



THE SUNFLOWER

Reno County Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 5

Hutchinson, Kansas 67504-0005

ISSN 1048 - 048X



30th Anniversary

30th Anniversary



Volume 30, No. 1

February 2008

The Reno County Genealogical Society 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 materials in established libraries and archives. Membership in the Reno County Genealogical Society is open to anyone interested in genealogy. Dues are \$12.00 per year, per family from January 1 to December 31 each year. Meetings are held the third Monday of each month [except December / noted otherwise] in the Children's Reading Room of the Hutchinson Public Library, 9th and Main, 7:00 – 9:00 P. M.

RCGS 2008 Officers

President	Ruth Filbert
Vice President *	Karen Burgess
Treasurer	Jim Stoecklein
Recording Secretary	Sally Eubanks
Corresponding Secretary	Jo Heller

[* Includes Program & Membership Chair]

RCGS 2008 Committees

Historian	Rita Lingg
Obituary Coordinator	Kathleen Dankanyin
Publication Sales	Sandy Wedman
Quarterly & E-News Editor	Gale Wall
Research Chairman	Rita Lingg
Web Coordinator	Gale Wall

Standing committees: Cemetery and Obituary.
Would you like to serve on one of these committees?

RCGS Email: RCGS@cox.net

RCGS Web Site:

<http://rootsweb.com/~ksreggs>

KCGS Web Site:

<http://skyways.lib.ks.us/genweb/kcgs>

The Sunflower is published quarterly by the
Reno County Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 5 - Hutchinson, KS 67504-0005

ISSN 1048 - 048X

Editor: Gale Stafford Wall, Hutchinson, KS

Volume 30, No. 1, February 2008

The Sunflower is indexed in the PERiodical Source Index [PERSI] of the Allen County Public Library Foundation

The Sunflower welcomes your articles and photographs on your Reno County ancestors.

- Email to: RCGS@cox.net
- Mail to: RCGS - P. O. Box 5 - Hutchinson, KS 67504-0005
- Assistance is available in formatting your submissions
- Submissions are subject to editing and space availability

Deadlines

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Due by</u>
Feb	12/5
May	3/5
Aug	6/5
Nov	9/5

The Reno County Genealogical Society is a member of the Federation of Genealogical Societies and the Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies.

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Celebrating Our 30th Anniversary



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Happy New Year! The Reno County Genealogical Society will celebrate their 30th Anniversary this year. Look for the plans that your officers have made for this year in the RCGS E-News and in *The Sunflower*. I personally would like to thank all of the past officers, members and especially the charter members of this society for all of their hard work. I have received a lot of advice and many helpful hints from my fellow members throughout the years and I continue to learn from them every meeting.

This is a very exciting time for family researchers. New avenues of research are appearing online or in book form everyday. In the January/February 2008, *Everton's Genealogical Helper*, Leland Meitzler states: In 2006-2007, FamilySearch made several major announcements, one of them being that they were going to ask for volunteers to index records. I don't have exact numbers, but I know that there are now somewhere around 100,000 people registered with FamilySearch to index records. Last August, 10,000,000 records were indexed all in one month! Can you imagine how helpful this will be in the future as they come online. FamilySearch is also digitizing many books that they have in Salt Lake City and they now appear online.

Remember the "good old days"? Well some of you will, when we used pens, pencils with good erasers, manual typewriters with carbon paper copies. Family group sheets, ancestor charts and census forms were placed in a notebook and later a file cabinet. We went to the Hutchinson Public Library, the Mormon Library "Family History Center" as it is now known and if we were lucky the Wichita Public Library and poured through every book we could find that was in anyway related to our subject area. We ordered census and newspaper microfilms from the Kansas State Historical Society, when they became available. The films could take months to arrive because we were often placed on a waiting list because only so many films could be sent to a library each time an order was placed. Now we get impatient when our computer doesn't work fast enough. We can send messages across the world and get answers within minutes or hours instead of waiting weeks for "snail mail" queries to be answered. No longer do we exchange thick packages of information through the mail. We scan documents, pictures, etc. and send them by e-mail or if we have a large amount of information, we put it on a flash/thumb drive (removable device) or CD and mail it to them. WOW!

The Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies, in their January meeting, agreed to help underwrite the Reno County Genealogical Societies State Fair lecture program. We will receive \$100 to go towards expenses as long we present the workshops. RCGS members help your officers and fellow members make our 30th Anniversary Year and the following years great by volunteering to go that extra little bit when asked. Ruth Hair Filbert

RENO PROJECTS



Cemetery records - Phase two: obtain access to cemetery records. Most do not have official records and we will walk each cemetery to obtain the information from the marked graves and photograph the headstones. 34 of 54 are complete. This phase will be long-term and volunteers are needed. **Do you know of corrections needed to the current publication?**

Special Project Help Needed

- **Newspaper Indexing** - We are in receipt of some old Reno County newspapers and need local volunteers to take an issue or two home and index for our website. This will be an easy project for the winter months. If you are interested in helping please send an email to RCGS@cox.net.
- **Plat Map Indexing** - Volunteers needed to take a PDF image of a plat map and create in index. [emailed]

NEWS & NOTES - DATES TO REMEMBER

Celebrating Our 30th Anniversary in 2008

To celebrate our 30th anniversary we are planning the following:

1 - Beginning with the January issue of E-News we will have a trivia question each month. The answer to our question will be found on our website. [Note: we will suspend the secret door this year]. The winner will receive a little prize [post it's, note cards, etc]. This event is sponsored by board & committee members.

2 - March through May we will have a book sale and our publication prices will be reduced. A special order form will be available on our website for these three months. You may request a paper copy order form by sending a note and SASE to us.

3 - October: We will continue to celebrate at our annual potluck with a special cake. Favorite ancestor story contest winners will be announced and we will hold the drawing for our fundraiser raffles.

Other News:

- **2008 RCGS Board:** President - Ruth Filbert, Vice President - Karen Burgess, Treasurer - Jim Stoecklein, Recording Secretary - Sally Eubanks, Corresponding Secretary - Jo Heller.
- **National Genealogical Conference:** May 14 - 17, 2008 in Kansas City. Information and registration is now available online. Visit <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/> and click on *Upcoming NGS Events*.
- **Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies 2008 Conference** - June 21, 2008 in McPherson, Kansas featuring Pamela K. Boyer. Cost will be \$45 for early registration and \$50 after May 30th. Brochure and registration form will be available late February / early March. A PDF version will be available on the KCGS and RCGS website. If you need a paper copy send a note and SASE to RCGS.
- Founding and charter member of Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies, **Doris Dockstader Rooney**, age 98, died January 6th in Dodge City.

RCGS 2008 PROGRAMS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/21 - Research & Learning Lab* - Canceled • 2/18 - Research & Learning Lab* - Rescheduled • 3/17 - Tax Records - by Virginia Downing • 4/21 - Treasure Quest - By Darren McMannis • 5/19 - NGS Conference Highlights & Recap OR
Research Pathways - by Karen Burgess • 6/16 - Through The Eyes of Young Pioneers (1) • 7/21 - Preserving Your Family Treasures - by Michelle Enke • 8/18 - Land Record Research - by Margaret Herstein • 9/15 - Research & Learning Lab* | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10/20 - <u>Celebrating Family History Month</u> - Join us at the Delos V. Smith Center, 101 W. 1st, 6:00 p.m.
Potluck - bring your favorite dish to share
Bring a family item to share for "show & tell" • 11/17 - Citing Sources - by Ruth Filbert • December - No meeting <p>*Research & Learning Lab - research session for our members & guests that want to use the subscription to Ancestry.com and other online databases available at HPL. This is a good place to also ask those "How do I?" questions in a roundtable chat. We will also provide a beginning genealogy outline for anyone new to genealogy. RCGS will pay for research copies made in the lab.</p> <p>(1) Kansas Humanities Program - by Marilyn Holt</p> |
|---|---|

EDITOR'S NOTE



Happy New Year! What a great year we have ahead of us. We hope you'll share our excitement in the programs offered this year and our efforts to provide a peek into our little corner of Kansas through our growing website, YouTube channel and online web albums.

