



In Times Past



Library Hours:

Mon-Fri.: 9:30 a.m-6 p.m.

Wed.: 9:30 a.m-8 p.m.

Sat.: 9:30 a.m-2:30 p.m.

Sun.: Closed

507 Poplar Street

Atlantic, IA 50022

:

The Genealogical Society Room is open by volunteers. Library policy requires a Genealogical Society volunteer be present when the room is open. Arrangements may be made to assure a volunteer is present by calling the Library at 712-243-5466.

Officers:

President: Linda Mereck
Vice-president: Carolyn Key
Treasurer: Doris Comes
Secretary: Linda Herman
Newsletter: Carolyn DeLay

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Upcoming Events:

Meetings are held the 4th Thursday of each month at 1:00 PM.

Spring

Cass County Genealogy Society

casscgs@yahoo.com

2015



Letter from the President

In January I became the president of the Cass County Genealogical Society. I have been interested in researching my family history for quite some time, but only fairly recently became a member of this group. I retired from CASS Incorporated in 1998 after serving as fiscal coordinator for twelve years. Previously, I was bookkeeper for the local John Deere dealership until it closed in 1986. I am an officer of the Atlantic Does organization, volunteer at CCMH, and enjoy being with the Purple Posies Red-Hatters. Reading and travel are two other interests that I enjoy. Since joining the

genealogical society, I have learned a lot about research and still have much to learn. The volunteers in the genealogy room are very helpful and knowledgeable and love helping people find information on their heritage. I am excited about the programs offered at our monthly meetings. In January we met at the library and then went to the Cass County Courthouse to meet the new county recorder, Mary Ward and her new assistant recorder, Marcy Wallingford. Mary explained the various records kept in her office. In February, Carolyn Key arranged for a tour by Steve Livingood of the

historic armory building which is being preserved by the Atlantic ARISE group. We are looking forward to other exciting programs throughout the year.

Linda Marek, President
2015-2016

ATTENTION!!!

At The February meeting of the CCGS, the revisions of the bylaws were read and questions answered. There will be a vote on the revisions at the March meeting. A quorum of 2/3 of the members present is needed for them to be passed. All members should make every effort to attend. As members you have a right to decide how the CCGS should be run.

Cass County ladies learn to dig into the past

The start of the new year saw the ladies of the CCGS digging into the past at the Cass County Courthouse. They learned which books contained the records they needed for the genealogy searches. Many questions were answered by Mary Ward, Cass County Recorder, pictured left below and her

Assistant, Marcy Wallingford, right.



Among those crowding around a filing cabinet and looking at the records are

pictured below: Left to right-Fern Linvall, Beth Johnson, Lavonne EblonMichele, and Linda Marek, President.





Who do You Think I am?

Have you ever found an old picture and wondered who it was? You turn it over and no name. You try to find out who it is because it is driving you crazy. This is especially difficult when it is a very old picture and you know it is not your family. We have recently been in possession of some of these very photographs.

Last time we submitted a photo recently of a family (top photo). We did get a response from Bernice Ihrke, who identified some members of the family. The picture is of the Burnside family of Lewis. Seated on the right is Ruth Bishop Burnside. Seated in the middle with the beard is her husband William Burnside. On the left is William and the small boy on the right is

Carl. Behind is Estella on the left and Walter on the right.

The bottom photo is an unknown couple. It is a photo from the Vera (Keasey) Aldag Jipp Collection, submitted by LaVonne Aldag. Good luck this time identifying the If you have any of these photographs, think about submitting them to the Cass County Genealogical Society. We will put them into our new column of the newsletter with the hopes that someone will recognize and identify them.

Volunteers

What is a volunteer? Volunteers are a very important part of the CCGS. How can we describe a

volunteer? Does this describe you? This following was submitted by member, Mary Hoegh.

Volunteers are like FORD – they have better ideas.

Volunteers are like COKE – they're the real thing.

Volunteers are like Pam Am – they make the going great.

Volunteers are like Pepsi – they've got a lot to give.

Volunteers are like Standard Oil – you expect more and you get in.

Volunteers are like VO-5 HAIRSPRAY –their goodness holds in all kinds of weather.

Volunteers are like HALLMARK CARDS - they care enough to give their very best.

