacob	1874	Russia
Ratzlaff, Peter	1874	Molotschna
Ratzlaff, Peter J.	1874	"
Richert, Abraham	1874	Russia
Richert, Jacob	1878	Molotschna
Regier, Peter	1874	Russia
Reimer, Abraham	1878	Molotschna
Schmidt, Heinrich	1874	"
Schroeder, Abraham	1876	"
Schroeder, Johann	1876	Russia
Siemens, Jacob	1874	Molotschna
Straus, Johann	1875	Russia
Suderman, Gerhard	1875	Molotschna
Suderman, Klaas	1874	"
Voth, Heinrich	1875	"
Wall, Johann	1878	Russia
Wall, Johann P.	1878	Molotschna
Wall, Peter	1878	"
Wall, Peter P.	1878	"
Warkentin, Aron	1878	"
Wiens, Daniel	1874	"
Wiens, Isaac	1876	Russia

During the second period of immigration into Kansas (1882-1887), fourteen families came:

Dück, Johann	1887	Molotschna
Enns, Jacob	1884	"
Epp, Jacob	1884	"
Hamm, Bernhard	1884	"
Holsrichter, Johann	1884	Russia
Huebert, Abraham	1882	Kuban
Kirsch, David	1887	Russia
Lowen, Heinrich	1884	Molotschna
Nikkel, Heinrich	1883	Kuban
Richert, Abraham	1886	Molotschna
Richert, Kornelius	1887	Russia
Rogalsky, Herman	1885	"
Ruffel, George	1885	"
Wiens, Diedrich	1885	Turkestan

These seven families came in the 1890s:

Artel, Deitrich	1890s	Russia
Frischer, Jacob	1890s	Kuban
Giesbrecht, Wilhelm	1890s	Russia
Letkeman, Johann,	1890s	Russia

Regier, Isaac	1890s	Kuban
Regier, Johann	1890s	Kuban
Welk, Abraham	1890s	Russia

The names listed in all three periods of immigration are found in a membership book with the personal and family information kept by Elder Schellenberg for the twenty year period. It is impossible to determine whether or not this list is complete.

Abraham Schellenberg was born in 1845 in Halbstadt, South Russia in the Molotschna region. When he was about a year old, his parents moved about 15 miles southeast to Tiegerweide. His father operated a small cloth dying plant. His uncle David Schellenberg owned a plant in Tiege, ten or so miles west of Tiegerweide. At the death of David, the family purchased that larger plant and again the family moved. Abraham was 9 years old then. They attended a church a few miles away in Ohrloff.

In June of 1865, Abraham Shellenberg was baptised by Heinrich Huebert and became a member of the Mennonite Brethren Church at Rüchenau. In February of 1868 he married Katharina Lohrenz. The couple moved to Tiegerweide, but continued to attend church in Rückenau. He was assigned as "Teacher of the word" in 1869 and Elder of the Rüchenau Church in 1875.

The church elders during a one hundred year period were:

Abraham Schellenberg	1879-1906
Heinrich Adrian	1906-1927
Peter R. Lange	1927-1941
Johann Hildebrand	1941-1942 (9 mo.)
John B. Toews	1943-1945
C.E. Fast	1945-1946
H.P. Wiebe	1947-1947 (6mo.)
Jacob J. Toews	1948-1954
R.M. Baerg	1955-1959
G.W. Peters	1959-1961
William Neufeld	1962-1966
H.R. Wiens	1966-1969
C.F. Plett	1969-1970 (9 mo.)
Nick Rempel	1970-1979

Material for this segment taken from the book "1879-1979" - One Hundred Years of Spiritual Growth - Mennonite Brethren Church, Buhler, Kansas" which has been donated to the Hutchinson Public Library by RCGS member Myrtle (Starks) Bridges.

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An index for Volume II of the Newsletter will be included with the February issue.