We are celebrating our 30th anniversary this year. You will read a little more about that in this issue. We are planning a little fun to celebrate all year-long.

And, we have reached our 1-year anniversary of our new website. Technology today allows us to make a digital copy of a record and convert to PDF format and email to a volunteer to prepare for our website or The Sunflower. We had several members volunteer for the 1918 Plat Map project underway - thank you! I am a little behind with the upload on this project due to the mess the ice storm left me and the hustle and bustle of the holidays.

We are planning a fundraiser raffle for this year. After we approved our 2008 budget we learned that our mailing costs for The Sunflower will almost double. Are you a crafty person that can donate an item for the raffle? Suggested items could be a small painting, drawing, quilted item, knitted item or other craft. Or do you have an idea that you can share with us? Please email us at RCGS@cox.net and let us know.

We'll see you in May!

Gale Wall

NEW AND REINSTATED MEMBERS

Bridgeman, Helen - Loveland, CO
 Cavanaugh, Daniel & Pam - Eau Claire, WI
 Hoffman, Annetta - Highlands Ranch, CO
 Lea, Freda Eaton - Phoenix, AZ
 Long, Phyllis - Washburn, MO
 Murphy, Carlos & Barbara - Hutchinson, KS
 Stark, Gary & Marsha - Palm Beach Gardens, FL

Welcome

Attention new members: Please send us your email in order to receive our monthly E-News and society updates and communication. Send it to: RCGS@cox.net

Members without email wanting to receive the E-News may send a note with a SASE requesting a copy.

ON THE COVER

I had a hard time trying to find an appropriate "real" photo for this issue in recognition of our 30th anniversary.

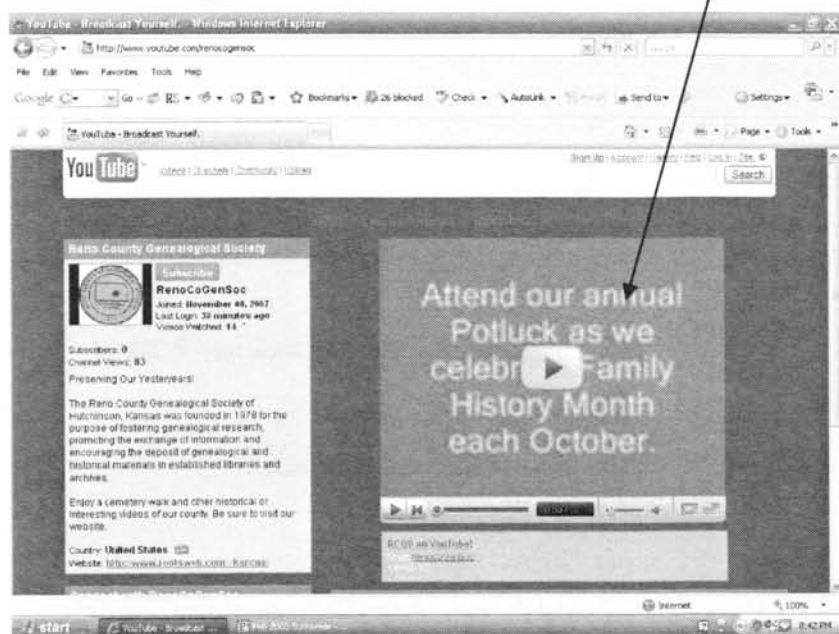
I am looking for cover photos for the remainder of 2008. Do you have one to share?



RCGS ON YOUTUBE & PICASA WEB ALBUMS

We are always looking for new ways to gain publicity for our society. In progress are two ideas to provide a peek at Reno County. Please visit these areas on the web and send us your feedback. We often hear of the shrinking genealogical societies and refuse to accept that for ourselves. We want to **grow** and become a society that provides a resourceful website for researchers, an educational (and fun to read) quarterly and informative monthly E-News to our membership. The approach to genealogical research has evolved tremendously in the last 10 years. We must change and embrace the technologies being made available to us. As such, I believe gone are the days where we as a society would compile and sell everything and I look forward to the growing resources we are providing at no cost on our website. We hope you will support and promote our group and activities when given the opportunity.

Please note: In order to avoid areas of YouTube that you may find offensive please always click on our channel name to bring you back to our video selections. The featured video will play on our channel page but others will show in another format. You can also search for videos that may be of interest to you using keywords like: cemetery, genealogy, soldier, family and topics not related to just genealogy.

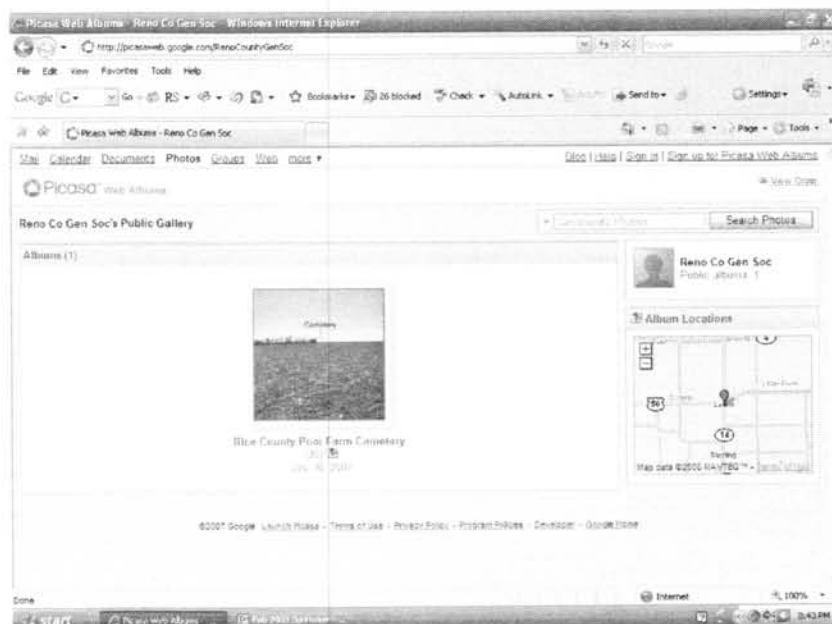


<http://www.youtube.com/renocogensoc>

We will use the Picasa web album site to house photos that can be viewed as slide shows. Some may be from adjoining counties or special features.

Tell us
 what you think!
rcgs@cox.net

Do you have an idea for a video?
 When the weather allows we plan to get out and video the small towns in our county, cemeteries [of course] and other things that catch our attention. We are also wanting to produce some specific family segments. If you are interesting in having a segment done on one of your ancestors drop us a note.



