



Jones County Genealogical Society

Vol. II, Issue 5

November-December 1986

PREZ SAYZ:

Hi! I first want to thank you all for your help and your support. the last 19 months it sure has been fun and interesting. You will now be hearing from your new President in this space, I've run out of things to say.

CONGRATULATIONS to the new officers: JUNE MORROW-Pres.; JEANETTE HALE-V. Pres.; RENEE DOOLEY-Sec.; JOANNE WILKEN-Treas. Board members: ONALEE ARNOLD, VIRGINIA SIBERT, BETTY STOVER, GAROLD WELLS, JOYCE WELLS and immediate Past Pres. JOANN WALTERS.

Before I exit though I'd like to answer a request we have had. Resources we have available:

COURTHOUSE:

CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT, BERTHA FINN:

Marriages (beginning 1840); Births (beginning 1880); Deaths (beginning 1880); Probate files-estate, guardianship, conservatorships, trusts, change of title to real estate, wills; Divorce files; Naturalization (second papers only); etc...

RECORDERS OFFICE, DORIS JEAN HERRON:

Land records; Mortgages; Deeds; Miscellaneous affidavits; Military discharge index (Civil war to present); plat and survey books, etc...

AUDITORS OFFICE, MICHAEL ALBERS:

Plat books; Transfer books; Township trustees list.

TREASURERS OFFICE, GRACE ZIMMERMAN:

Tax records.

ENGINEERS OFFICE: County maps:

Address inquiries to the offices you want information from.

ADDRESS: (office)

JONES COUNTY COURTHOUSE
ANAMOSA, IOWA 52205.

AREA LIBRARIES: ANAMOSA; MONTICELLO; OLIN; OXFORD JUNCTION; they each have some genealogy material.

ANAMOSA has a historical society. I am not sure of what other towns do.

JONES COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY has a museum and research area at Edinburg. Edinburg is almost in the center of the county, several miles outside of AMBER near the county home. Edinburg is the site of the first courthouse. They are building up an old town there, so far they have an old church; veterinary office; doctors office; school house and many other historical artifacts. They are open in the summer months on Sundays or by appointment.

NEWSPAPERS: Anamosa Journal/Eureka has issues back to 1856. Monticello Express, Wyoming, Olin also has newspapers. Most are on micro-film.

I would also like to thank all of you that responded to my last letter.

THANK YOU !!!

MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

*Best wishes Climbing
your family tree.
Jo.*

NAME	RESIDENCE	BUSINESS	1879 NATIVE	TO IOWA	POST OFFICE
ROME TOWNSHIP					
Cleveland, R.J.	Olin	Surveyor	Boston, Mass	1840	Olin
Cronkrite, Orvill	Section 15	Farmer	Rensselaer Co. N.Y.	1837	Olin
French, John O.	Olin	Lumber Dealer	New Hampshire	1871	Olin
Foreman, Jacob	Section 18	Farmer	Mercer Co. Ky.	1844	Viroqua
Foreman, John.	Section 19	Farmer	Highland Co. Ohio	1852	Viroqua
Fall, David	Section 19	Farmer	Augusta Co. Va	1849	Viroqua
Farnham, H.P.	Section 8	Farmer	Essex Co. Mass	1859	Viroqua
Jeffries, H.M.	Section 13	Farmer	Fairfield Co. Ohio	1840	Olin
Jamison, J.W.	Olin	Attorney at Law	Indiana	1870	Olin
Kramer, A	Section 19	Farmer	Fairfield Co. Ohio	1840	Viroqua
Miller, B. H.	Olin	Justice of the Peace	Jones Co. Iowa		Olin
Miller, G.W.	Olin	Farmer and Butcher	Lancaster Co. Pa.	1855	Olin
Marsh, L.W.	Section 23	Farmer	Syracuse, N.Y.	1863	Olin
Miller, L.K.	Section 17	Farmer	Fairfield Co. Ohio	1844	Viroqua
Peiper, Catherine	Section 21	Farmer	Lancaster Co. Pa.	1854	Mechville
Merritt, John	Section 3	Farmer	Seneca Co. N.Y.	1837	Viroqua
Miller, George W.	Section 18	Farmer	Fairfield Co. Ohio	1848	Viroqua
Rummel, D. E.	Olin	Merchant	Richland Co. Ohio	1855	Olin
Rummel, J.M.	Section 24	Farmer	Franklin Co. Pa.	1853	Olin
Ruggles, Wm. M.	Section 30	Farmer	Fairfield Co. Ohio	1843	Viroqua
Rohrbach, Henry	Viroqua	Grain Merchant	Germany	1873	Viroqua
Steward, Hiram	Section 25	Farmer	Delaware Co. Ohio	1837	Olin
Saum, H.R.	Section 29	Farmer	Jones Co. Iowa	1843	Mechville
Torrence, A. C.	Section 9	Farmer	Fairfield Co. Ohio	1848	Olin
Taylor, F.J.	Section 21	Farmer & Teacher	Jones Co. Iowa	1854	Olin
White, John A. Jr.	Olin	Physician & Surgeon	St Clair, Mich	1854	Olin
Whitmore, J.	Section 11	Farmer	Rockingham Co. Va.	1855	Olin
CASS TOWNSHIP					
Atkinson, John	Section 7	Farmer	Somerset Co. N.J.	1850	Anamosa
Atwood C. ?,	Section 5	Farmer	Susquenanna Co. Pa	1859	Anamosa
Bailey, Humphrey	Section 20	Farmer	Chester Co. Pa	1855	Anamosa
Coyler, A.J.	Section 22	Sheriff	Mercer Co. Pa	1861	Anamosa
Condit, R.B.	Section 16	Farmer	Essex Co. N.Y.	1854	Anamosa
Condit, Smith	Section 16	Farmer	Delaware Co. Ohio	1858	Anamosa
Condit, William G.	Section 16	Farmer	Essex Co. N.Y.	1854	Anamosa
Condit, A.P.	Section 16	Farmer	Delaware Co. Ohio	1858	Anamosa
Crane, C.	Section 17	Farmer	Seneca Co. N.Y.	1856	Anamosa
Dodge, Elisha	Section 4	Farmer	Lamoille Co. Vt.	1850	Anamosa
Downs, E.C.		Pastr. Cong. Ch'rch	Steuben Co. N.Y.	1864	Anamosa
Flaherty, Francis	Section 8	Farmer	Ireland	1858	Anamosa
Fairbanks, A.L.	Section 3	Farmer	Lamoille Co. Vt.	1854	Monticello
Guilford, L.	Section 14	Farmer	Kalamazoo Co. Mich	1853	Anamosa
Higgins, A.D.	Section 27	Farmer	Cayuga Co. N.Y.	1864	Anamosa
Lawrence, Judson	Section 21	Farmer	Broome Co. N.Y.	1867	Anamosa
Osborn, Linus	Section 26	Farmer	Hamden Co. Mass	1847	Anamosa
Osborn, David	Section 10	Farmer	Hamden Co. Mass	1855	Anamosa
Preston, John	Section 4	Farmer	England	1854	Anamosa
Rowley, H.A.	Section 1	Farmer	Erie Co. N.Y.	1861	Monticello
Rexford, A.S.	Section 18	Farmer	Macomb Co. Mich	1860	Anamosa
Smedley, Chas H.	Section 4	Farmer	Chittenden Co. Vt.	1863	Anamosa

to be continued:

