

P O Box 94 Bloomfield, IA 52537

Davis County Iowa Genealogy

Library Hours

Mon, Tue, Thurs, Fri 1:00-4:00

Saturdays 9:00-1:00

Closed Wednesdays

Meetings Third Thursday at 7 PM

Bloomfield Library

Calendar of Events

Meetings

May 21

June 18

July County Fair

July 16

August 20

September 17

October 15

November 19

December TBA

A group of members were able to attend the Burlington Public Library Foundation's 7th Annual Genealogy Workshop. The featured speaker was John Philip Colletta, Ph.D., author and Genealogist. Mr Colletta, is very knowledgeable in several areas of historical ideas, that we as genealogist should find fascinating. He put an unexpected twist on such things as Passenger arrival lists, Learning more about the ship and the voyage and Naturalization Records, that renewed even the oldest geezers interest. A sense of humor to wit. Getting tidbits on how to write our own Family History's! Writing a reliable document and a readable story. Sure, we'll get started right away. And don't forget the Newspaper, the most interesting way to take you beyond "Biographical Data" to real lives of Real People.

Did you know that there were reasons why your ancestor declared for Naturalization and then in turn, file a Petition in another area for Citizenship.

Well if I got your interest up, John has written 3 terrific books. I am in the process of reading "Just a few Bones". A true tale, put together by his own hand in the accounting of history that revolves around his ancestors. He tends to bring all the elements to life with documentation that we use and scrutinize in our hobby everyday. Knowing how to fill the voids with non-fiction is his specialty, as we have seen just a sample of his vitality while at the BPL on April 4, be sure to ask me later how the book turns out.

Don't forget the Fair is around the corner, and the time to prepare those projects for exhibiting are near. Come to our May and June meeting, and we will help you with yours.

Always Sleuthing,

Deb Barker

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LOST AND FOUND:

OFFICERS for 2009

- President & Editor-
Deb Barker
iadavis@netins.net
- Vice President— Lana Doll
lanadoll@netins.net
- Secretary— Vicki Houk
tmbwrks@netins.net
- Treasurer— Pat Howk
bhowk@netins.net
- Corresponding Secretary—
Dorothy Goldizen
- Librarian Historian— Vicki

STOP BY THE FAIRGOUNDS! WE Always have lost and found photographs from the area. Looking for relatives. Just recently submitted were several from the Bruders family. A timely and fashionable carnival ride, Carter Creek School children, and other unknowns.

At the BPL Conference in April, we were introduced to a business whom specializes in archival products. <http://www.roots2leaves.com/>

Anything you could imagine needed for the preservation, of your family heirlooms. A source for Poster size family trees, charts and forms, acid free papers, and storage solutions. Prices are very reasonable.

Taken up by John Louning
 on his premises in Union Township
 County of Lewis State of Iowa on the
 7th day of September 1882 the following
 described Sheep as shays which were on
 the 18th day of September 1882 appraised
 By J L Sullivan and George Nelson
 3 head of Sheep one with a crop on the
 Right ear and read on the left hip a
 Buck lamb with no mark one yew
 with red paint on the left hip and
 further said not B.C. others
 appraised at two dollars a head
 amount six dollars By J L Sullivan
 and George Nelson

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Leta "Bea" Hesse, 87, of Bloomfield, Iowa died April 16, 2009 at Davis County Hospital Long Term Care. She was born January 23, 1922 in Davis County, Iowa to Orville and Viva Rominger Billhymmer. She married Samuel Franklin Hesse January 27, 1942 in Queen City, Missouri. He preceded her in death November 13, 1979. She was a member of the Stiles Christian Church where she taught Sunday School for many years. She was a 4-H Leader for several years and was a charter member of the Stiles C&C. Bea was a homemaker and worked at the Davis County Hospital in the laundry department for seven years. She is survived by a daughter, Sandra (Deano) Sargent of Bloomfield, Iowa; a son, William "Bill" (Judy) Hesse of West Burlington, Iowa; 2 sisters, Annabelle (Lowell) John of West Burlington, Karen (Cullie) Kline of Pulaski, Iowa; 4 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; 2 brothers, Bud and Jack Billhymmer; and a sister, Icle Westhoff. Funeral services were at 10:30am on Monday, April 20, 2009 at the Wagler Funeral Home in Bloomfield, Iowa with Kramer Smith officiating. Burial was in the IOOF Cemetery in Bloomfield.

