



# NEWS

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 VOL: VI ISS: 3 JONES COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MAY/JUN 1990  
 P.O. BOX 174 ANAMOSA, IA 52205  
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Dear Members,

I am pleased to announce that Iowa has gotten some rain this spring! We are looking forward to May flowers and my graduation! Genealogy has apparently gotten a bad name for itself in the past. At the turn of the century (and earlier), genealogy was pursued as sort of a validation of aristocratic American ancestry. People were trying to establish themselves as being somewhat better than the immigrants who were flooding the Eastern factories in New England. Historian's term for this is nativist. Those who can track their ancestors back to the Mayflower, who are eligible for the D.A.R., (Daughter's of the American Revolution), and other organizations, can both thank their ancestors for saving data and also question their motives. (Note: My great aunt was in the D.A.R.)

Do we still pursue genealogy for these motives which can more specifically be termed elitist, racist or bigotted? Today Americans can be proud of their rich multi-cultural heritage. Why else would members of our society and community be concerned with the grave stone of a black Union soldier that is in danger of being lost? What about the numerous stones that are recorded, about people whom we know nothing of their ethnic backgrounds or history? I think the motives of, and capacity for caring of genealogists has improved. We now are proud of the industry, true grit and courage of those who either passed through Iowa or came and stayed.

Why do we do genealogy? I do it not just because it is fun, but because I want to know how my ancestors participated in the process of creating what we now take for granted; America. A creative process that for some is still being improved. There are few bright stars on my genealogical chart. None that can be termed, rich or famous. What my chart says to me over and over again is that my ancestors were ordinary citizens, who took chances and struggled. An example that I can only hope someday to measure up to.

Elizabeth J. Coleman

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We have had many new additions to our membership this year. Next month we will publish the 1990 list of members. PLEASE CHECK YOUR NAME/ADDRESS LABEL FOR CORRECTIONS. Also we need to know whether you have received all of the back issues due you from your 1990 membership. Did you receive Jan./Feb., Mar./Apr., etc? PLEASE drop us a note so that we can make corrections!!!

The newsletter is being compiled by different home members in each issue. Each issue of the newsletter reflects the different interests, personalities, styles and efforts of the home members.

If any of our out of Jones County members would like to contribute ideas or articles, it would be greatly appreciated. This issue was compiled by JoAnn Walters & Joyce Wells.

William E. Cook

Private Wm. E. Cook, a native son of Anamosa was one of the few who lost their lives at sea while on the way to the battlefields. He was on the wrecked steamer Otranto which was in collision with the Kashimere on the Scotch-Irish coast. The sufferings and heroism of the brave soldiers who battled with the waves in that terrible storm has been the theme of many writers. The death of one is the history of the death of all. William was a favorite with all his acquaintances in Anamosa. He enlisted in the Army in February, 1918, and was assigned to the position of cook. He seemed to have a premonition that he might not safely cross the sea. In a letter to his aunt, Mrs. R. P. Lacy of this city, just before he sailed, he said he would write if it should happen that he safely landed overseas. We have not learned the place of burial, but the body will be returned here.

Henry Heiken

Private Henry Heiken, son of Mrs. Albert Heiken, Anamosa R. F. D. was killed in action in France, Oct. 4th, 1918. Henry was in Montana at the time of the outbreak of the war and went overseas early in the conflict. The official casualty lists credit him to Anamosa and we are justified in claiming him as he gave his home address as here. Henry was 30 years old and single. His death though attended with the highest honors that man can attain - death in battle for humanity - is still felt as a keen loss by his mother, eight brothers and three sisters all residing in or near the old house. Henry was an upright, honest citizen, respected by all and the news of his untimely death was received with sorrow mingled with pride that he died in a just cause and died a hero's death. His unfinished work will be taken up by the devoted brothers and sisters who unitedly will carry it on to a happy conclusion.

Charles C. Miller

Charles C. Miller, son of Mrs. O. E. Hall of Monticello, died in France while he was a member of the regular army. His affliction was bronchial pneumonia. A letter from his Captain, 34th Service Company, Signal Corps gives Private Miller a clear record both for personal character and for efficient service, respected by all his comrades. Private Miller was born in Arkansas but for a number of years resided with his mother in Monticello. Charles was too young for the first registration. He leaves besides his mother, three brothers, Victor Miller of Onslow, Edward and Bert of Divide, Wyoming.