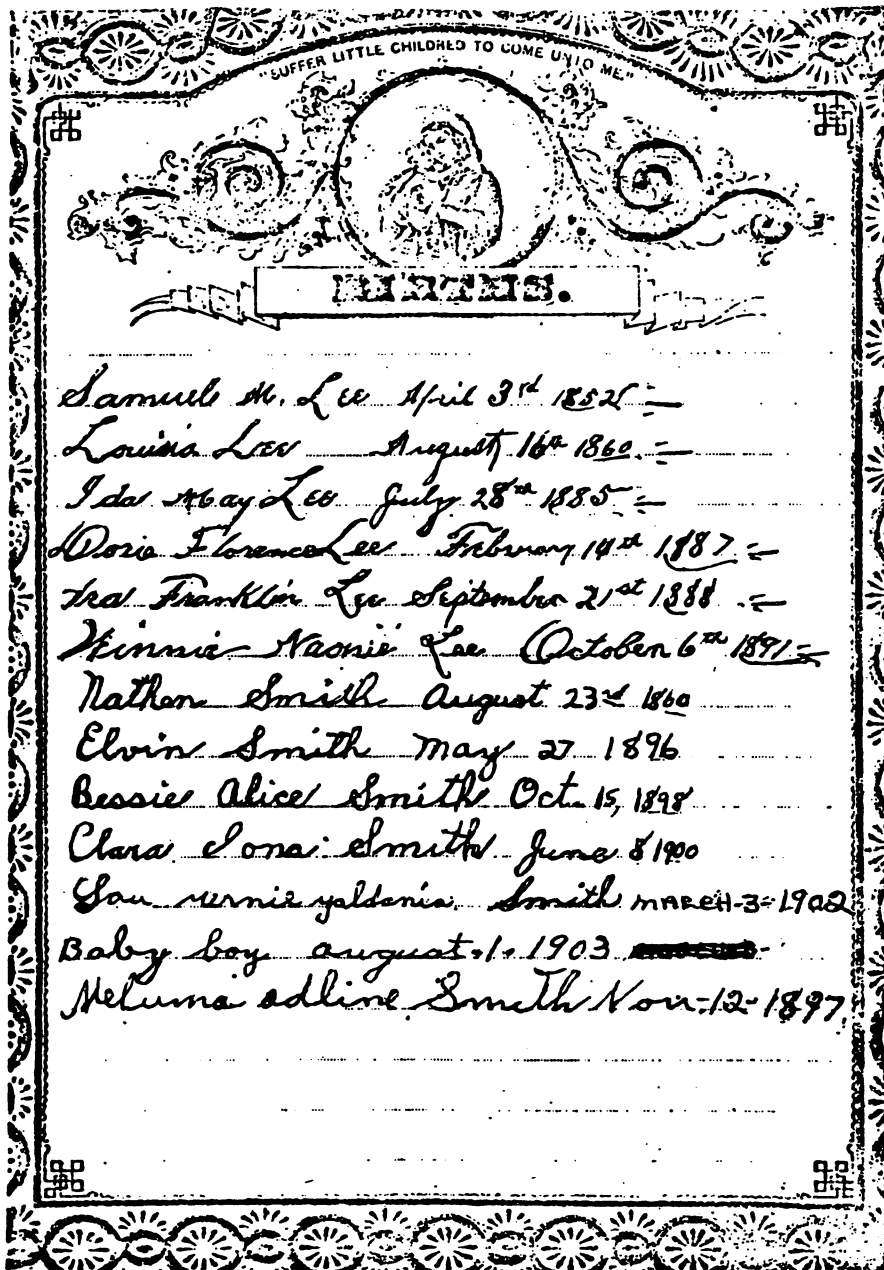
November 1980

Pedigree chart for Jayne Marie (Koepke) Purcell, 323 E. 9th, Hutchinson, Kansas 67501

	<u>Birth</u>	<u>Marriage</u>	<u>Death</u>
	<u>Date and Place</u>	<u>Date and Place</u>	<u>Date and Place</u>
<u>Generation I</u>			
1.	Jayne Marie Koepke	1926 Kent MI	1. 1945 Clatsop OR 2. 1949 Reno KS
<u>Generation II</u>			
2.	Bernard A.S. Koepke	1897 Kent MI	1926 Kent MI
3.	Prudence M. Dykman	1889 Ottawa MI	1969 Kent MI 1973 Kent MI
<u>Generation III</u>			
4.	Augustyn A. Koepke	1862 Germany	1890 Germany
5.	Mary C. Czerwinski	1864 Germany	1908 Kent MI 1922 Kent MI
6.	Henry Dykman	1866 Netherlands	1886 Ottawa MI
7.	Elizabeth A. Freeman	1866 Ottawa MI	1962 Gr Traverse MI 1940 Kent MI
<u>Generation IV</u>			
8.	Jacob Koepke		
9.	Katherine Elwart		
10.	Frank Czerwinski		
11.			
12.	Jan Dykman	1835 Netherlands	1918 Ottawa MI Netherlands
13.	Harmentja Polendaar		
14.	John Freeman	1826 Monroe NY	1856
15.	Prudence Wells	1837 Monroe NY	1909 Ottawa MI 1915 Ottawa MI
<u>Generation V</u>			
28.	Calvin Freeman	1779 Monroe NY	1870 Monroe NY
29.	Betsy		
30.	John Wells		1870
31.	Susan Griggs		1874
<u>Generation VI</u>			
56.	Moody Freeman	1753	1773
57.	Kezia Freeman (1st cousin)	1756	1828 Monroe NY 1810 Monroe NY
<u>Generation VII</u>			
112.	Edmund Freeman	1711 Barnstable MA	1736
113.	Martha Otis	1717 Barnstable MA	1800 Windham CT 1790 Windham CT
<u>Generation VIII</u>			
224.	Edmund Freeman	1683 Barnstable MA	1766 Windham CT
225.	Kezia Presbury	1688	1764 Windham CT
226.	Nathaniel Otis		1710
227.	Abigail Russell	1697	1739 Barnstable MA 1764
<u>Generation IX</u>			
448.	Edmund Freeman	1655 Barnstable MA	1720 Barnstable MA
449.	Sarah Skiff		
452.	John Otis	1680	
454.	Martha Moody		
<u>Generation X</u>			
896.	Edmund Freeman	1620 England	1646
897.	Margaret Perry		1644 Plymouth MA
<u>Generation XI</u>			
1792.	Edmund Freeman	1596 England	1617 England
1793.	Bennett Hodsoil	1597 England	1682 England 1630 England
<u>Generation XII</u>			
3594.	Edmund Freeman		1623 England
3595.	Alice Coles	England	England
3596.	John Hodsoil		1617 England
3597.	Faith Gratwick	England	England
<u>Generation XIII</u>			
7194.	John Gratwick		