Audrey D. Wilson, 89 of Bloomfield died April 17, 2009 at the Bloomfield Care Center. She was born September 15, 1919 in Keokuk County, Iowa to George Edward and Edna L. Caskey Fixmer. She married Burdette L. Wilson May 25, 1937 in Lancaster, Missouri. He preceded her in death on April 24, 1982. She was a homemaker and lived most of her life in Davis County. She was affiliated with the Bloomfield and Drakesville United Methodist Churches. She is survived by 3 sons Ronny Wilson of Drakesville, Iowa, Danny Wilson of Grandview, Iowa and Terry Wilson of Ottumwa, Iowa; 10 grandchildren; 24 great grandchildren; a great great granddaughter and 5 sisters Gloria Garner of Bloomfield, Iowa, Colleen Wallerich of Sigourney, Iowa, Patty Rost of Ada, Oklahoma, Kathy Casper of Hill City, Minnesota and Dee Vashaw of Brothel, Washington. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; a great grandson; 2 sisters Betty Brown and Lois Raines and 3 brothers Melvin, Francis and Jerry Fixmer. Funeral services were at 2:30 pm Monday April 20, 2009 at the Wagler Funeral Home in Bloomfield with Pastor Kevin Gingerich officiating. Burial was in the Drakesville Cemetery in Drakesville, Iowa.

Irene Gravett, 90, of Ottumwa, Iowa and former resident of Bloomfield, Iowa died April 19, 2009 at the Ridgewood Nursing and Rehab Center in Ottumwa. She was born December 28, 1918 in Davis County, Iowa to J. Lloyd and Leona Ruth Francis Kinsler. She married Beulas E. Gravett February 18, 1939 in Bloomfield. He preceded her in death May 3, 1983. She was a member of the Monterey Christian Church and the Locust Grove Ladies Aide. She was a homemaker. She is survived by a son, Robert (Judy) Gravett of Springfield, Missouri; a daughter, Roberta (Dennis) Arnold of Ottumwa, Iowa; 5 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; a great-great-grandson; and a sister, Neva (Joe) Kerby of Aurora, Colorado. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; an infant son; an infant daughter; a granddaughter, Tracey Middleton; 2 brothers, Willard and Robert Kinsler; and 3 sisters, Martha Gordy, Edith Waybell and Ethel Johnson. Funeral services were at 10:30am on Friday, April 24, 2009 at the Wagler Funeral Home in Bloomfield, Iowa with Rev. Richard Friend officiating. Burial was in the IOOF Cemetery in Bloomfield.

Crystal V. Arnold, 91, of Rio, Illinois and former resident of Davis County, Iowa died March 24, 2009 at St. Luke's Hospital in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. She was born September 20, 1917 in Albia, Iowa to Sylva and Bertha Stufflebeam Johnson. She married Samuel W. Arnold March 17, 1934 in Bloomfield, Iowa. He preceded her in death October 26, 2000. She was a member of the Open Bible Church in Burlington, Iowa. She worked at the Me Too Grocery Store in Cedar Rapids for several years and had been living in Rio for about 15 years. She is survived by 2 daughters, Delores Hunt of Rio, Illinois, Dorothy Simmons of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; 7 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-granddaughter; 3 brothers, Jason Johnson of Bloomfield, Iowa, Kyle "Dude" Johnson of Drakesville, Iowa, Franklin Johnson of Burlington, Iowa; and a half-brother, John Dittmer of Arvada, Colorado. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; 2 sons, Dale and Dean Arnold; 4 brothers; a sister; and 2 half-brothers. Funeral services were at 2:30pm Friday, March 27, 2009 at the Wagler Funeral Home in Bloomfield, Iowa with Revs Bert Johnson and Dwight Johnson officiating. Burial was at Taylor Cemetery in Appanoose County, Iowa.