Ray Seely

Ray S. Seely, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Seely of Anamosa is among the number who suffered wounds in battle in France. He enlisted early in the war and became a member of Co. H. of the 59th Infantry which saw much active service as a part of the Second division. He was in the same Company in which Private Ed. Bakula was serving when the latter was killed. Mr. Seely attained the rank of Sergeant by work in the ranks. He was twice wounded and was invalided before the close of the war, being unable to take part in the final campaign. He has recovered from his wounds and is now happily married. Sergt. proved to be a capable and courageous soldier and well sustains the reputation of Iowa boys gained throughout the war.

### Paul Sherman

Among the earliest volunteers from Anamosa in the World War, Paul Sherman offered his services with nine other young men from Anamosa on April 9th, 1917. Seven of the boys were accepted and became members of the Machine Gun Company of the First Iowa Militia which was later combined with the Third Iowa and became the 168th Infantry of the famous Rainbow division. Paul was wounded while fighting in the trenches by being hit by a piece of shrapnel shell. His injuries were officially reported and also a letter from him which was published in a local paper. His regiment was under heavy bombardment and he left the dug out to gain a better view of the action and thus received his injuries. The whole story of the Rainbow division is well known and the history is creditable to the members. Mr. Sherman arrived from overseas in April and came to Camp Dodge on May 13, later returning to his home in Anamosa. He has fully recovered from his injuries.

### W. Leigh Pearson

Walter Leigh Pearson, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Pearson of Anamosa enlisted in the Engineer Corps in May, 1917, and became a member of Company E., Second Engineers of the Second Division. This division saw some of the fiercest fighting on the western front and at one time the engineers were suddenly called into action by a German attack and did heroic service in filling a breach in the ranks. Leigh spent 20 months in the war area. He was wounded at Chateau Thierry in June, 1918, and was confined to a hospital for some time. He returned to this country with the last of the demobilized troops in June, 1919. His injuries were caused partly by poison gas and the hope is entertained by his friends that he will fully recover his former health and vigor. He is the only child of devoted parents and is highly respected in Anamosa where almost his entire life was spent up to the time of going to war.

### John J. Rathje

John J. Rathje was born at Charlotte, Iowa, December 15, 1895. He was a son of Jurgen Rathje of Wyoming, Iowa. He went into training at Camp Forest, Georgia, where he was stricken with influenza on Oct. 10, 1918. After a long illness with a period of improvement which gave hope of recovery, he had a relapse and passed away on October 28, 1918. The remains were brought to Wyoming and buried in the Wyoming Cemetery. He left surviving his father, one brother and two sisters. A letter from his Lieutenant to the father spoke in high terms of the service of Private Rathje, and expressed sympathy for the bereaved relatives. At the burial service, the G.A.R. gave the Army burial service and covered the casket with the American flag for which the young soldier had given his life.

### Edward J. Zimmerman

Private Edward James Zimmerman, aged 21, son of Mr. Mrs. Wm. G. Zimmerman, of Anamosa died of influenza and pneumonia at Camp Dodge on Monday, Oct. 14, 1918. He was one of the contingent of 66 men composed mostly of boys just 21 who went to Camp Dodge on Sept. 5. Edward was a kind, manly young fellow who was liked by all. The remains were brought for burial and funeral services were conducted at the family home and burial was in Prairie Hill Cemetery in Castle Grove Township. The death of so many of the young men who went forth with unbounded enthusiasm

in the last contingent, many of them within one month of date of departure was a sad realization of the frailty of even the strongest in physique. The deaths in camp were not greater in proportion than among the civilian population, but the anxiety of relatives was greater on account of the boys being away from home.

#### David Probasco

David Probasco Among those who went down at sea in the wrecked steamer Otranto in British waters was David Probasco who formerly lived in Cass and Fairview in this county. Though unknown to most of the people of this county he numbered among his friends several in this county who knew him as a boy on the farm where his father's family lived. The family moved later to San Jose, Ill. where David grew to manhood. He was there married but his family was so well provided for that he was allowed to go serve his country and met death when his steamer collided with another vessel in the North Channel. Several hundred men, mostly from Illinois were lost. Among the number was William Cook of Anamosa elsewhere mentioned in this book and two or three others from Iowa. Private Probasco was highly respected by all who knew him and his fruitless death is yet as honorable as though he had attained his purpose to strike a blow for liberty and humanity.

#### Victor Shimanek

Victor Shimanek was one of the boys who fell in action in the last battles which drove the enemy from France. He went with a contingent from Jones County to Camp Dodge on April 26th, 1918, and from there to Camp Travis, Texas. After training there he was sent to Camp Merritt and on June 17th sailed overseas, landing at Liverpool at which place a great 4th of July Celebration was held by thousands of Americans. Victor was sent to France and was first in action on Sept. 12 at St. Mihiel sector. In October he was sent back for a short rest and again returned to action with his company, D. 358th Infantry, and in the final drive for Sedan he was killed in action Nov. 2, 1918. Victor was born Aug. 3rd, 1891, at Oxford Junction, his parents being Mr. and Mrs. Charles Shimanek. He had the high privilege of seeing victory for the Stars and Stripes and the glory of having aided in the final efforts of our noble soldiers.