<http://picasaweb.google.com/RenoCountyGenSoc>

2008 BUDGET

INCOME

2007 Previous Balance Forward [projected] \$760
 Membership [100 x \$12] \$ 1,200.00
 Donations [tax deductible] \$ 75.00
 Can Money @ Mtgs [loose change donations] \$ 15.00
 Research \$ 175.00
 Interest on CD \$ 235.00
 Other Income [grants, Q sales, etc.] \$ 150.00
TOTAL INCOME \$ 2,600.00

EXPENSES

President \$ -
Vice President \$ 250.00
 Membership [packets & postage] \$ 50.00
 Programs Fees & Copies \$ 200.00
Treasurer \$ 190.00
 KS Retailers Sales Tax \$ 50.00
 Postmaster Box Fee \$ 40.00
 Non Profit Fee \$ 40.00
 KCGS Dues \$ 15.00
 FGS Dues \$ 45.00
The Sunflower Quarterly - Editor \$ 1,200.00
 Printing \$ 700.00
 Postage - PP \$ 400.00
 Postage Return Acct \$ 25.00
 Other [mat. copies/Ink] \$ 75.00
Web Coordinator \$ 125.00
 Web hosting \$ 90.00
 Domain registration \$ 10.00
 Material copy costs \$ 25.00
Research \$ 25.00
 Envelopes / postage \$ 10.00
 Copy reimbursements \$ 15.00

Other [Committees & Events] \$ 790.00
 Historian Supplies \$ -
 Recording Secretary Supplies \$ 50.00
 Correspondence Secretary Supplies \$ -
 Obit Coordinator Supplies \$ 200.00
 Kansas State Fair Handouts \$ 200.00
 Kansas State Fair - Best of Show Sponsorship \$ 25.00
 Family History Month Vol. Awards / Prizes \$ 50.00
 Publicity Brochures [200] \$ 50.00
 Publicity Bookmarks [200] \$ 15.00
 Cemetery Project [\$250 rec'd*] Working copies \$ 100.00
 Other -Special Projects/Misc Copies, Printing, etc. \$ 50.00
 General Postage Acct postage on all areas \$ 50.00
TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 2,580.00

2008 Excess / Deficiency \$ 20.00

PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT

Acct Bal Sponsored \$ 2,789.00
Income Books / CD's, Acct. Interest - \$X
Expenses CD, Pub. Materials, Printing Mat / Costs - \$X
 10/27/2007 current negative \$ 61.16
Balance \$ 2,727.84

2008 Proposed Budget - Approved 10/27/2007

*We rec'd a \$250 donation toward our cemetery project. This is in addition to budgeted amount.

Please write or email us if you have any questions.

PIONEERS & SETTLERS OF RENO COUNTY

George Kirtley Fernie

Typed by Melody Morgan

Among the successful ranch men of Reno county is George Kirtley Fernie who came to this county in the boom days of the early eighties and cast his lot with the pioneers, entering immediately into the life and activities of the cattlemen, and is now comfortably situated in his pleasant home on his extensive country place in Lincoln township.

George Kirtley Fernie was born on January 19, 1864, in Derby, England, the son of John and Arabella Fernie, the former of whom was born in Cupar, Fife, Scotland, and was educated in Edinburgh, where he was trained as a civil and mechanical engineer. When twenty-five years of age he went to England and worked as a civil engineer on the Midland railroad. Later he was a partner in the Clarence Iron Works in Leeds, England. In 1881, John Fernie brought his family to America and located at Philadelphia, where he lived, retired, for several years. Subsequently he returned to England where he died in 1904.

George Fernie attended school in England and on the continent, and finished his education at University College, London. When the family moved to Philadelphia he spent three years as an apprentice in a machine shop. In 1893 Mr. Fernie moved to Sedgwick county, Kansas, where he lived with friends on a ranch and learned the business. Three years later, John Fernie bought a half section of land in Lincoln township, this county, for his son and he started in the cattle business. His brother, Robert, joined him and they operated the ranch together.

Robert William Fernie was born in Derby, England, December 5, 1857, and was educated in Leeds and the Isle of Wight, and finished at the University College, London. He studied practical engineering on the Midland railroad and came to this country in 1880, locating in Philadelphia where he was with the Baldwin Locomotive Works. From there he went to the Lehigh Valley railroad in Wilkesbarre, and then came to Reno county. Both brothers are married, George remaining on the ranch and Robert living in Hutchinson.

Fernie ranch now comprises 2,730 acres; they have about four hundred head of cattle, all high grade Herefords, and the wheat acreage has been increased from year to year until now they have 1,100 acres sowed to grain and alfalfa. Fernie brothers were among the first to build silos in this section and they have three concrete ones with eight hundred tons capacity. They were also among the first to introduce alfalfa into Reno county. They have always taken great pride in the quality of their cattle and were pioneers in the production of baby beef, which with wheat are still their main interests. The Santa Fe railroad runs through the ranch and they have the advantages of a station and stock yards on their own place.

During the national tractor demonstration in Hutchinson, in 1915, Mr. Fernie donated the use of portions of his land for the tractor plowing. Over one hundred different tractors competed, each pulling plows to break a certain acreage, before a large crowd of spectators. George Fernie has more than a local reputation as a successful farmer and cattle raiser and has had a large part in bringing the agricultural and social conditions of this region up to their present high standard.



Fairview
Elmer
Cemetery

History of Reno
County, Kansas

1917



LEGAL NOTICES

First published in The Kansan Dec 25, 1896

LEGAL NOTICE

In the District Court sitting in and for Reno County, Kansas

Maude M. Tucker, Plaintiff

vs.

Daniel Tucker, Defendant

To the above named defendant, Daniel Tucker, in above entitled cause:

You are hereby notified that on the 24th day of December, 1896, the above named plaintiff Maud M. Tucker, filed a petition in the district court of Reno county, Kansas, praying to be divorced from you, the said defendant, Daniel Tucker, on the grounds of willful abandonment for more than a year next before the filing of said petition for divorce, and on account of gross neglect of duty: and for the care, control and custody of the three children mentioned in said petition, to wit: Maud, Grace and Ralph Tucker. You are therefore notified that you are required to answer or plead to said petition on or before the 5th day of February, 1897, or the same will be taken as true and judgment rendered therein against you for absolute divorce, as therein prayed for, to wit: for willful abandonment and gross neglect of duty, and for the care, control and custody of said Maud, Grace and Ralph Tucker, as alleged and prayed for in said petition.

Maud M. Tucker, Plaintiff.

Attest Z. W. Whinery, Clerk District Court.

The Kansan, 1/15/1897, Vol. III #44

Administrator's Notice

[First published January 25th, 1890]

State of Kansas, Reno County, ss.

In the probate court in and for said county.

In the matter of the estate of William **Geist**, deceased.

Notice is hereby given, that letters of administration have been granted to the undersigned on the estate of William Geist, late of said county, deceased, by the Honorable, the Probate Court of the county and state aforesaid, dated the 24th day of January, A. D. 1890. Now, all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby notified that they must present the same to the undersigned for allowance, within one year from the date of said letters, or they may be precluded from any benefit of such estate; and that if such claims be not exhibited within three years after the date of said letters, they shall be forever barred.

January 24th, 1890.

Edward R. Geist,
Frank Geist,
Administrators.

Interior Herald, 2/1/1890, Column 5

LEGAL NOTICES

Administrator's Notice
[First Published, January 25th, 1890]

State of Kansas, county of Reno, ss.

In the probate court, in and for said county.

In the matter of the estate of Roland N. **Mitchell**, deceased.

Notice is hereby given, that letters of administration have been granted to the undersigned of the estate of Roland N. Mitchell, late of said county, deceased, by the Honorable, the probate court of the county and state aforesaid, dated the 24th day of January A. D. 1890. Now all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby notified that they must present the same to the undersigned for allowance, within one year from the date of said letters, or they may be precluded from any benefit of such estate; and that if such claims be not exhibited within three years after the date of said letters, they shall be forever barred.

January 24th, 1890.

J. H. Hankey,
Administrator

Interior Herald, 2/1/1890, Column 5

First Publication August 30, 1900

Publication Notice

State of Kansas, Reno County, ss.

In the district court for said county.

Lizzie **Campbell**, Plaintiff

vs

M. W. **Campbell**, Defendant

Said defendant, M. W. Campbell, a non resident of the state of Kansas whose whereabouts are unknown, will take notice that on the 29th day of August, 1900, plaintiff filed a petition in the district court of Reno county, Kansas, praying to be divorced from defendant on the grounds of gross neglect of duty and extreme cruelty, and must answer the petition filed therein by said plaintiff on or before the 10th day of October, A. D. 1900, or said petition will be taken as true, and judgment for plaintiff in said action for divorce on the grounds of gross neglect of duty and extreme cruelty will be rendered accordingly.