BIBLE RECORD - LEE FAMILY

This page from the bible of Ida May (Lee) Grandall in the possession of Mabel Clara (Starks) Buhler, RCGS member. Samuel Morris Lee was the grandfather of Mabel Buhler and Myrtle (Starks) Bridges, RCGS members. Ida May (Lee) Grandall was their aunt.



STATE OF KANSAS, RENO COUNTY, SS:  
 THIS is to certify that I, ALTA Lankford,  
 Notary Public in said county and state, have  
 examined the Record of Births in the Lee family  
 Bible and know that this is an exact copy of same.

Subscribed & sworn to before me this 18 DAY OF  
 December, 1940.  
 Sam. Chap. 9-7-41

Alta Lankford  
 Rosa Schubert, no.

November 1980

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

The Reno County Genealogical Society extends a warm welcome to the following new members. Each has been asked to fill out a four generation pedigree chart. Information from these charts will be transferred to the SURNAME FILE which is housed in the Public Library.

Lorene Catren 913-945-3444  
Valley Falls, KS 66088

Mrs. James Chancellor (Kathleen Beane)  
810 E. Sherman 663-9009  
Hutchinson, KS 67501

Dorothea B. Clymer 743-0153  
2516 Taylor St.  
Corona, CA 91720

Mrs. Oliver Cushing (Mary C. Kuhl)  
Rte. 1, Box 260 585-6863  
Inman, KS 67546

\* Mrs. Ira Dale (Doris Raymond)  
7-B N. Severance 665-5526  
Hutchinson, KS 67501

Mrs. Virginia (Sidlinger) Foster  
P.O. Box 80  
Alliance, NB 69301

Mrs. James F. Haskell, Jr. (Sandra Olsen)  
105 Downing 663-6665  
Hutchinson, KS 67501

\* Renewals

Floyd L. Hockenhull  
2900 Bel Aire 665-8199  
Hutchinson, KS 67501

Mrs. Donald Krentzel (Phyllis Compton)  
200 Osborne  
Hutchinson, KS 67501

\* Ralph Lockwood  
2603 N. VanBuren 662-4118  
Hutchinson, KS 67501

Mrs. John Stucky (Mary Muth)  
Arlington, KS 67514 538-2365

Elma (Hauschild) Swearingin  
1101 N. Monroe 663-5316  
Hutchinson, KS 67501

QUERIES

KIRK - Olive May Long, b 21 Jun 1883 Nicker-  
kerson, KS d 1926 Wichita, KS, marr Thomas  
Kirk, Ch: Everett b 29 Jun 1908, Mabel  
Alice b 1909. Thomas Kirk was in WY in  
the 1920s--his son may have been with him.  
Mabel Kirk was a nurse and may have moved  
to CO. Would like to contact anyone who  
has info on Kirk family. David R. Ewing,  
480 Chapel Ridge Dr., Hazelwood, MO 63042.

WEIBEL - Wm. Noah Weibel b 15 Jan 1788 at  
sea, marr Hannah Lose, mov to OH ca 1829.  
Dau Orsilla mar John Sidlinger, Sr. b 24  
Jan 1822 Bavaria, Germany. Who was father  
of William Weibel? Pos Johannes or Jacob.  
Virginia (Sidlinger) Foster, P.O. Box 80,  
Alliance, NE 69301.

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Reno County Genealogical Society  
P.O. Box 5  
Hutchinson, KS 67501