But most of all, Volunteers are like FROSTED FLAKES – they're GRRRRRRREAT!

Happenings 100 years ago in Cass County, 1915

NOBLE TWP. NEWS LETTER

G. W. Beatty had business at Cumberland Tuesday. Miss Bertha Frank, who was on the sick, list the first of the week, is now somewhat better.

August Mueller and wife Mary and Minnie. Mueller and Ed Miller were Sunday visitors at the F. J. Miller home.

John Marten bought a fine team of mules of Werner Sothman the first of the week.

Fred Miller assisted Herman Albert Mueller with their work last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Adam Abhau and their daughter, Miss Eva, visited at the J. M. Frank home Thursday.

Albert, Wohlenhaus and Lou Blicing were Cumberland callers

Tuesday

Mr. and Mrs. James Smith were Cumberland callers this week. Henry Roberts shelled corn for Herman Bullock. Thursday, who sold and delivered saipe at Cumberland.

Mrs. A. Boos, Mrs. H. C.

Wohlenhaus and May Wohlenhaus were visitors at the John Wohlenhaus home last Sunday.

Wednesday morning at about two o'clock occurred the death of little Arnold Schaaf, the fifteen months old child of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schaaf, living two and one-half miles, southeast of Lyman. The cause of the death of the -little one was inflammation of the bowels.

The funeral services were held Saturday afternoon. W. C. Mueller, Carl Rothe, Geo. Rose

and Henry Wohlenhaus were callers Friday.

A large number of friends and relatives had a surprise on Mr. and Mrs. Albert Wohlenhaus, last Friday. They expect to move to Minnesota in the near future.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Marten visited at the J. M. Frank home Saturday evening.

Wm. Sothman shelled about 700 bushels of corn for August Meyer this week.

The James Smith family visited last Sunday at the Gust Hampel home.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Blohn were Sunday visitors with, the J. M. Frank family.

News taken from the Atlantic News Telegraph Feb 15, 1915



In Days Gone By

ANITA IN 1904

Anita, situated in the central part of Grant Township, was surveyed and plated in 1869 by Lewis BEASON, but the plat was not filed for record until 1870, when Frank H. WHITNEY, B.F. ALLEN and John P. COOK purchased the site from Mr. BEASON, and on November 10th filed the plat for record. To the original plat a number of additions have been made. The town's name was selected in rather an interesting way. One day in the summer of 1869 a party of railroad officials were at Mr. BEASON's house for dinner and the probable name of the new town was discussed. The railroad men proposed that the town be called

Beason, but Mr. BEASON objecting. Mrs. BEASON suggested that the town be called Anita in honor of her niece Anita COWLES, then living in San Francisco. The matter was dropped at that time but later Mr. BEASON was notified by the officials that the suggestion of his wife was adopted and so the town bears the Spanish name, Anita, which translated means "Little Anna."

Anita was incorporated in 1875 with the following officers: Edwin CATE, Mayor; Martin BACH, Treasurer and Collector; Martin BACH, J.P. JAMES, H.C. SAUNDERS, Charles YOUNG, and Geo. TODD, Trustees. The first house was

erected by C.D. BARTLETT in the spring of 1869, by KEITH, CATE & Co. Chas. F. CHASE and Claude FAUST established the first newspaper, The Anita Times, in the fall of 1877. Anita is one of the best towns for its size in this section of the state. Its business men are hustling and ever on the alert for improvement of its schools and churches which are of the best and its many beautiful residences attest the thrift of the inhabitants. The population of the town in 1900 was 968.

From: *Exposition Souvenir Album, published by Democrat Publishing Company, Atlantic, Iowa, 1904.*



Postmarked 1906, Anita, Iowa, this postcard was sent to Mrs. W. J. Copley. (Mrs. William J. Copley, nee Nora Belle Irving) by her mother, "Maw" Addie Irving.

Contributed by Vicki Park, January, 2010.



This photo is undated, circa 1910-1920.

Contributed by Dawn Wheat, August, 2011, from the collection of her great-grandmother, Ida Mae Petty Dilts McCord. This information was taken from the Cass County History photo section of the Iowa GenWeb project.

Reality or Mythology?

Genealogy Without Sources is Mythology!