Attest:

[seal] J. L. Smith

Clerk of the District Court

W. H. Lewis, Attorney for Plaintiff

Hutchinson Weekly News, Thursday, 9/6/1900



PHOTOS & POSTCARDS

Escapes from the Reformatory. Note: Present day Hutchinson Correctional Facility.



Willard McLean or Willard McClain

ESCAPED
FROM THE
KANSAS STATE INDUSTRIAL REFORMATORY
HUTCHINSON, KANSAS

Willard McLean, Right name Willard McClain,
NO. 4145, Escaped From the Reformatory, July
11, 1918.

FINGER-PRINT CLASSIFICATION: $\frac{26}{30}$ U $\frac{10}{60}$

Received from Atchison Co. Sept. 20, 1917, on a charge
of Grand Larceny.

DESCRIPTION: Height 5 ft. 6 in. (with put shoes)
Weight. 130 lbs., eyes Blue. Complexion med. dark. Hair
Black, Age 20 yrs., Build small hairy Mo. Occupation
teamster.

RELATIVES: R. H. McClain father Kansas City, Kans.,
Mary McClain wife. Chas. McClain Bro. Topeka, Kan.
Maud Hicks Topeka, Kan. Sister. Geo. and Harry McClain
Broos Joplin, Mo.

MARKS AND SCARS: Two scars at 7 in. above left knee
front.

Served a previous term in the Reform School Topeka, Kan.

Arrest and wire J. N. Herr, Supt.
Hutchinson Kas.

Reward!

Photos were purchased on EBay by
Kathleen Dankanyin and Gale Wall

\$50 REWARD \$50
ESCAPED

FROM KANSAS STATE REFORMATORY
Hutchinson, Kansas.

BURT PERKINS No. 7253
Alias James Sweet
May 7, 1928

FINGER PRINT CLASSIFICATION		
9	T	14
2	U	12

Received from Gray county, Kansas on a charge
of Burglary, 3rd degree.

DESCRIPTION: Height 5 feet, 6 3/4 inches (with-
out shoes); complexion, fair; weight 130 lbs;
build medium small; eyes blue; age 24 years; hair
brown (sandy); nativity, New York.

MARKS and SCARS: Scar right wrist inner; scar
at base right thumb front; scar in right eye brow.

CRIMINAL HISTORY: One arrest at Weedsport,
N. Y. on charge of intoxication. As James Sweet,
No. 13840, State Reformatory, Huntington, Pa.
(an escape).

Corresponds with Mrs. E. C. Sweet, mother, Gon-
esse, Pa.

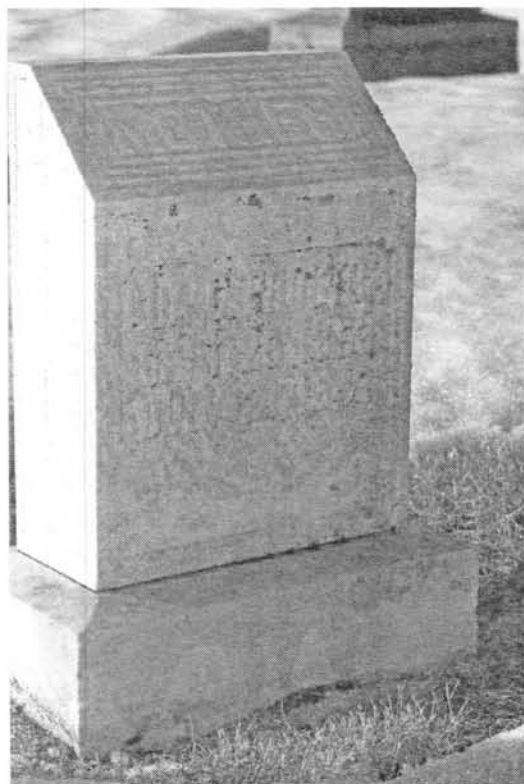
Take finger prints of suspects and mail them to us
and we will wire you whether or not you have the man.
The reward is for arrest and detention until prisoner
is delivered to an officer of this institution.

Arrest and Wire All Information to
E. E. FRIEDEL
Hutchinson, Kansas.



Burt Perkins / Alias James Sweet

PHOTOS & POSTCARDS



Top left - Ada Wirt Tester

Top right - Ada Wirt Tester Proctor's grave at Mt. Shasta Cemetery in Mt. Shasta, California. 9/29/1853 - 7/21/1942

Bottom right - Mary Jane [Molly], Grace, Etta & Daisy Tester. Children of Ada and Joseph Tester.

Thank you to Mark Ostrom for sharing these family pictures and driving to the Mt. Shasta Cemetery to photograph Ada's grave.

See more on the Tester family in the Cemetery Corner on pages 20 - 21.



JAKE GRIMES MADSTONE



mad·stone

Pronunciation: 'mad-"stOn

Function: *noun*

: a stony concretion (as a hair ball taken from the stomach of a deer) supposed formerly in folklore and by some physicians to counteract the poisonous effects of the bite of an animal (as one affected with rabies)

Source:

madstone. Dictionary.com. *Merriam-Webster's Medical Dictionary*. Merriam-Webster, Inc.

<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/madstone> (accessed: January 14, 2008).

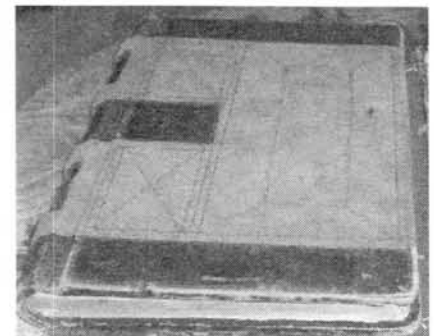
What is a madstone? Well, that's what we wanted to know after Kathleen came across a newspaper article about 16 year-old Alta Lock being treated by a madstone owned by Jake Grimes. It was such an odd story that we wanted to learn more. Kathleen found a website with pictures of a couple of madstones. It appears few are known to exist today. On the site was a link to a PBS audio file that talked about the madstone owned by Jake Grimes that had been purchased by a Hutchinson couple, Joe & Viola Davenport. There was a ledger mentioned said to contain the names of those treated by this madstone. Kathleen also located a family member, DeWayne Lock, and received a photo of Alta Lock. Alta married Jesse Nelson. She died in 1973 and is buried at the Eastside Cemetery.

I continued my search and found several articles about the madstone. Still I wanted to know what happened to Jake Grimes' madstone? I located and called Mrs. Davenport to ask about the madstone. In January Kathleen and I had the pleasure to visit with Mrs. Davenport where not only did we photograph the madstone and ledger, we were allowed to hold it. For such a regular looking stone it weighed so little. It's not a very big stone, about 2 1/2 by 2 inches. It is kept in a purple silk handkerchief. We had a pleasant visit with Mrs. Davenport where she shared about growing up in the Castleton area and teaching at the old Riverton School [see school pictures on page 22].

Mrs. Davenport purchased the madstone and its ledger from the estate of Edna Grimes Blake, the daughter of Jacob Grimes. The history behind the stone is that Jake Grimes, being a gun, lock & safe repairman, received the stone in 1892 as payment from a man from Kentucky that had no money to pay for his gun repair.

Jacob Grimes was born in Tennessee and arrived in Kansas by the 1880 Federal Census where he resided with his parents in Dickinson County. The 1885 State, 1895 State, 1900 Federal, 1905 State and 1910 Federal Census record Jacob Grimes in Reno County. By the 1920 and 1930 Federal census he has moved to the Portland, Oregon area and was residing in Multnomah County. Jacob and his wife, Mary Jackson, daughter of Albert Jackson, had 3 known children [per 1900 census]. A son, Charles Edward was born 8/13/1884 and died 11/30/1891 of lung fever. He is buried with his mother at Eastside Cemetery. Mary Jackson Grimes has no marked grave. She died 5/18/1937 in Oregon and was brought back to Hutchinson for burial. Daughter, Mary Edna married Fred Blake. They too are buried at Eastside. The other child's name and gender are not known. Jacob Grimes died 5/27/1943 in Portland and was buried there at the Riverview Cemetery. I used the volunteer services of RAOGK.org to obtain obituaries for Jacob & Mary and Jacob's cemetery photos.