<http://www.waglerfuneralhome.com/>

INTRODUCTION TO IOWA'S OLD AGE ASSISTANCE TAX LISTS

When the Extra ordinary Session of the 45th Iowa General Assembly passed a law in March of 1934, creating the Old Age Assistance Commission to oversee the care of the State's needy aged, the result was the creation of records of immense value to genealogists.

Old Age Assistance was to be provided to indigent applicants who were over 65 years of age, and who did not have any responsible relative capable of caring for them. To create a fund, a head tax of \$1 the first year and \$2 annually thereafter was to be collected from all persons over 21 years old. The law provided that each assessor, at the time of listing property for assessment, was to prepare a list and return it to the county auditor with the names of those subject to the new tax.

The information gathered was name, sex, date and place of birth, many prior to the keeping of vital records, father's name, mother's maiden name, county, township or street address. The law was changed in 1937, so the list is only for 1934-1937.

Determination of eligibility was done by filing an application with the county Old Age Assistance boards. These lists have been created from records that may no longer exist. Information found in Iowa's Old Age Assistance Records should be carefully compared with other available records.

Davis County Genealogical Society sells this book, in printed paper format for \$20.00 Or on CD Volume 3 in electronic format for \$15.00

Did you know you can place an order online and pay with credit card or paypal?

http://iagenweb.org/davis/gene_societ.htm

Iowa, 1934, Mandatory, 3000 enrolled, 184,239 eligible, percent of enrollment 1.1%, average monthly pension of \$13.50, and an annual cost to the state of Iowa of \$475,500.

Most required that recipients be "deserving", and benefits were denied to anyone who deserted a spouse, failed to support their families, had committed any crime, or had been a tramp or beggar.

Benefits were denied to inmates of jails, prisons, infirmaries, and insane asylums, although a few permitted the payment of assistance for inmates of a benevolent fraternal institution.

-Old Age Security Staff Report, Barbara Nachtrieb Armstrong and Staff, 1934, from unpublished studies by the staff of the Committee on Economic Security (CES), Volume II.