© Lorine McGinnis Schulze
<http://olivetreegenealogy.com/index.shtml>

How can you tell if the information posted by individuals on Internet genealogy sites is valid? Some sites have sources, others don't. How do you know what, and when, to believe what you read online??

A good rule of thumb is....

Don't trust anything you find on the 'net (or elsewhere) if it doesn't have sources.

Without sources you can't verify it, and you don't know whether the information came from a reliable source or whether it came from Great Aunt Martha who may have

some of it right, but may have mixed up a lot too.

Maybe the info came from a book written by someone 100 years ago who didn't have access to sources we have now, or who just plain got it wrong.

Perhaps the information was transcribed for a webpage from a book source. That book source was transcribed from a microfilm record which was itself transcribed from the original. The chance of human error is greatly increased with each succeeding transcription.

Even if the information has a source, you should double-check it personally, either from the original source or from an independent source.

VERIFY, VERIFY, VERIFY!!!

You also want to think about the source itself. Is the source a good one? After all, if Great Aunt Martha gives me information on the birth or baptism of my 3rd great-grandpa and I put it on the 'net, and source it as "Remembrances of Great Aunt Martha", that's not necessarily a reliable or accurate source. After all, Great Aunt Martha did have that fall from a horse when she was a child and she IS 97 years old.....

However if I source the birth or baptismal dates with full details on the church where I saw the original record, or the published transcript of those church records, that's much more reliable.

When in doubt, remember....

"Genealogy without sources is mythology"

Tips

Have you utilized records from the National Archives in your genealogical search? Federal records of military service and benefits, homestead records, land patents, land warrants, and other items held at the National Archives may hold the answer to your genealogical mysteries, such as:

Land Warrant Applications, United States Consular Registration Certificates, A Homestead Application that includes a naturalization, Migration documented in a homestead application

These plus many more resources can be found at:

<http://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/>

If you have a genealogy tip that you would like to share with others in the newsletter, please contact the CCGS, or email cdelay_68164@yahoo.com

Atlantic's Graduates --- 1892

Taken from the Cass County Iowa GenWeb Project

1892

(BROWN) KIRK, Blanch
..... Niles, California.

EYLLER, August
Chicago, Illinois.

(EGBERT) HIGHLEY,
Rhoda Tama City,
Iowa.

ELDRIDGE, Walter
Alton, Iowa
Stenographer.

FERRIER, Hattie
Council Bluffs, Iowa
Teacher.

GLASS, Maude Lewis,
Iowa Teacher.

(GILLISPIE) GRUBB,
Lulu Atlantic, Iowa.

HARLAN, Edgar
Atlantic, Iowa Bank.

HAWKS, Ralph Exira,
Iowa Farmer.

(HERBERT) BIXBY,
Mabel Walnut, Iowa.

(LA RUE) CARSON, Eva
..... Colorado Springs,
Colorado.

LAMSON, Merle
Lamar, Colorado
Teacher.

(MURRAY) NEEDLES,
Estella Atlantic, Iowa.

(MCADAM) WILSON,
Nellie Newton, Iowa.

PRESSNALL, J. F.
Pasadena, California.

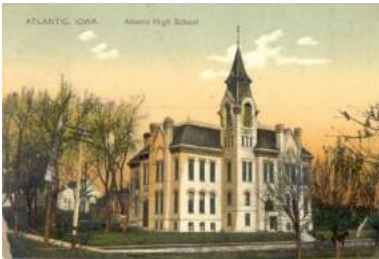
1892

(BROWN) KIRK,
Blanch Niles,
California.

EYLLER, August
Chicago, Illinois.

(EGBERT)
HIGHLEY, Rhoda
Tama City, Iowa.

ELDRIDGE, Walter
Alton, Iowa
Stenographer.



"Every family tree has some sap in it."

Massena – a Brief History

The city of Massena was platted by the [Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad](#) on land purchased from A. Vredenburgh in 1883 and 1884 that included most of Section 33 of Cass County. The incorporated city was platted in 1886. The first meeting of the city council was on March 21, 1887 and a special election was held on December 10, 1887 to enlarge the corporate limits to include all of section 33. The city was platted with the name of "Smith", but the post office authorities refused the name because of another city with a similar spelling.