We are thankful to Mrs. Davenport for allowing us to photograph and record this piece of Reno County history. Perhaps we'll find other family members connected to the people that were treated by the madstone.



JAKE GRIMES MADSTONE, Cont'd

Hutchinson Times 1/15/1909 p 8

For forty years the Eagle has known where a madstone could be found. We have no information to that effect now. Will anyone having one kindly send us his name and address to have for reference? Wichita Eagle.

Hutchinson News 8/2/1909

Alta Lock the 16 year old daughter of W. M. Lock, of Arlington, was bitten by her pet cat while picking flowers in the garden of the family home Tuesday. It was feared the cat was mad and the girl was taken to Hutchinson to be treated with the madstone owned by Jake Grimes. The wound made by the cat was in the hand and it took six hours for the stone to draw all the poison from the wound. The stone when applied to a wound of this kind adheres until its color changes from a deep dark brown to a greenish hue. When it has absorbed all the poison it will hold, the stone is placed in sweet milk which draws the poison in turn from the stone, the milk taking a green color. When the pores of the stone are free of poison it is again applied to the wound and the process is repeated as long as the stone will adhere to the wound. While undergoing the treatment the patient usually becomes sick at the stomach and frequently vomits. When the treatment is finally completed this sickness disappears.



Alta Arvilla Lock 1919

Hutchinson Times 8/6/1909, p1

Bitten By Savage Dog

H. G. Gorral; of Arlington, Seeks a Madstone in Hutchinson.

H. G. Gorral, who was bitten a few days ago by a dog on his farm near Arlington, came to Hutchinson and was taken to the home of Jacob C. Grimes, 814 East Third Avenue, where a mad stone was applied to the bite. The stone stuck to the wound four hours. Mr. Grimes has the only mad stone in this part of the country and several times this year people have been brought to it. The dog which bit Mr. Gorral was a family pet on the farm and had been tied up for several days because it had been chasing chickens. Mr. Gorral noticed the dog seemed rather melancholy and thought it was because he had been tied up so long. He started to untie the dog when he was attacked by the animal. After he was bitten Mr. Gorral drove to Arlington as soon as possible and took the first train to Hutchinson.

Hutchinson News Weekly 3/31/1910

Save By Madstone

Boy Bitten at Maize Was Cured Yesterday in Hutchinson

The J. C. Grimes madstone was used again yesterday afternoon, this time by the seven year-old son of E. A. Tapp of Maize, Sedgwick county. The boy was bitten on Saturday and was brought here on Monday morning. The stone stuck to the wound for six hours and took out all the poison. The dog was a big black fellow, and was a stray in that part of the county. He was running wild. The dog owned by the boy fought the mad dog and drove him away, after he had bitten the boy on the hand and leg. The last seen of the dog was three miles east of Maize, on the road towards Wichita. Farmers were trying to get a shot at him. He was frothing at the mouth then. The father brought the son to the home of Mr. Grimes at 814 Third avenue east.

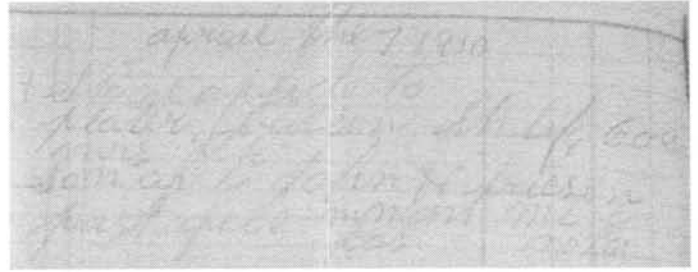
JAKE GRIMES MADSTONE, Cont'd

Hutchinson News Weekly 4/14/1910 [from Friday's daily]

Bitten By Mad Dog

Peter Friessen of Inman Cured by Grimes Stone

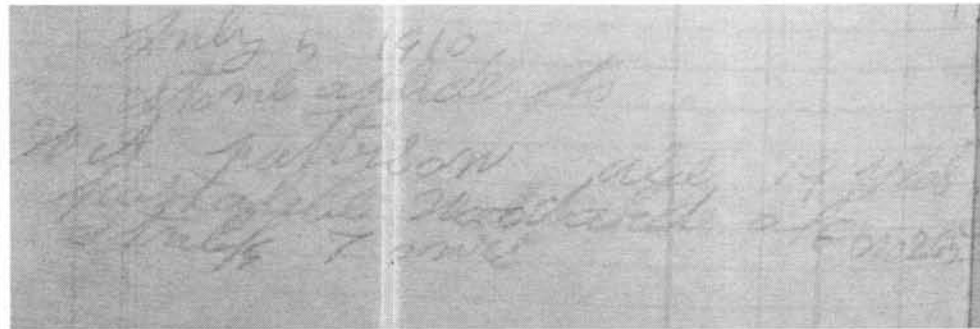
Peter Friessen of Inman, the 15 year old son of John H. Friessen, was brought here yesterday so the madstone, owned by J. C. Grimes at 814 Third east, could be used. The boy was bitten on Monday by a stray mad dog which was reported to have bitten other dogs there as well. The dog bit through the hand and the boy was suffering a great deal when brought here. He went home last night feeling all right again.



Hutchinson News Weekly
7/7/1910, p8

Rabies in Dog Show

Keeper Here Taking Madstone
Treatment - Four more expected



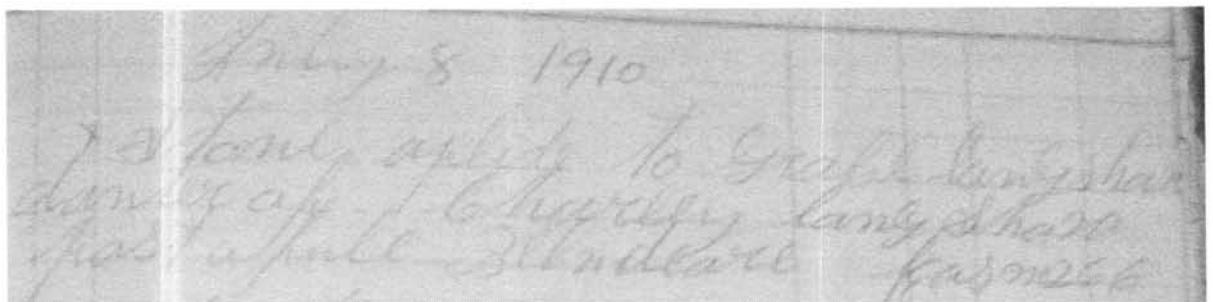
Hutchinson has a visitor today and will have four more tomorrow, due to a dog becoming afflicted with rabies at a dog and pony show. W. A. Patterson of Woodward, Okla., an employee of the Richards Brothers Dog and Pony Show, now exhibiting in the eastern part of the state, came last night. He, and four others, were bitten. The madstone owned by J. C. Grimes was used. It adhered seven hours. Patterson, immediately upon arriving here, telegraphed the other men to come. They are expected tonight.

Hutchinson News Weekly 7/14/1910, p7

Bit By Dog

Little Girl Comes from Belvidere to Grimes Mad Stone

Charles Langshaw, who lives on the Rockefeller ranch near Belvidere, came to Hutchinson last night with his 6-year old daughter, Grace, who had been bitten by a dog, supposed to be mad. The little girl was playing with the dog, and no one knows just how it happened. Mr. Langshaw brought the little one to Hutchinson to have Jake Grimes' madstone applied. The stone adhered to the wound nine hours last night. This morning the wound is doing nicely and the little girl is playing around the house.