LAST NAME	FIRST	SEX	PLACE OF BIRTH	FATHERS NAME	MOTHERS NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	ADDRESS TOWNSHIP
McAchren	Flora D	F					Blfd
McAvoy	Curtis	M	Iowa	C C McAvoy	Elizabeth Good	10-16-1880	Blfd
	Forest	M					Blfd
	C Leroy	M	Iowa	Curtis McAvoy	Mary Kline	7/23/1905	Blfd
	Lucile	F					Blfd
	Mary E	F	Iowa	J T Kline	Mary Anderson	1-17-1883	Blfd
McCarty	Austin	M	Davis Co., Ia	John McCarty	Lizzie Simmons	1-8-1872	Marion
	Bernice Olive	F	Davis Co., Ia	Austin McCarty	Olive West	11/18/1905	Marion
	Charles Winfred	M	Davis Co., Ia	Willis McCarty	Jennie Wolfe	5/6/1903	Marion
	Dell	F					Drakesville
	Homer	M				7-26-1878	Drakesville
	Jennie	F	Davis Co., Ia	John Wolf	Charlotte Kline	6-27-1877	Marion
	Kenneth Wolf	M	Davis Co., Ia	Willis McCarty	Jennie Wolfe	8/6/1912	Marion
	Marquerite Zelma	F	Davis Co., Ia	William Romerman	Mary Dommer	9/8/1903	Marion
	Olive Anna	F	Davis Co., Ia	Miller West	Julia Lippert	2-24-1877	Marion
	Ruth Augusta	F	Davis Co., Ia	F W Tews	Mabel Hawkins	5/26/1910	Marion
	Willis	M	Davis Co., Ia	John McCarty	Lizzie Simmons	12-17-1873	Marion
McCash	Buell	M	Kansas	Isaac McCash	Marietta Tandy	3-9-1888	Blfd
	Mary J	F	Wisconsin	Orlando Johnson	Alvina Weygandt	8-11-1888	Blfd
McClain	Christina May	F	Germany	John Ploss	Lena Clot	5-26-1887	Grove
	Mary Lena Thompson	F	Davis Co., Ia	Ralph McClain	Christina Ploss	9/14/1910	Grove
	Ralph Wesley	M	Wayne Co., Ia	Chas McClain	Matha Harris	10-23-1878	Grove
McCleary	Harley Ransom	M	Davis Co., Ia	L J McCleary	Victoria Hendricks	1/25/1901	Salt Creek
	Leander Johnson	M	Jefferson Co., Ia	Benjamin McCleary	Sarah Whitmore	11-23-1858	Salt Creek
	Osie Maude	F	Jefferson Co., Ia	Alva Longerbone	Abbie Schooley	5/14/1902	Salt Creek
	Ray Ira	M	VanBuren Co., Ia	Leander McCleary	Victoria Hendricks	6-15-1895	Salt Creek
McClellan	Arthur C	M	Iowa	C B McClellan	Mary Shudduck	10-27-1884	Blfd
	Leona	F	Illinois	Geo Wright			Blfd
McClure	Ben	M					Salt Creek
	Clyde D	M	Davis Co., Ia	Mose McClure	Martha Hill	5-14-1889	Salt Creek
	Corda Gertrude	F	Davis Co., Ia	E S Lanman	Margaret Lynch	6-6-1891	Salt Creek
	Coyle Clayton	M	Davis Co., Ia	Frank McClure	Edith Killen	10/17/1909	Lick Creek
	Edith	F	Iowa	Jas Killen	Mary Rutherford	4-20-1888	Blfd
	Eliza	F	Brookville, Ia	John Sperry	Sarah Johnson	11-21-1847	Floris
	Elizabeth	F					Salt Creek
	Frank	M	Iowa	Obe McClure	Sarah Smith	2-9-1887	Blfd
	Henry Amen	M	Davis Co., Ia	Thos McClure	Lorain Michaels	10-28-1879	Salt Creek
	Hiram	M	Davis Co., Ia	James McClure	Elizabeth Sharp	11-2-1855	Salt Creek
	J Mose	M	VanBuren Co., Ia	Wm McClure	Mary Jones	4-12-1856	Salt Creek
	Jennie	F					Salt Creek
	June Thelma	F	VanBuren Co., Ia	Chas Jackson	Mary Breckenridge	8/2/1903	Salt Creek
	Kenneth Arnold	M	Davis Co., Ia	M C McClure	Corda Lanman	6/30/1911	Salt Creek
	LaVelle	F	Davis Co., Ia	W F Benge	Effie Thompson	12/30/1904	Salt Creek
	Lester Hiram	M	Davis Co., Ia	Hiram McClure	Matilda Lynch	6-29-1896	Salt Creek
	Lucy Belle	F	Davis Co., Ia	Volney Martin	Anna Ritz	8-14-1880	Salt Creek
	Lulu Trean	F	Davis Co., Ia	John Swaim	Sarah Baker	3-9-1888	Salt Creek
	Margaret	F				8/16/1911	Salt Creek
	Marquerite	F	Davis Co., Ia	Frank Hancock	Nettie Rupe	4/22/1912	Lick Creek
	Mary Matilda	F	Davis Co., Ia	J K Lynch	Susan Stroud	1-1-1860	Salt Creek
	Mattie	F					Blfd
	Melva Irene	F	VanBuren Co., Ia	Edward Dooley	Clara Bevier	2/12/1914	Salt Creek
	Mildred Irene	F	Davis Co., Ia	Allen Davis	Billie Salters	7/2/1909	Salt Creek
	Millie	F	Davis Co., Ia	Hiram Huffman	Alice Christy	12/21/1902	Salt Creek
	Obe	M					Blfd

Sept 24, 1994

Grandma Gordy

A gentle old woman, you hardly knew she was there,
Read her Bible at night in a wood rocking chair

Spent ~~a~~ great deal of time at an old quilt rack
making priceless gifts we could never pay back.

Her demands were none and her pleasures few,
to go to church and see her family ~~she~~ she thought was her due.