Lume A. Stone, an American

Civil War soldier from Massena, New York, suggested Massena after his hometown, and thus the name of the township and town. Massena, New York was named after a French Marshal under Napoleon, Andre Massena.

The Massena Historical Society restored, maintains and gives tours of a country school house, a barber shop and a gas station. The country school house, Victoria No. 8, was brought in to town from Victoria Township. Every 3 July the local volunteer fire department sponsors a street dance on Main Street to raise money for the fire department funds. The annual

Fontanelle & Massena Independence Day parade is alternated between Massena and the community of Fontanelle, Iowa. Baseball has a strong tradition in Massena. Massena's local team is the Massena Red Sox, formally the Cumberland Red Sox, which has been in existence since the 1920s.

Thanks go to everyone for submitting articles for the newsletter. All your help is greatly appreciated. Carolyn DeLay.



To be or not to be? That is NOT the question.

"Marriage records? Check. Divorce records? Where are they? Hummm. Do you have many marriage records, sometimes numerous ones for the same ancestor, (LOL) but can find NO divorce records? Is it just me, not looking in the right place??"

We all have a similar question when doing genealogy. Why can we find NO divorce records? Where are they? There are many reasons why this may be so:

1. In many marriage relationships people will separate for one reason or another without a legal divorce ever occurring.
2. One or both of the separated spouses subsequently may decide to marry a different individual, without benefit of a legal divorce.
3. Many individuals who are separated from a legal spouse may live for many years and have children with a second individual, telling others (like census enumerators!!) that they are married, but without benefit of a legal marriage.
4. Even more confusing, if one of the married but separated spouses

should die, the surviving spouse may then decide to legally marry the second individual with whom they have been living. Sad but true moral of the story: Remember, in some cases a given divorce may be difficult to find because there wasn't one.

Then there are the usual reasons, such as:

1. They weren't recorded, since many years ago. They didn't have to be.
2. The courthouse burned. Or some other natural disaster destroyed them. Often, too true.
3. Originals were often sent in for verification of lineage and as copy was never made and kept.

So, if records are available and to be found, where do we find them today? There are several sources that may be available. Where do we access these sources?

1. It is difficult to answer this kind of question without knowing (a) which state the divorce took place in and (a) what approximate time frame the divorce took place. Each state has its own laws regarding

what it makes public and when.

2. If you go to the Search menu for Ancestry and choose Card Catalog, and then look for any collection with "divorce" in the title, you'll see that Ancestry has divorce indexes for a number of U.S. states. These include: Texas, California, New Hampshire, Ohio, Michigan, Florida, North Carolina, just to name a few.
3. Ancestry does not appear to have Oregon divorce records, and does not have Idaho divorce records before 1947. The Washington divorce records it has are also freely available on Family Search, but are limited to 8 counties, and are not indexed:

<https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1930340>

Some New York records can be found at:

https://familysearch.org/.../New_York_City_New_York...

4. You can write to the probate court in the county where the divorce took place, if you know it and ask for the records. Keep in mind that in some states the records are not available. In New York state the divorce records are sealed for

100 years. You may not want to wait that long.

Things to remember when searching for divorce records:

1. Divorce records are court records and in general, there are fewer court records online than other document types.
2. Not all records are online. Stop relying on the internet for all your research. You will have to contact libraries and courthouses and genealogical and historical societies and such to get some records
3. Records that are available online vary from state to state and even county to county.
4. Don't rely on all research online. It may mean traveling to cemeteries, historical societies, and libraries throughout the country, corresponding with NY child protective agencies, dealing with the 1900's era as well as a visit to museums and libraries, and funeral homes. Use any resource you can get your hands on, including the help of wonderful people.

Not all the ex's live in Texas!!!!

Latest News from Cass County IAGenweb

Transcriptions for Lincoln Center/Township, Lorah, Smith, Newlon's Grove, Norway Center and Jameson/Wiota cemeteries have recently been added to Cass IAGenweb and can be accessed via "What's New" or the main cemetery page. Many thanks to Carolyn DeLay, Mary Hoegh and the Cass County Genealogical Society for this wonderful contribution!