#### EDWARD C. BAKULA

Edward C. Bakula was one of the first contingent of the Selective Army to go from Jones County, having been called to Camp Dodge in September, 1917. He proved to be an apt pupil in military training and with other Jones County boys was sent overseas early in 1918 and assigned to Co. H. 59th Infantry of the Second Division Regulars. His division was in fierce battles and in an attack in the St. Mihiel battle in September, 1918, Private Bakula bravely met death advancing on the enemy. His Lieutenant, Richard J. Harrigan, sent a fine tribute to Private Bakula which was published in a local paper, stating that the dead soldier boy was one of the best all around men in the company always ready at every call to work or fight when volunteers were called for on any exceptional assignment. The home of Private Bakula was formerly Buena Vista, Clayton County, but at the time he was called he was working on the farm with his sister, Mrs. Wencil Marek, north of Anamosa.

Frank Dostal of Oxford Junction was killed in action on October 23, 1918. He was the second of Oxford's young heroes to die in battle. Frank Dostal was born December 1, 1891, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Dostal of Oxford Junction. He went to Camp Dodge on April 25, 1918, thence to Camp Travis, then to Camp Mills and from that point sailed for overseas. In September he was in the trenches and with the exception of a short rest in October his division was in continual action. Private Dostal was one of the most popular young business men of Oxford Junction and his death was deeply mourned by the whole community who while glorifying in his achievement will miss the familiar face and see the sadness mingled with pride in the features of the dear old mother who made the supreme sacrifice of her boy.

Albert A. Howe

Private Albert A. Howe of Viola, though from Linn County was during all his life well known and esteemed in Anamosa and Stone City. He was the youngest son of William Howe and Bridget Howe and was born Dec. 28, 1893. He grew to manhood on the farm near Stone City. Private Howe left with the contingent for Camp Gordon in July, 1918, and sailed overseas in September. He contracted influenza on the voyage and was taken to the Hospital in England where he died in October. He is survived by his parents, also five brothers and five sisters. A letter from the Chaplain who attended him during his last sickness was received by his mother and states that every comfort of religion and all human agencies were at hand to aid the departing life. Private Howe was a strong, robust young man and only the virulence of a fatal malady could have so quickly overcome the strong physique.

Miss Pauline A. Quigley, Red Cross

Our first Red Cross Volunteer to give her life for the cause of liberty and humanity was Miss Pauline Quigley of Anamosa who died at Camp Custer, Battle Creek, Michigan, October 18, 1918. Miss Quigley was born in Anamosa and was the youngest child of the late William F. Quigley and Statia Power Quigley. She enlisted in the Red Cross field work in July, 1918. When the epidemic of influenza prostrated thousands of our soldiers in the camps and when many strong men and women feared ravages of the disease, Miss Quigley went willingly to the aid of our stricken soldiers. While in the Camp Hospital she was stricken by the fatal disease. The Chicago Tribune stated that the untimely death of Miss Quigley and one other nurse the same day, caused profound sorrow among the soldiers, more than the death of hundreds of their own ranks. She was regarded as a martyr by the Camp Custer soldiers. Miss Quigley now rests in quiet Holy Cross Cemetery at Anamosa and her memory will long be cherished by a grateful people.

4 JUNE 9:00am-3:30pm IRISH HERITAGE SEMINAR  
 cost: \$15.00 includes lunch (seating is limited)  
 FEATURING  
 DR. BRAIN TRAINOR  
 DIRECTOR, ULSTER HISTORICAL FOUNDATION  
 BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND  
 TOPICS: IRISH IMMIGRATION TO AMERICA 1700 - 1900  
 SOURCES FOR RESEARCH IN THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND and NORTHERN IRELAND  
 LOCATION and USE OF INDEXING CENTERS  
 PROCEDURES FOR TRACING ANCESTORS WHEN ONLY THE COUNTY IS KNOWN  
 QUESTIONS and ANSWERS  
 sponsored by THE TREE SHAKERS OF VALLEY JUNCTION c/o JANE  
 THOENSEN, 4101 ASPEN DRIVE, WEST DES MOINES, IA 50265  
 LUNCHEON CHOICE - TURKEY CROISSANT & FRESH FRUIT  
 HOT ROAST BEEF SANDWICH & GREEN SALAD

-JOHNSONTOWN-

(from the MONTICELLO (IOWA) EXPRESS 10 JULY 1965,  
abstracted from an article written by ESTHER SINCLAIR)

Johnsontown took it's name from it's first settler and was begun in 1852-1853. A postoffice was established the same year as the town was platted. It was located on the four corners of section 23, 24, 24, and 26 Scotch Gove township.