Naturalizations continued

NAME	PAGE	DATE	NATIVITY
Dircks, Herimann	319	19 Dec 1879	Germany
Dirks, Diedrich	308	1 Oct 1879	Germany
Dirks, Herman	307	1 Oct 1879	Germany
Dirksen, Ahlrich	268	8 Mar 1878	Germany
Doerring, Albert	171	15 Dec 1873	Germany
Dorgeloh, Herman	114	23 June 1870	Germany
Doring, Henry J.	315	22 Dec 1879	Germany
Doyle, Patrick	1	10 June 1861	Ireland
Drinkle (Dunkle) John P.	72	29 June 1866	Germany
Dudek, Francis	75	6 July 1866	Austria
Dusanek, John	319	5 Mar 1860	Austria
Dvorak, Joseph	159	8 Sept 1853	Bohemia
Edgards, Harm	178	18 Dec 1873	Germany
Eileck, wensel	67	25 June 1866	Austria
Ernst, Erhardt	179	2 Mar 1874	Germany
Falkers, John	303	24 Sept 1879	Germany
Fawcett, William	109	23 Feb 1870	Canada
Fay, John	44	20 June 1864	Ireland
Ferguson, D.	301	29 May 1870	Canada
Finn, Patrick	5	11 June 1861	Ireland
Finney, Thomas	6	13 June 1861	Ireland
Fisher, George,	123	19 June 1871	Canada
Fitzpatrick, John	55	27 June 1865	Ireland
Flack, John	161	15 Sept 1873	England
Flaherty, Frank	202	26 Sept 1874	Ireland
Flaherty, John	119	16 Mar 1870	Ireland
Flaherty, Patrick	271	24 Sept 1878	Ireland
Flaherty, Thomas	102	31 Aug 1869	Ireland
Flaherty, Timothy	48	25 June 1864	Ireland
Fluckinger, Samuel	141	12 June 1872	Switzerland
Foard, Thomas	230	31 May 1876	Ireland
Ford, John	26	15 June 1863	Ireland
Fosick, Matthew	84	16 June 1868	Austria
Foster, R.C.	83	11 June 1868	England
Fraser, Alexander	327	30 Sept 1860	England
Frerichs, Close B.	139	23 Feb 1872	Germany
Frey, Frederick	248	12 Dec 1876	Germany
Gadmer, Henry	293	19 Dec 1878	Switzerland
Gadmer, Nicholas	324	28 Sept 1880	Switzerland
Gerdes, John G.	177	18 Dec 1873	Germany
Galliger, Patrick	126	20 June 1871	Ireland
Gicerd, Frank	191	18 May 1874	Germany
Goman, John	64	27 Dec 1865	Ireland
Green, Hugh	210	22 May 1875	Ireland
Grumm, William	122	19 June 1871	Germany
Guyan, Thomas	214	14 Dec 1875	Switzerland
Gyde, James	54	21 June 1865	England
Hankin, A.H.	34	20 June 1863	Germany
Hankin, Arnold	35	20 June 1863	Hanover
Harms, Harm (Hamn)	172	15 Dec 1873	Germany
Harms, John Henry	168	20 Sept 1873	Hanover
Harrington, James	40	23 Dec 1863	Ireland
Harrison, James	100	20 Apr 1869	England

Submitted by Janice Harms Wenndt, R.R. 1 Box 15, Wyoming Ia 52362

1. Janice Harms m. 13 Oct 1962 Duane Dale Wenndt.
2. John Henry Harms b. 8 Nov 1886, d. 5 Dec 1968
3. Helen Hay, b. 29 Nov 1900
4. Henrich Eden Harms, b. 12 Aug 1863, Germany, d. 25 Mar 1944
5. Rina S. Siemers, b. 30 Nov 1867, d. 10 Apr 1891
6. Roland Hay, b. 9 June 1887, England, d. 6 Feb 1959 England
7. Anan M Christensen, b. 18 Feb 1870, d. 4 Dec 1914
8. Johann Hinrich Harms, b. 30 Nov 1818, Germany d. 12 Apr 1877
9. Engel Margaretha Harms, b. 2 Aug 1823, Germany, d. 18 Mar 1907
10. Hinrich Hermann Siemers, b. 2 May 1838, Germany, d. 22 May 1896
11. Gretje Schoon, b. 4 Apr 1842, Germany, d. 25 Jan 1905
12. John Hay, b. 1836 England, d. 6 Sept 1911, England
13. Sarah Brett, b. 1842 England, d. 22 May 1920 England
14. Kristian Soeger Nielson, b. 28 Jan 1834, Denmark, d. 1918 Denmark
15. Ane Jensen Ottesen, b. 9 July 1844 Denmark, d 1922
16. Hinrich Harms, b. 7 Apr 1787, d. 22 Aug 1840 Germany
17. Engel Siefken, b. 1 Mar 1795, d. 9 June 1860 Germany
18. Ede Harms, b. 25 May 1788, d. 8 Mar 1834, Germany
19. Gesche Catharina Henrichs, b. 28 Dec 1790, d. 15 Aug 1823
22. Jacobus Schcon
- 23 Rensche Tammen Ostermann, b. 17 Feb 1811, d. 28 Aug 1888
- 28 Nils Jensen.