JAKE GRIMES MADSTONE, Cont'd

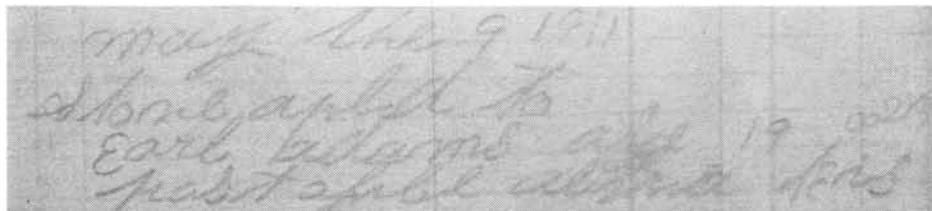
Hutchinson News Weekly 5/11/1911, p8

Boy Rushed to Mad Stone

Stray Hound Afflicted With Rabies,
Injures Earl Adams

Terrribly lacerated by the fangs of a
stray hound which had attacked him

while playing, Earl Adams, 10 years of age, was brought here from Woods county, Oklahoma last night to the home of J. C. Grimes, of Third east, to secure the services of a mad stone. The animal which attacked and bit the boy was later killed. His actions plainly showed that he was suffering from the rabies. As soon as the boy, Earl Adams, and his mother arrived in the city they were taken to the Grimes residence and the madstone was applied to the wound. The porous rock stuck to the place where the fangs of the hound had entered and remained there until 3 o'clock in the morning. The mother of the child watched the stone change color as it sucked out the poison from the wound. The boy was taken to his home this morning and his recovery is assured.



~*~*~*~*~

I'm sure there were many more articles written about the Grimes madstone and I hope to find them. He no doubt saved many from traveling to other areas for treatment after he received the madstone. One article from the Hutchinson Herald, dated July 5, 1884, told of a Mrs. Loyd that lived a few miles east of Hutchinson was bitten by a dog and traveled to Kansas City to be treated by a madstone.

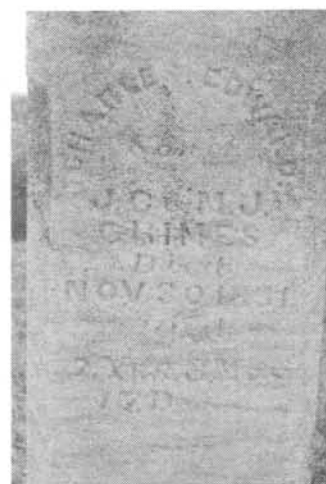
Another interesting note: While searching for articles on the madstone I came across one in 1900 titled "Jake Grimes Charged With Assault With Intent to Kill". J. F. Smith had accused him of intent to kill after being cut with a pocket knife by Jake Grimes. Grimes claimed it was self defense after Smith hit him over the head with a beer bottle. The case was continued. I searched for further details but found none. Since Jake Grimes is recorded in the 1905 State census for Reno County he was either found innocent or received a short sentence.



Mrs. Viola Davenport



Jake Grimes grave at Riverside Cemetery,
Portland, OR



Charles Edward Grimes
grave- Eastside Cemetery

BIOGRAPHIES & FAMILY RECORDS



Cornelius O. Chapin

Cornelius O. Chapin, a well-known and well-to-do retired farmer of this county, one of the real pioneers of Reno county, an honored veteran of the Civil War, one of the oldest Odd Fellows in the state and for years actively interested in the general civic affairs of this section of the state, has been living in Hutchinson since his retirement from the farm in 1905 and is very comfortably situated. Mr. Chapin is a native of Massachusetts, a member of one of the old Colonial families, which is represented in widely separated parts of the country. The Chapin family maintains a regularly organized association of kinship, with headquarters in the East, and holds annual meetings which are very largely attended. The house in which Mr. Chapin was born at Chicopee, Massachusetts, September 18, 1841, was built in 1730 and in that same house his father, Quartus Chapin, was born on October 14, 1793.

Quartus Chapin was reared a farmer and married Ruby Sexton, who was born in Somers, Connecticut, remaining in the East until 1853, in which year he moved to Illinois. He bought two hundred and forty acres in Morgan county, that state, and there spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring on March 7, 1858. He was a soldier of the War of 1812, his father was a soldier in the Revolution and three of Quartus Chapin's sons were soldiers in the Civil War. His widow returned East and her death occurred in Waltham, Massachusetts. They were members of the Congregational church and their children were reared in that faith. There were six of these children, those besides the subject of this sketch being: Lyman, Horace and Cornelia L., now deceased; Lucy A., who married Henry E. Steele, a watchmaker of Waltham, Massachusetts, since whose death she has been living at North Adams, in that state, and Quartus H., in the United States railway service, with headquarters at Chicago.

Cornelius O. Chapin was about twelve years old when he moved with his parents to Morgan county, Illinois. His higher education was obtained at Ft. Edward, New York, and in two years attendance at Illinois College, Jacksonville, Illinois. Though not twenty years old when the Civil War broke out he enlisted for three months service at the first call for volunteers and went to the front as a member of Company B, Tenth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered out at Cairo, Illinois, at the expiration of that term of service. Upon completion of his military service he returned to the farm and in the fall of 1863 was married. Ten years later he came to Kansas and has been a resident of this county ever since. He arrived at Hutchinson on November 9, 1873, and presently homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 8, in Valley township, this county, upon which he and his wife established their home on February 12, 1874, and there they remained until their retirement from the farm and removal to Hutchinson in 1905. Mr. Chapin was a successful farmer and cattle raiser and for years was regarded as one of the most substantial and influential citizens of Valley township. Upon retiring from the farm he invested his capital in real estate and is very comfortably situated. He and his wife have a very pleasant home at 620 Sherman street, east, and take an active interest in the social and cultural movements of their home town.

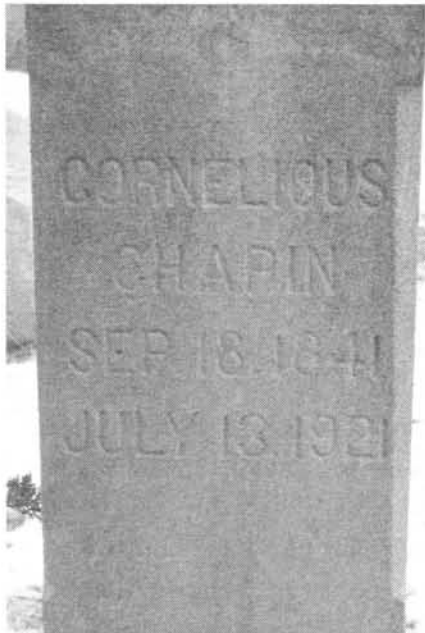
History of Reno County,
Kansas, 1917

Typed by Melody Morgan

BIOGRAPHIES & FAMILY RECORDS

It was on September 30, 1863, at Concord, Illinois, that Cornelius O. Chapin was united in marriage to Mary V. Detrick, who was born at Naples, Illinois, March 10, 1848, daughter of Dr. Jacob H. and Hannah (Morrison) Detrick, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio, both of whom spent their last days in Hutchinson, this county, Doctor Detrick dying on September 28, 1902, and his widow on April 5, 1913. Doctor and Mrs. Detrick were Methodists and active workers in the church. The Doctor was a Democrat and a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. To him and his wife two daughters were born, Mrs. Chapin having a sister, Catherine E., who married Clarence Willey, a prominent lumberman of Chicago, and was among those who lost their lives in the sinking of the "Lusitania". Her only child, a daughter, Catherine, is the wife of Robert Thorne, vice-president of the great Montgomery Ward Company at Chicago. To Mr. and Mrs. Chapin one child was born, a son, Charles F., who was born at Concord, Illinois, June 4, 1864, and who was killed by the accidental discharge of a gun in the hands of another person, in Valley township, this county, January 21, 1887. Charles F. Chapin had married Fannie Demorett, of this county, and their only child, Lyman H., born in Valley township on December 30, 1886, was killed by being run over by a loaded wagon in that township on November 2, 1897.