Numerous additional sections from the 1913 Industrial Edition have also been transcribed and are now online, including many additional biographies and

advertisements. These vintage advertisements can be a great research tool, often providing the addresses and sometimes even photos of the business/owner. And did you know that Atlantic once had a "Merchants' Grey" amateur baseball team that played other city teams in southwestern Iowa? Check out the 1913 Industrial Edition online! We hope to have even more sections online soon!

Cass IAGenweb is always looking for additional volunteers to transcribe vintage books and records! Volunteers set their own schedule and only work as they have

time.

A variety of projects are available! Contact the Cass County IAGenweb Coordinator at casscoordinator@comcast.net to volunteer.

Friends of IAGenweb is the 501 (c) (3) nonprofit which provides funding and server space for IAGenweb. Please contact Cheryl Siebrass, the Cass County IAGenweb Coordinator, with any questions, or to volunteer or contribute items to the Cass Co. IAGenweb site.

Cheryl Siebrass maintains the Cass Co. web pages, and also serves as IAGenweb County Coordinator for the neighboring counties of Audubon and Shelby. Cheryl can be contacted at: casscoordinator@comcast.net



THE ORPHAN TRAIN

Beginning sometime during 1853, charitable institutions in New York City began sending orphans on trains to the west to find new families, hoping the children would fare better out west than on the streets of New York. Orphan Trains, labeled "orphan trains" or "baby train" began arriving in Iowa during 1854 ending about 1930. During this time over 250,000 orphaned, abandoned, or homeless children of which 5000 were placed in Iowa homes. The ages varied from the very young to older teenagers. The children were encouraged to break completely with their past. They typically arrived in a town where local community leaders had assembled interested townspeople. The children would usually be put up on a stage-like podium for viewing and inspection. Children would often sing or dance to attract interest. The townspeople would examine the kids, perhaps feeling muscles and checking teeth, and after a brief interview take the "chosen ones" home. Many siblings were separated during this process because the foster parents wanted to take only one child. Some children became indentured servants to their host families, while most were adopted formally or informally, as family members. One such train stopped in Griswold, Iowa, on July 20, 1904. Little is known about how the placement was conducted, or how many were placed. There may have been more that stayed in Griswold, but the names of some of those that stayed and were placed is listed below with their info.

Leon Able was born June 20, 1894 Greenfield Center, N. Y. and was 10 years old when he came to live in the home of Eugene Winterstein. The Winterstein Family lived in Wright Township, Pottawattamie County, with a Lewis address. According to his Armed Forces Grave Registration Record Leon's parents were Rhoades Abel and Louisa Abel. He had a sister, Mrs. Esther Hartam of Groverville, New York. Leon Alvin Abel and Maggie Linkletter, both of Lewis, were granted a marriage license, **ANT, July 06, 1920**. The 1925 Iowa State Census for Cass, Cass, Iowa shows Leon's parents as being Charles Abel and Louisa Cornel with his mother's age of 62. Leon passed away March 24, 1939. Leon and Maggie had two children, Richard and Esther. Leon is buried in the Atlantic Cemetery.

Charles Anderson age 7 ½ years went to the home of John Patterson, **James G. Bennett**, age 8 years, went to the home of A. Prather. Three Dickerson Sisters arrived on the train at Griswold. Their parents were Frank Dickerson and Bridget McGurrin Dickerson. According to an online tree, their mother died in 1904 making the 7 children without a mother. Although not formally adopted **Nellie Dickerson**, aged 8 years, is thought to have lived with the Tom Ellis family. She married William Carl Jones in Atlantic, Cass, Iowa on 19 Dec. 1919. The information on the marriage license said her father was Frank Dickinson and mother Jesse Murphy. January 19, 1945 news article states "Burt Jones coming home...son of Carl Jones of Omaha and Nellie Smith of Sioux City."

Nellie may have also been married to Carl H. Jacobs. **Margaret (Maggie) Dickerson** was born about 1898 and adopted into the family of Frank and Cora Ellis. On the 1910 Federal Census for Iowa they were living in Cass County, Cass Twp and Maggie Ellis was listed as 11 years of age. She married Carl N. James 02 November 1926 in Des Moines, Iowa. Margaret died in 1987 and she and Carl are buried in McDivitt Grove Cemetery, Urbandale, Polk County, Iowa.