Submitted by Janice Wenndt.

1. Duane Dale Wenndt m, Janice H Harms.
2. Ezra Louis Wenndt. b. 6 July 1905
3. Leona Louise Brunsheen, b. 14 Nov 1912.
4. August Wenndt, b. 23 Apr 1875, d. 4 Jan 1945
5. Dorothea Marie Meier, b. 20 Aug 1881, d. 22 Jan 1923
6. Herman Ernst Brunsheen, b. 3 Oct 1890, Germany, d. 18 Aug 1951
7. Alma Charlotte Hintz, o. 18 June 1893, d. 5 Nov 1928
8. John Henry Wenndt, b. 28 Sept 1828, Germany, d. 30 June 1912
9. Margaret Magdalene Duever, b. 8 Jan 1832, Germany, d. 20 Jan 1916
10. Frederick C. Meier, b. 29 Apr 1860, d. 4 Dec 1947
11. Dorothea Hein b. ? d. 26 Dec 1894
12. Fredrick Brunsheen, b. 27 Dec 1859, Germany d. 24 Dec 1936
13. Louise Dennekamp, o. 8 Jan 1860, Germany, d. 23 Dec 1936
14. Henrick Wilhelm Hintz, b. 13 Jan 1864, d. 1 Mar 1941
15. Luise Licht, b. 19 Sept 1870, d. 26 Apr 1942
16. Henrich C. Wenndt
17. Maria Stolte
18. Joachim Duever
19. Catharina Koeneche
20. Gottfried Meier b. 1826 Hanover, Germany
21. Dora M.
28. Henry Jonathan Hintz, b. 30 May 1814, Germany, d. 3 Aug 1920
29. Johanna Albrecht, b/ 22 Apr 1824, d. 19 Sept 1909
30. Henry Licht, b. 27 Oct 1828, Germany, d. 18 Jan 1912
31. Dorothea Schroeder, b. 9 Feb 1838, Germany, d. 5 Oct 1922.

ANAMOSA EUREKA 22 Apr 1869

Married at Anamosa on the 18th, by Robert Dott J.P., Mr E. H. Doan and Miss Jennie Hunter, both of Jones County.

ANCESTORS

Looking for relatives of the Henry and Sarah Beebe family that moved to Jones County from Illinois around 1867. Buried in Riverside Cemetery, Anamosa. Originally from New York. They had 11 sons; Cyrus, Fred, Frank, George, Walter, Thaddeus, Edward, Alzie, William, Sidney and Harry. I am the granddaughter of Thaddeus. Selma Hubert, 42 Blue Sky's Drive, Naples FL 33942.

Luther Howell Sterns and family lived near Anamosa between 1875 and 1900. Son, John Franklin Sterns, attended school in Anamosa, Luther's brother, Charles also lived near Anamosa and had several children. Need information about this family while they lived in Jones County. Dorothy Honadel, 540 St Joe, Spearfish S.D. 57783.

Need parents of George W. Trumbull, born March 30 1820, Suffield, Conn, died 30 June 1879, Chicago Ill. Married 8 Jan 1845 to Grizella Elliot in Allen Co. Ohio He practiced medicine in Dubuque and Jones counties, and served as mayor of Monticello. Children; George Harry, Mary Jane, Francis, Kate, and Albert Lea. Mary F. Porter, 820 Hunter Lake Drive, Reno, Nevada 89509.

Need information about the family of Charles Thomas Snyder, born 1831, N.Y. Married Frances Chapman, born Germany. Charles died December 1897 in Anamosa. Son, Charles Thomas born 1858, N.Y. Other children: Nora, Gertrude, and Fanny. Charles Jr. married Sara Margaret Burgess, 1891, Washington State. Fanny married A Peterson. Laura M. Billy, 22232 196th S.E., Renton Washington 98058.

Want copies of obits for Charles, Elmer, Cary, Fleve (Mrs Cary) Appleby. Phyllis J Mannhardt, 2321 Fulton Ave, Davenport Iowa 52803.