Johnsontown was settled in 1851, the first families coming from Indiana and Kentucky. some of the early settlers came from Canton, a busy little town to the north, famous for maple sugar and a mill started in 1846. Such names as JOHNSON, FILSON, OVERLY, BARNHILL, SUTHERLAND, TITUS and McKEAN, reminiscent of the names of early settlers in Scotch Grove itself, were the fabric from which Johnsontown was made.

The first postmaster was EDWARD JOHNSON. The last one was B.B. HENDERSON who was serving when the post office was closed in 1880.

By 1854, nine churches and 200 dwellings were located in the town. That same year the first schoolhouse was put in use.

In 1857 Dr. ALEXANDER McKEAN and a student physician, Dr. McGREW came and in 1858, Dr. FULLER came as a druggist.

In 1860, GEORGE STUHLER opened the first shoe and boot store. The name then was spelled STAHLER and the family attended the Scotch Grove Presbyterian church a mile and a half distant, carrying their good shoes until in sight of the church, wearing them and again walking away some distance after the service before removing them for everyday ones to save the good ones. The family eventually became owners of the shoe store in Monticello.

By the end of the Civil war, Johnsontown's business roster included: J.H. COOKLINE, harness and second shoe store; JOSEPH TOMLINSON, blacksmith, coming from Canton and retiring in 1908 to Onslow; J.C. HOUSER, general store patterned after the first general store called the "Prairie store"; Drs. McKEAN and GILLMORE, physicians; HUSKELBONE Wagon and Carriage shop; J.P. COLLINS, drugs, groceries and tinware; JOSEPH CARR, watchmaker; JACK DAVIS, carpenter and woodwork shop; Drs. PHILLIPS and CARLISLE, druggists.

Creamery was built and operated by the CARPENTER Brothers, in 1880. Messers GILBERT and FAGAN and finally NULL until a fire destroyed it in 1900.

Today the only thing to remind a passerby of the once thriving prairie town is a tiny cemetery located, as most of the town had been, on the farm belonging to HARRY PAULSEN. The rest of the town has again become corn and grain fields with the town's land reverting back to the owners.

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The May 15th meeting was a success! There were over twenty visitors there. Loren Horton of the Iowa Humanities Board spoke on migration to Iowa. My only regret is that I did not take notes. JoAnn Walters and Renee Dooley did a superb job advertising the meeting.

Congratulations on your new grandchildren: June Morrow

Graduation Congratulations: Elizabeth Coleman, Mount Mercy College  
Matthew Wenndt, Midland Highschool

5th & 6th OCT: IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY 25th ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
SPEAKERS: MARALYN A. WELLAUER - EMIGRATION, IMMIGRATION ROUTES and RECORDS and MORE!  
WILLIAM H. SCHOEFFLER - EVIDENCE Vs PROOF: GUIDELINES FOR THE GENEALOGIST and MORE!  
write to: IGS,  
P.O. BOX 7735  
DES MOINES, IA 50322

CALENDAR

MEETING: 15 May--7:30 pm--Regular meeting  
courthouse community room  
Speaker: LOREN HORTON, Migration into Iowa  
19 May Iowa Genealogical Society, Region II Genealogy  
Conference, CLINTON, IA  
19 June--7:30 pm--Regular meeting  
courthouse community room  
17 July--7:30 pm--Regular meeting  
courthouse community room

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY: May 4...LAURA BILLY; 10, RENEE DOOLEY  
June--5, JOSEPH BILLY; 7, JAN WENNDT; 12, JIM SIBERT;  
13, EVELYN FILLOON; 14, DANA LOWERY  
July--11, GAROLD WELLS

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SATURDAY MAY 19, registration begins at 8:30 am cost \$7.00,  
at the CLINTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

THE GATEWAY SOCIETY OF CLINTON COUNTY, IOWA will host the IOWA  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY REGION II CONFERENCE

SPEAKERS: SUSAN KARREN, Archivist of the National Archives in  
Chicago

- 1. Structure of The Archives
  - 2. Naturalization and Immigration
- HOWARD SNEDDEN, Researcher-Genealogist

- 1. Probate Records
- 2. Researching and Writing

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