

**CASS COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY**
Newsletter April 2021

Hello members and guests,

You can't go back in time but genealogists look back in time. So it is May and you are receiving the April newsletter.

The April meeting was held at the American Legion Memorial Building (The Armory). Beth Johnson, vice-president prepared an excellent report which appeared in the Atlantic News Telegraph. See much of it below.

The next meeting will be Thursday, May 27. Director Mary and member Carolyn DeLay will work on plans to visit a cemetery in Cass County and place some flags before Memorial Day.

The past, foundation for the future, LaVon

MEETING REPORT by Beth Johnson

Warren and Amy Roland joined the group in a discussion about Atlantic Car Clubs in the 60's. The Atlantic room in the Armory has a large display of the Vaqueros Club that was popular from 1957 to 1961. Amy Jo Paul Roland was voted by the club to become the first and only female honorary member. Amy drove a 1951 Chevy to school. She was presented a Vaquero car plaque to honor the occasion.

Included in the display are pictures, clippings, plaques, trophies, jackets and history of the group. The display items were brought together by Jack Barringer past President of the Vaqueros. Jack is better known in Atlantic as "Cactus Jack."

Another car club is also represented in the Atlantic room. The Troy timers consisting of Fred Kay, John Kolp, Jerry Pitman, Larry Weaver, Terry Alliband, Bill Bucher and Russ Hoegh are pictured in 1959 showing off their car club jacket. The Troy Timers car plaque is also on display.

FIREMEN? NO, WOODMEN

This photo was given to the Atlantic History Center by an unknown donor. It looked like a group of firemen but the local fire department could not identify the year or people.

Two names were on the back of the photo, Frank and Ira Seaman. Carolyn Key investigated using newspapers through Advantage Preservation. Several articles included the men's names.

The group were members of Modern Woodmen of America, a fraternal financial services organization. It was founded in 1883 in Lyons, Iowa and named to honor pioneering woodmen who cleared forests to build homes, communities and security for their families. Their emblem was two crossed axes.

The Royal Neighbors of America was the female auxiliary. It long ago became an independent organization.

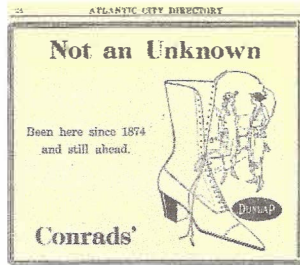
An insurance society worked on an assessment basis -when a member died, every fellow member of the local lodge contributed a dollar amount. Under this system the Modern Woodmen's first benefit was paid in 1884 upon the death of Neighbor Abraham Mayer of Davenport from "indiscretion in eating confectionary, ice cream, etc...." To his wife went \$698.58.

Today, more than a century after its founding, Woodmen lodges can be found in all 50 states. They continue to provide life insurance, annuity, investment and banking products to the family market.



Note from Mary

While searching through the 1920 Atlantic City Directory, I came across this cute little advertisement. I was surprised to see in 1920 there was still a business this old. I wanted to find out a little about the people running it.
Atlantic City Directory 1920



Atlantic News Telegraph Wednesday, February 21, 1912.

**CASS COUNTY'S OLDEST SHOE STORE
CONRAD SHOE STORE ESTABLISHED BY C. C.
CONRAD IN THE YEAR 1874**

In the year 1874 C. C. Conrad established a shoe store in a frame building located on the lot where the building occupied by Foley & Collins' Millinery Store stands and continued in business there for eight years when he moved to the room at present occupied by the Conrad Shoe store at 416 Chestnut street. The store has now been located in the same room for thirty years and claims to have occupied the same room longer than any other store in town save one, that of C. B. Osborne, the furniture dealer.

On December 10, 1910 the Conrad Shoe Company was incorporated under the laws of Iowa, with Hal C. Conrad and R. H. Parker as proprietors. In the following spring the store was thoroughly remodeled and the floor lowered to the level of the street. A new modern front and new furniture were put in. The furniture is all of the mission style and the room is decorated so that everything harmonizes.

Hal C. Conrad is a son of the founder of the Conrad Shoe Store and was born in Atlantic.

Hal graduated from the local High School and attended school at Cornell college two years. He has worked in a shoe store for a good many years and knows the business thoroughly.

The Conrad Shoe Company has built up a splendid business because of the quality of the good which they sell and because of unfailing courtesy to the public.

Harold C. Conrad married Orpha Lang December 31, 1902. At least one daughter, Lois was born to the couple. H. C. and Orpha were living in Audubon county on the 1925 Iowa State Census. The 1940 U. S. census has the Conrad's living in Corpus Christi, TX. H. C. died in Corpus Christi March 22, 1947.

C. C. Conrad died in Atlantic May of 1909. He was born in Dauphin County, PA on October 24, 1832 and of German parentage. While still a child his parents removed to Wooster Ohio where he spent his youth. He learned the trade of brick maker and in the spring of 1856. He left Ohio and came to Iowa, locating at Mt. Vernon where he remained for eighteen years. During his residence at Mt. Vernon Mr. Conrad's plant furnished the brick for the greater number of business building there and also for the buildings composing Cornell college, which still stands today.

On July 31, 1872 Mr. Conrad was married to Sarah J. Hickox at Solon, Ohio. She died February 23, 1891. The issue from this marriage was Harold C., Maude Estelle and Frank N. In March of 1874 he removed from Mt. Vernon to Atlantic and purchased a shoe stock from Pat Kirby who was located in a building situated where is now the Palmer Drug Store. Two years later he bought the stock and building of his brother George which was immediately adjoining Palmer's present location on the south.

Atlantic News Telegraph Wednesday
December 7, 1921.

Conrad Shoe Store closing out entire shoe stock.