Wish to contact descendants of John Zimmerman and Leah Stover. Leah, born, Ca 1847, Pa, married in Jones Co. 16 Apr 1866. Lived in Jones Co. when Leah's father died in 1882. Florence Michels, 207 E. Webster, Anamosa, Iowa 52205.

Information needed on any descendants of George and Lydia Green Stickley, 1833-1913 of Jones County. Will exchange data. Mrs Jerry Stickley, 2241 Millerstown Rd., Urbana, Ohio 43078.

Cesine Volkens Siebels, d. 19 Jan 1920. Johan Heinrich Siebel married Anke Almine Hayen 11 Apr 1912. Would like to correspond with descendants. Mrs Roy Burgard. Rt. 1 Box 88, Viborg, S.D. 57070.

I am searching for information about my grandfather, Frederick D. (or G) Schmidt who was born near Wyoming 27 July 1866. Lived on a farm with his parents, John and Sophia (Sophie) Schmidt until about 1920. He served in WW I from Jones Co. In January 1923, he married Charlotte Erbes of Lee, Ill. Ronald Oberla, 510 Phoenix St., Delvan, Wisconsin, 53115.

John W. Cook was killed in the Civil War. His widow, Mary J. Barker Cook, married Levi M Casselman 15 Nov 1868. His children, Margaret S., b. 21 May 1857; Rosalia S., b. 7 Nov 1868; and William Sewell Cook, b. 20 July 1863, were listed in the 1870 census living with Levi and Mary Casselman, using the Cook surname. What happened to these three children/ Susan Cook Johnson, 2504-A N, Severance, Hutchinson KS 67502.

Amber was known as Blue Cut before 1878

Madison Village Cemetery.

copied by Joyce and Harold Wells.

Row 1.

1st marker, no name age 23 years ? days

Mary C. Grimm 1898-1898

Row 2.

Infant of A.A. & D Neilsen

Funeral home marker, no writing

Leslie Edwin Wells, 9 April 1902- 30 Dec 1965

Illegible

Row 3.

Jesse Davis, 24 Mar 1882 age 78 y, 7 m, 15d.

Eva S. daughter of E.C. & E.L. Meek 29 Sept 1878 age 9 m, 19d.

Luella Jane, Daughter of E.C. & E. L. Meek 27 Oct 1874 age 2y, 3m, 13d.

four tiny markers from funeral home no writing

Samuel Cooper, 9 Aug 1876 age 1y, 11m, and 8d.

Fanny M. daughter of R.A. & S.A. Jenkins, 28 Jan 1882 age 6m, 1d.

Bertha L. (our little lamb)

P. A., wife of George Preston died 6 Nov 18?? age ??

George W. Preston, 7 Dec. 1832 - 25 Nov 1901, Enlisted 1862, 14 Ia Inf. Co. H

Clara E., wife of George Preston 9 June 1849 - 16 Dec 1901

Miram Monroe, d 28 Feb 1875 age 37 years

Burton, son of H.L. & ?? Monroe died 7 Aug 1879

B. M.

Row 4.

Mary Ann, daughter of E. M. McGuire, d. 20 Mar 1881 age 11y 1m 2d.

Same stone, on side, In memory of three infant children

? ? Son of D.W. & K. E. Thomas, 29 July 1888, age 26 days.

Ady? R. Thomas, 12 Sept 1880 age 82y, 2m, 6d.

Acenath Thomas, d 1 Apr 188? age 83 years

Malinda, daughter of R. & C. Perry, 18 Aug 1869 age 4m, 25d.

Row 5.

Joseph H. son of C.H. & M.E. Sherman 1892- 1909

Illegible marker

2 Broken markers

Joseph Sherman 1824- 1891

Clarrissa Reade Sherman 1834- 1907

(mother) Carrie Mc Quin, 1868- 1923

Helen A. Preston, 6 Nov 1870 age 32y, 5m, 19d.

Henry C. Preston, 7 Dec 1831 - 10 Mar 1910

George Reed, 11 Oct 1871 age 82y, 10m, 8d,

Allen Vosburgh, 9 Aug 1859 - 5 Mar 1922

? ? son of F. D. & M. A. Hawley

Row 6.