Mr. Chapin has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows since the year 1864 and a member of the Daughters of Rebekah, which latter order both he and his wife joined at the same time, since 1870. Upon the fiftieth anniversary of his service as an Odd Fellow, Mr. Chapin was presented by the grand lodge of Kansas Odd Fellows with a handsome gold badge, suitably inscribed, the number of his years of service, "50" being outlined in diamonds. Mr. Chapin also is a member of Joe Hooker Post, Grand Army of the Republic, at Hutchinson, and for years has taken a warm interest in the affairs of that patriotic order. Mrs. Chapin is a prominent member of the Woman's Relief Corps and has been senior vice-president of that organization for the department of Kansas. Mr. Chapin is a Republican and ever has taken an interest in local political affairs, but has never been included in the office-seeking class.



Wanted: Your Reno County Family!

Please consider contributing a biography on your Reno County ancestor.

CEMETERY CORNER

Remembering The Children

During research on the cemeteries in our county I have found a lot of graves for infants and children. Some forgotten, unwanted and others left behind. Eastside interment records show several babies buried that were discarded as trash or unclaimed bodies after a stillbirth. Among the more rural burials are children left behind as the family continued their journey west or perhaps returned home.

I found two children from the same family buried in 2 different cemeteries. The Tester family is recorded in the 1875 Kansas State Census for Reno County. They arrived in Reno County between the birth of **Joseph Martin Tester** on April 27, 1873 in Keithsburg, IL and his death and burial in Reno County in November 22, 1874 [based on family bible entries]. Early cemetery records list him buried in the Westminster Cemetery and note his parents as Joseph and Ada. Sadly only one headstone remains visible today and his grave is now unmarked.



Westminster Cemetery

The other child is that of **Emma Josephine Tester** born February 10, 1877 in Reno County and died January 25, 1880. She is buried at the Peace Bethel Cemetery and her parents are noted on her headstone. Her little grave is covered by a large bush.



Emma's stone at Peace Bethel

Once I realized these two siblings were buried in different cemeteries I wanted to know why and where their parents were buried. An internet search led me to the burial of the father, Joseph Tester, in Keithsburg, IL. Joseph was born August 9, 1842 in Ohio and died August 1, 1892 and was buried at the Greenmound Cemetery in Mercer County, IL. Did the family return to IL or did his death happen during a visit? That I do not know. There wasn't a listing for the mother, Ada, so I continued my search.

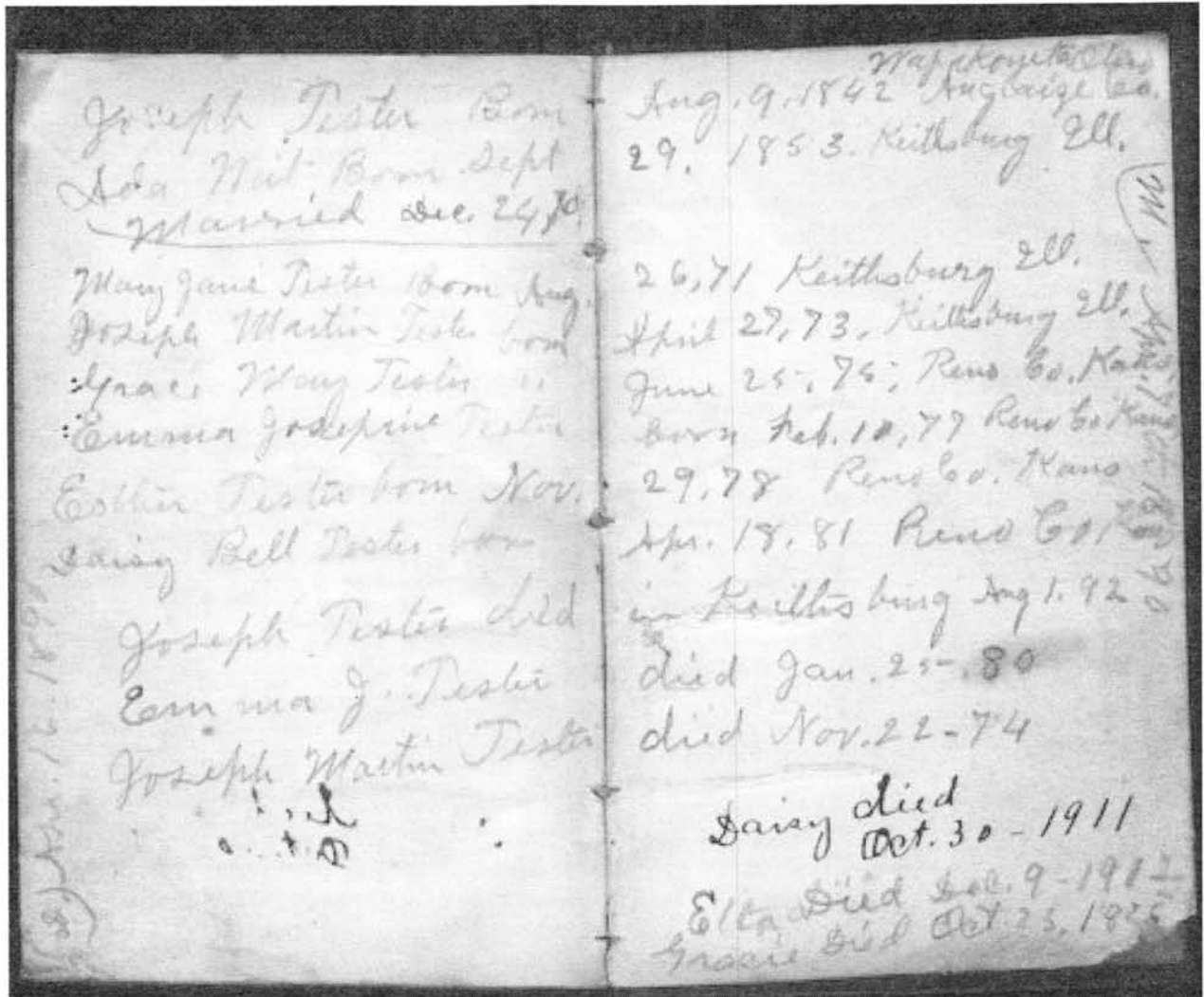
Another search led me to the website of family member, Mark Ostrom. His website has pictures of the bible pages and he granted permission to use them. From the information contained on this site I was able to find that Ada made her way to California where she would marry two more times to a Mr. Pitt and Mr. Proctor. Ada was born in Illinois on September 29, 1853 and died in California on July 21, 1943. Families were searching for a better way of life to provide for their family which carried them to a new destinations. Along the way burials took place and loved ones were left behind. How did a mother feel leaving her children behind? I would imagine it was just as

hard as losing them to death. On the facing page is a poem written in Ada's bible. It's believed this was written after the death of her son Joseph Martin Tester.

The next time you find yourself in a cemetery look around and take time to remember the children [and others] that perhaps were left behind and no longer receive a visitor.