Jane (Jennie) Dickerson, born March 20, 1901, was adopted into the home of James and Lucy Hertsch Gardner. She first married Oral Richard Ashman on 12 January 1927 in Indianola, Warren County, Iowa. They had a son John Raymond Ashman. Jennie and Oral Richard Ashman divorced and she second married Ray Brown. **Robert J. Johnson** was only 2 ½ years of age when he arrived in Griswold, but there is no record where he was placed. **Blance Kent**, aged 7 years, went to the home Albert Godfrey of Waveland Township, Pottawattamie County Iowa. He is also shown going to the home of Frank Kimberly, Collins, Iowa. Perhaps as is often the case, he didn't fit into that home well. **Maude Kent**, perhaps a sister, went to the home of Godfrey Clark and then Pacific Junction, Iowa, and on to Minnesota and Collins, Iowa. Harry S. McKenzie, aged 11 years, went into the home of L. D. Marsh of Lewis and then is found in a second home in 1909.

The Orphan Train Movement program was not without criticism. In its early day some of the abolitionists viewed it as a

form of slavery, while some pro-slavery advocates saw it as part of the abolitionist movement, since the labor provided by the children helped to make slaves unnecessary. Two famous former orphan train riders are Governor John Green Brady of Alaska, and Governor Andrew Burke of North Dakota.

Research information on the names for the orphan train was done by Mary Hoegh.



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Have you come to a roadblock in doing family research? Can't find that side road that will get you back on track? Submit your queries to the newsletter or to one of the genealogy members for additional help. Sometimes a fresh set of eyes or new resources can work wonders in finding that "lost" piece of information. Email your question to "Querry" at the CCGS or to the newsletter.

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Membership Dues: Jan.1-Dec. 31. Renewal is due January 1, 2015, which includes the quarterly newsletter. New memberships received after Oct. 1 will extend into the following year.

CCGS Research Request Form

Please fill out the form below with as much information that is known.

(Please print)

SURNAME _____ FIRST NAME _____ MAIDEN NAME _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ DATE OF DEATH _____ MARRIAGE DATE _____

CITY/CEMETERY _____

Please check below the records that you are requesting.

Birth Record	_____	\$5.00 each	_____
Death Record	_____	\$5.00 each	_____
Marriage Record	_____	\$5.00 each	_____
Naturalization Record (list year if known)	_____	\$5.00 each	_____
Obituary copy from newspaper (if available)	_____	\$5.00 each	_____
Other (History, Cemetery, Military, Ancestral records, etc.)	_____	\$5.00 each	_____

Records such as Probates and Wills, Land Records and Certified Copies of Birth, Death, Marriage and Divorce may be obtained from the Cass County Recorder's Office <http://www.casscountyiowa.us/offices/recorder>. Information and application forms may be downloaded from this site

Sub-Total of Copy and Court House Records Request:

ONE HOUR MINIMUM RESEARCH FEE (include on ALL orders) \$10.00

TOTAL PAYMENT enclosed for research & all copies requested above: _____

YOUR NAME _____

(Please print)

YOUR ADDRESS _____

(Please print)

YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS _____

(We will contact you with questions and/or to notify you that we are sending out your request)

Additional questions or other information:

Cass County Genealogical Society, % Atlantic Carnegie Public Library 507 Poplar Street, Atlantic, Iowa 50022-1241. Phone: 712-243-5466

PLEASE INCLUDE A STAMPED SELF ADDRESSED LEGAL SIZED ENVELOPE.

(If your request entitles more than 3 pages, please include additional postage.)

Thank you for helping to support the Cass County Genealogical Society. We are a 501(c)3, nonprofit organization. Additional donations are thankfully accepted and are tax deductible.



Cass County Genealogical Society
% Atlantic Public Library
507 Poplar Street
Atlantic, Iowa 50022-1241

If you would rather receive your newsletter with color photos via e-mail, please contact the CCGS at 712-243-5466 or cassgs@yahoo.com, or mark it on the form below.

Membership Dues: Jan.1-Dec. 31. Renewal due January 1
Membership will increase to \$15 Jan. 1, 2014, which includes the quarterly newsletter.

New memberships received after Oct. 1 will extend into the following year.

Membership Application New _____ Renewal _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone number _____ E-mail _____

Surnames being researched in Cass County _____