The memories that flood my mind are all sweet;
dog food biscuits, freezer ice cream, a peppermint treat,

A wood cook stove, wringer washer and a broom to sweep
were all they could afford for her house to keep.

I never heard her complain, nor for poverty lament.
She simply accepted her life, whatever came -- and went.

When her end time came she showed only grace
looking forward to God, I'm ~~sure~~ sure she found His place.

The appreciation wasn't in me then.
How wonderful it would be to see her again.

If just for a minute I'd hug her with ease
and tell her "I love you and forgive me please."

-Written by Ron Doll

FAIR TIME

Rules for Genealogy Exhibits for the 2009 Davis County Fair

Exhibitors must be residents of Davis Co. IA or members of the Davis Co. Genealogical Society. They must purchase a Davis Co. Fair membership for \$1. Exhibits will be accepted on July 6, 2009 at the 4-H- Art Hall building between noon and 5 p.m. Open judging will begin at 5:30 p.m. iadavis@netins.net for questions

1. Each exhibit **MUST** have attached an explanation/genealogical connection of why it is important to the exhibitor including exhibitor's name and address. Please use the 5 W's in the explanation, Who, What, Where, When, and Why. Information needs to show relationship and be understandable as a stand alone exhibit.
2. Suggest use of sheet protectors or sandwich type bags for protection, lamination is not recommended.
3. Original documents are discouraged, computer generated or photocopies will be accepted and need not be framed or matted.
4. No entries will be accepted by mail.
5. No more than 1 entry per category per exhibitor.
6. Previous year's first 3 placing items may not be re-exhibited.

Judging is based on the item as described in the category and the genealogical value of the item, not on the age or presentation. If entries don't qualify or are not an acceptable standard, placing may be withheld. Not responsible in case of loss.

1st Place --\$1.50 2nd Place \$1.25 3rd Place \$1.00 Best of Show \$2.00

Adult Categories

1. Pictorial Family History- Poster or organized photo collection.
2. Legal Documents- Military, Marriage license, Divorce, Wills, Probates, etc
3. Land Documents- Land grant, Deed, Mortgage, etc
4. Family Records- School, Diary, Letters, etc.
5. Family Religious- Confirmation, Baptism, Church, Bible, etc
6. Family Certificates/Documents- wedding certificates, organization membership, etc.
7. Pedigree/ Ancestor Pyramid- Family tree of direct line of an individual
8. Lineage- Relationship between 2 people [i.e. JFK to Maria Shriver]
9. Genealogical Record book or Research material
10. Picture- People (wedding, graduation) 2 or less people
11. Picture- Ancestral building (home, church, school, etc.,)
12. Picture- Family group 3 people or more
13. True Story written by exhibitor
14. Picture depicting Davis County History with description and connection not necessary
15. Article from publication other than local papers with family connections
16. Storytelling display- Time line specific with photo collection

6	7	8	9	10
BRING EXHIBITS 12 TO 5 JUDGING BEGINS @ 5:30 P <div style="border: 1px solid #add8e6; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> Click to add event </div>	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE BOOTH, CALL OR EMAIL TO RESERVE YOUR TIME NOW! A VERY FUN TIME FOR ALL! THIS ONES FOR EWE!			
DAVIS COUNTY FAIR	DAVIS COUNTY FAIR	DAVIS COUNTY FAIR	DAVIS COUNTY FAIR	DAVIS COUNTY FAIR

We recently reclaimed our items from IGS that were on profit share. Over the course of the last few years, the IGS has struggled, and Davis County Genealogical Society and members have been sympathetic. We gladly renounced any monies due to us, in 2007, with the stipulation that they stay up to date with our forthcoming shares. Since not receiving any money due in over 2 years, we have reclaimed our items to sell ourselves. This is actually a blessing in disguise, as we are able to update the data that we have had in booklet forms, combine, and enhance their usage.

We now have the following available for sale, through the society ONLY; Inc S&H, Tax.