See Ada's photo on page 13

CEMETERY CORNER

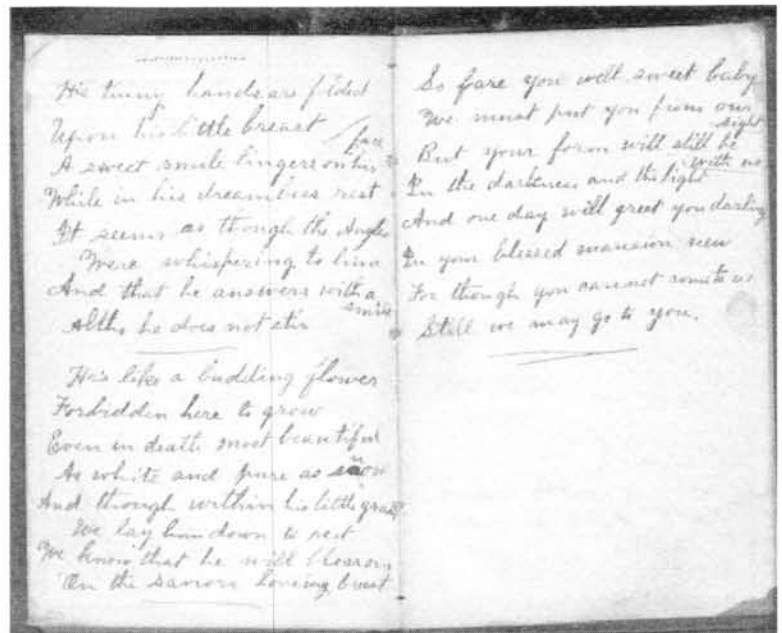


Van Wormer Bibles: http://web.mac.com/mortso/Mortso_Pics_~Pharmacy/Van_Wormer_Bibles.html

His tinny hands are folded upon his little breast, a sweet smile lingers on his face while in his dreamless rest. It seems as though the Angels were whispering to him and that he answers with a smile although he does not stir.

He's like a budding flower forbidden here to grow, even in death most beautiful as white and pure as snow. And though within his little grave we lay him down to rest, we know that he will blossom on the Saviors loveing breast.

So fare you well sweet baby we must put you from our sight, but your form will still be with us in the darkness and the light. And one day will greet you darling in your blessed mansion new, for though you cannot come to us still we may go to you. [spelling errors retained]



SCHOOL DAYS

Riverton School, District 61, Troy Township, pictured [top] in the 1940's. It was built about 1918 and sold in 1946 and moved to East Third in Hutchinson where it became a home, pictured below.

Photos provided by Viola Davenport.



SCHOOL DAYS

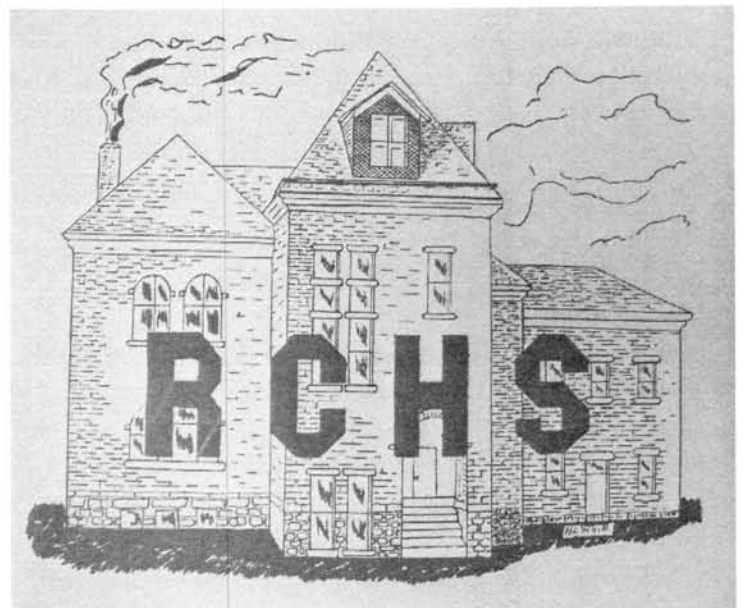
Girls Basketball Team - Abbyville School 1917 - 1918



Back Row: Coach Frank Wagaman

Middle Row: Carrie Ehling, Geneva Porter, Alvena Sims, Helen McIver

Front Row: ? Bridgeman, Flora McIver, Dorothy McIver, Emma Ehling



Reno County High School 1919

OBITUARIES

Submitted by Kathleen Dankanyin - RCGS Obit Coordinator

Erastus Long

Died near Sego Kansas Nov. 28, 1885, Erastus Long aged 50 years. For years an earnest christian, a kind husband, and a good citizen. Mr. Long leaves a large family to mourn his loss. The funeral sermon was preached last sabbath at Sego to a very large and attentive congregation. Rev. J. L. Stratford officiating. The Enterprise extends sympathy to the bereaved family and friends. *Arlington Enterprise 12/15/1885*

Mrs. McBride, the mother of Mrs. M. C. Dillard, of Langdon tp., died very suddenly on Wednesday Feb. 24, 1886, at the residence of Mr. Mull, a neighbor where she was visiting. The deceased was a woman of more than ordinary size, weighing over three hundred and fifty pounds, and from Mr. Lowe, the undertaker, we learn the coffin was of the following dimensions: 6 feet 8 in. long, 2 feet 3 in. high 3 ft. 1 in. wide. We are without further particulars. *Arlington Enterprise March 9, 1886*

Kristena Elizabeth Jorgensen

At 12:45 Saturday morning, September 9. 1899, the infant daughter of Mr. & Mrs. L. P. Jorgensen died at their home in Sylvia, Kansas. Little Kristena Elizabeth was born February 9, 1899. She became ill on Thursday September 7, and when the doctor was called he pronounced it brain fever. She quietly breathed until gradually her breath ceased and she was no more but had passed beyond the vale of tears. When her parents feared that she would leave them they sent for Rev. Baird and she was baptized. The funeral was held at the house where Rev. Baird offered prayer and friends sang. Then at the church where a sermon was preached by the pastor and the choir sang. The little remains were dressed in white and placed in a pure white coffin. The little grave was lined with white muslin and trimmed in evergreens and flowers and after the coffin had been placed in its little chamber a silence was placed over it. The minister rendered thanks to the friends and the grave was filled and the mound decorated with flowers as the inside of the little coffin had been. So rests the infant daughter of Mr. & Mrs. L. P. Jorgensen. *Reno County Globe September 22, 1899 page 3 column 3*

Rex Mathes

Little Rex, son of Mr. & Mrs. U. L. Mathes was born Nov. 11, 1899. Aged 10 months and 19 days. He was sick but about 10 days first with cholera infant but was getting better of that when brain fever set in. Everything was done for him that doctors, parents or kind friends could do but of no avail. The funeral was conducted in the M. E. Church by Rev Baird at 11:00 Monday Oct 2nd. The remains were interred in the I. O. O. F. Cemetery. Thy gentle voice is now hushed, Thy warm true heart is still, And on thy young and innocent brow, is resting death's cold chill. Thy hands are clasped upon thy breast, we have kissed thy lovely brow. And in our aching hearts we know, we have no darling now. *Reno County Globe Oct. 13, 1899 Page 3 column 3*

Eliza Rogers

After a lingering illness of several weeks from paralysis, Grandma Rogers, as she was familiarly known departed this life at Chesterfield, Illinois, September 25th. Eliza Rogers was born in Boone County, Kentucky June 1st 1816. She resided a number of years in Indiana, also in Illinois where her husband has been buried nineteen years, and her remains laid to rest by him. She dwelt with her children, of whom there were two sons and three daughters, the sons and one daughter, Mrs. W. W. Littrell, residing here, hence she was well known in this vicinity. A life so full of years and deeds and loving sacrifices. *Reno County Globe October 22, 1899 Page # 3 Column # 4*

LINKS & MORE

Check out these links!

- Penny Postcards: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~usgenweb/special/ppcs/ppcs.html>
- Obits of Nebraska [\$ site]: <http://www.obitsofnebraska.com/>
- Guild of One Name Studies: <http://www.one-name.org/>

Do you have a suggestion for a website that we can share with our members?

Send it to: RCGS@cox.net

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Congratulations!

Sally Eubanks - Hutchinson, KS

Winner for November 2007

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See instructions on the RCGS website.

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- It will not be found in a PDF file
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We hope you will continue to support the efforts and activities of RCGS with your membership in 2008.

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