John Clark, 24 Aug 1866 age 42y, 7m, 2d.

Alex Bugh, Dec 1841 - May 1909, Co D, 9 Ia Inf. Veteran '61 - '65

Levi Wells, 30 Dec 1868 age 61y 3m.

Row 7

Elizabeth, wife of Alex Lockhard, 24 Nov 1866, age 73y, 16d.

John P. Huckell, 17 Sept 1855 age 22y 4m, 1d.

Lyman L. son of J.C. Lockard, died 28 Dec 18??

Catherine, wife of John Lockard, 25 Feb 1862, age 30y, 5m, 17d.

Mary Jane, wife of J. B. Bills, 9 Dec 1862 age 27y, 7d.

Row 8

Catharine, wife of Holden J. Cooke

??? son of ??? died 30 Jan 186? age 1y 1m, 11d.

Catharine, wife of J.D. Raymond, 3 June 1869 age ? y, 7m.

Nancy, wife of H. Zimmerman, 23 Nov 1863 age 26y, 10m, 4d.

Varnum J. son of J.A. & A.C. Snay, 15 Aug 18??, age 11y, ? m.

Row 9

Julia S. Walton, 1850 - 1941

Hucert A. House, 1 Sept 1875 age 26y, 6m.

Benajah A. House, 13 July 1863, age 57 years

Almyra A. wife of B.A. House, 10 July 1869 age 58y, 9m, 1d.

William A. House, son of B. A. and Almyra A. House, died 3 June 1856

James H. Andrews 1883 - 1916

Row 10

Phoebe A. daughter of J. & P.A. House, 23 June 1903 - 9 Dec 1904

Whilliam H. son of A.A. & C. House, 24 April 1862 age 2y, 6m, 21d.

Luell A. House, 9 Dec 1892 age 29y, 9m, 11d.

Elizabeth M. Farrington, daughter of Hassan and Olive Monroe, 1837 - 1910

G. L. Farrington, 14 Oct 1837 - 5 Oct 1897, 3rd Iowa Batt'y. Veteran '61 - '65

added to list by Joyce. Location of grave unknown

Levi Ladue Wells, 7 Nov 1851 - 30 Mar 1934

Susan Marilda Wells, wife of Levi Ladue Wells, 27 Dec 1851 - 16 Mar 1916

Mary Ann, wife of Alsx Bugh, 3 Mar 1832 - 3 Oct 1910

added from W P A list

Eva R Sherman d. 27 Jan 1892

Lee Hawley, no dates

Lucy Hawley, No dates

L.L. Lockard, 8 Apr 1829 age 70years

Carrie Moquin, 1868 - 1923

Fremont Cemetary; also Sams. Section 20, Cass Township

Row 1.

Hannah I Hamilton, 15 Aug 1869 age 22y 1m 17d

May, dau of J.P. & N.A. Chopper 20 Feb 1873 and 4 days

No name on stone possibly McBee, 1 Mar 1868 age 6y 11m 27d

Lamuel McBee, 10 Oct 1872 age 78y 6m

E. McBee, 1 Mar 1868, age 58 y

Row 2,

Malinda Calkins 2 Mar 1860 age 27

Nancy A. wife of J. P. Chopper, 2 Sept 1867 age 29

Joseph Bower, 7 July 1857 age 28y 9m 10d

Row 3

Melvo A. son of S. & M.J. Sams, 12 Dec 1867

Row 4;

Lewis, son of J.M. & S.A. Sams, 1 Nov 1870 age 8m 21d

Row 5;

Lydia, daughter of S. & S. Sams 16 Oct 1879 age 17y 11m 9d

Edward, son of J.A. & E Reemer, 4 Apr 1846, age 3y 7m 15d

Ella, daughter of S. & S. Sams, 17 Oct 1879 age 2y 3m 18d

Edward, son of S. & S. Sams, 28 Jan 1857, age 3m 26d

ss) Wm. H. son of S. & S. Sams, 13 Oct 1861 age 2y 11m

A.A.B. (Footstone)

Row 6;

Sarah Sams, 19 Aug 1835 - 22 Jan 1917

ss) Silas Sams, 25 July 1826, -22 Feb 1905

Rezin Sams, 4 Aug 1853 age 29 years

Edward Sams, 23 Jan 1854, age 60y 10m

Casander Sams, wife of Edward, 28 Apr 1878, age 72y 7m 13d

Row 7;

Clarence S. Leek, 16 June 1888- 26 Aug 1903

Row 8;

William E., son of S. & M.J. Sams 9 Feb 1873 age 1 month.

THE BRACKET: Iowa State Historical Department, Office of Historic Preservation, historical building, #. 12th and Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50319, Mildred Britton (Copy given to Jones County Genealogical Society June 1986 by Marjorie Peet Lacock, Anamosa Iowa.

Possibly this will be your introduction to a historic building material called white bronze. My own came on Memorial Day, 1974, at the Magnolia, Iowa cemetery. While laying flowers at my grandparents' grave, I looked a slight distance to the west and saw a marker that seemed to be a small, four-foot high version of the Washington Monument, with an unusual and distinctive color. Curious, I walked over and saw that it was not stone, but metal of some kind without rust. Soon thereafter I observed a large 30 foot high Civil War memorial in the city square at Mason City. The monument appeared to be of the same material, joined at the corners. The upper and lower parts were bolted together in the middle.

By 1977, I had observed throughout Iowa a number of what I came to know as white bronze monuments. I subsequently learned why there was a color resemblance between white bronze monuments and my mother's old blue-gray zinc canning jar lids; white bronze itself is actually zinc (sometimes zinc alloy) not bronze.

Zinc, thought of as false silver by the ancient Greeks, has had a variety of uses. Its function for buildings has largely been for the purposes of ornamentation and galvanized roofing. Zinc was also used in the late nineteenth century and the early twentieth century for cemetery monuments and as memorial statues in public places. Customers could order these statues and monuments from catalogs and local agents. Many still look new because they are protected by the grayish-white layer of zinc carbonate that has formed on the surface; hence, the term, white bronze. The zinc itself was refined by processes designed to remove impurities from the zinc which usually appeared with the metal as it was mined.

Various foundries and companies--some of them in Iowa--specialized in monuments of this kind. Three companies existed in Des Moines from about 1884 to about 1910 when the white bronze trend was most popular. They seem to be related because their incorporators and directors involved some of the same people. It is not clear as to whether they were separate, competing companies. The Western White Bronze Monument Company appeared in city directories. They were probably subsidiaries or licensees of the larger Monumental Bronze Company of Bridgeport, Conn. where some of the nation's largest white bronze operations occurred.

These Des Moines firms advertised throughout Iowa in city directories and the Iowa State Gazetteer and Business Directory. The Western White Bronze Company show cased its impressive S.C. Bever Monument in Oak Hill Cemetery in Cedar Rapids. This company also participated in the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. A promotional pamphlet provided descriptions of the processing techniques for white bronze and discussed the advantages of white bronze over granite, marble, and antique bronze (an alloy). "It is even more enduring, does not grow dark, and is less costly." On the soldiers' monument erected in white bronze at Mason City Iowa, there are 4,00 raised letters, and these letters will be perfectly legible for thousands of years, should the world stand so long.

Evidence of white bronze's popularity exists all over Iowa. The Western White Bronze Company employed agents throughout Iowa who sold white bronze markers and memorials. Agents in LeMars, Muscatine, Decorah, Anamosa, Dubuque and Cedar Rapids, among others, worked to persuade the public that white bronze was the best material from which to build their soldier and war monuments. Some of these agents represented the Western White Bronze Company of Des Moines. In 1884 the Iowa General Assembly passed a law allowing counties at their discretion to create a tax not exceeding \$3,000. for the erection of a soldiers monument on which would be engraved all deceased soldiers in the county. The results of company efforts and public incentives are found in cemeteries and in public squares across Iowa.

A prominent white bronze memorial was erected by Governor J. J. Newbold of Mount Pleasant for his family. In an ad he was quoted as saying his monument, "will last for all time." At Templeton, Iowa a priest sold white bronze monuments including small 20 inch crosses. A soldiers monument was erected in Mason City and dedicated on Memorial Day, 1884. It was a product of the Detroit Bronze Company. At least three other white bronze Civil War memorials were erected in Iowa. (Between 40 and 50 were erected in the United States, according to a Monumental Bronze Company pamphlet) -- Union Cemetery, Humbolt; the courthouse at Eldora; the courthouse at Decorah. All are about 30 feet tall, with 99 inch square bases and have large removable tablets at the four sides, which is large enough for a person to enter. They were all made by the Western White Bronze Company. This company also produced the tallest white bronze cemetery monument that I have seen in Iowa-- that of Horace W. Brown. It is found along Highway 151 near Springville. The 30 foot figure of "Faith" sits atop one of the largest solid granite monuments in the United States at the National Monument to the forefathers in Plymouth, Massachusetts. "Faith" is a prototype figure for the Statue of Liberty.

Several cemeteries in western Iowa contain more than one white bronze monument. They include several at Magnolia, Missouri Valley; St. John Cemetery, south of Missouri Valley; Fairview, in Council Bluffs; Hazel Dell, at Crescent. A monument at Neola has inscribed on its four sides the entire Civil War record of the deceased, a remarkable account of their many battles. Throughout the rest of the state, there are many more; 10 in Iowa City and Red Oak; over 20 in Eldora and Independence; and over 30 in Mason City.

How have these monuments lasted their first 80 or 90 years? Like virtually any other structure, they need continued maintenance and repair. Lettering seems to hold perfectly as its manufacturers had claimed. Aside from vandalism, another problem seems to be in the foundations of the monuments. The taller monuments tend to list, sag and buckle because of the inherent weakness of zinc. A good example in the large Wesley Redhead monument at the Woodland Cemetery in Des Moines it is settling at the plinth, and will eventually topple unless preventive measures are taken.

To the donors of the Iowa Civil War memorials, the memory of a past only two decades distant was a vivid one. In large part, our ancestors erected these memorials for us. I hope we do not permit their memorials to disappear by default.
by, John L. Brown

NEW AT THE RESOURCE CENTER

Donated by Wilomena Alspach

1. Probate and Orphan's Court records of Snyder Co. PA 1772-1855, by Charles Fisher
2. Central PA Marriages 1700- 1896, by Charles Fisher.
3. 1860 Federal Census of Lane Co. Oregon, by the Oregon Genealogical Society
4. 1870 Federal Census of Jackson Co. Oregon
5. 1842 to 1880 Marriages, Washington Co. Oregon

ON LOAN FROM FLORENCE MICHELS.

Jones County Atlas, for the years 1965, 1977, and 1983/4

ANAMOSA EUREKA: 9 Mar 1865

Married; 21 Feb by Rev. O.E. Aldrich in Oxford, Mr Dallas D Rorick and Martha J. Hammond both of Oxford.

Married; in Clay, 21 Feb, Mr George Hanna and Jane Eckler both of Clay.

Married; in Anamosa, 25 Feb 1865 by Rev E.D. Rosa, Mr Cotrill Babcock to Miss Mary B. Guibert, all of Wyoming.

CALENDAR

December 9 Regular Meeting
December 24 & 25 Christmas
December 31, New Years Eve

January 13; Regular Meeting
January 1; New Years Day

BIRTHDAYS IN DECEMBER

Dec 5 Marjorie Lacock
Dec 5, W. Gary Morgan
Dec 5, Betty Stover
Dec 11, Betty Allen
Dec 22, Dorothy Mover

BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY

Jan 5 Florence Michels
Jan 23 Joan Norrdin

ANNIVERSARIES

Jan 6, Marian and Paul McQuaid
Jan 16, Laura and Joseph Billy

Change of address;

Joan B Norrdin, P.O. Box 36, Mc Call, Idaho 83638

New member,

Beverly Frankfort, Central Park, Center Junction, Iowa 52212

* * * * *

A miser isn't any fun to live with but he makes a wonderful ancestor.

** * * * *

1987 Dues are payable in December and January. Persons not paid by January 25 will be dropped from the mailing list.

Jones County Genealogical
Society
Box 174
Anamosa, Iowa 52205