1850 Federal Census	\$20.00
1856 State Census Index	\$6.50
1856 State Volume 1	\$10.00
1856 State Volume 2	\$10.00
1860 Federal Census Index	\$ 6.50
1860 Federal Part 1	\$15.00
1860 Federal Part 2	\$15.00
1860 Federal Part 3	\$15.00
1880-1900 Deaths, Includes addendum	\$10.00
1844-1854 Marriages	\$ 4.50
1934-1937 Tax Lists Old Age Assistance	\$20.00
1976 Index to This is Davis County	\$15.00
1940 Grave Registration & War Record Cemeteries, A-K	\$20.00
1940 Grave Registration & War Record Cemeteries, L - Z	\$20.00
1924 Dillon Payne, Pioneer History of Davis County, Reprint, 2007	\$70.00
1882 History of Davis County History Book, Reprint, 2009	\$70.00
Cleveland Township Cemeteries, except IOOF	\$10.00
Cleveland Township Cemeteries, Bloomfield IOOF	\$20.00
Drakesville Township Cemeteries	\$15.00
Fabius Township Cemeteries	\$6.50
Grove Township & Barker Cemeteries	\$10.00
Prairie & Roscoe Township Cemeteries	\$6.50
West Grove Township Cemeteries	\$6.50
ON CD-ROM!	
CD 1. 1870 Census Records, WPA Cemetery	\$13.00
CD 2. Probates, Wills, & Marriage Records	\$13.00
INCLUDES Probates 1840-1934; Marriages 1844-1869; Wills 1879-1911	
CD 3. 1850 Census & 1937 Record of Payment of Old Age Tax Assistance	\$15.00
CD 4. 1925 Census Index & Index to Birth Books 1&2	\$15.00

MAIL TO
DAVIS COUNTY GENEALOGY SOCIETY
P O BOX 94
BLOOMFIELD, IOWA 52537

1924 DILLON PAYNE HISTORY BOOK AVAILABLE
Reprint of
PIONEER HISTORY OF DAVIS COUNTY IOWA
HARDBACK
INDEXED

Compiled and Published by the Federated Women's Clubs of the County 1924-1927, Printed and Published by the Bloomfield Democrat. Order yours now.

NAME: _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____ \$70.00EA _____
SHIP TO ADDRESS: _____

ORDER! RESERVE YOURS NOW! **LIMITED QUANTITY!**

1882 History of Davis County and Iowa
Reprint of
1882 HISTORY OF DAVIS COUNTY IOWA
HARDBACK

INDEXED **Complete Surname Index** FIRST TIME!

Order yours now.

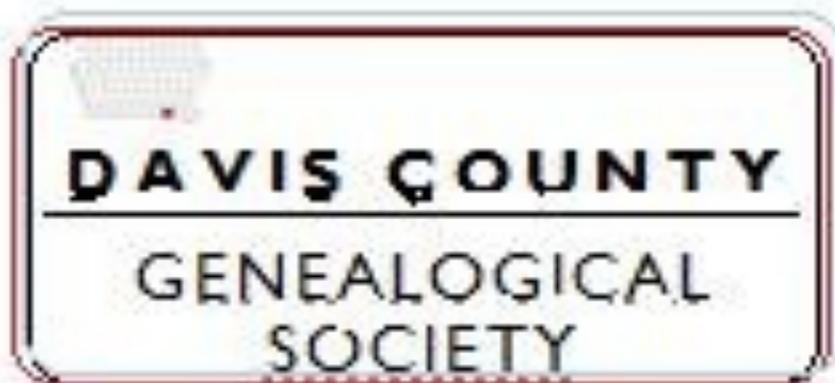
NAME: _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____ \$70.00EA _____
SHIP TO ADDRESS: _____

QUERIES:

"Several postcards found addressed to Adolphus and Fairy Nelson of Bloomfield in 1912-4. They have personal messages written on them. They are from Mr. Shields, Ruth Greenleaf, Dallas, Joel, Aunt Nora, and Grandmother Dixon." -Contact Pat Howk for details

My husband is Ernest Birchmier, his Father was Walter A. Birchmier, his Grandfather was Theophilus (Tiffield) Fridolin Birchmier and his Great Grandfather was Johann A (John A) Birchmier. We live on the family farm east of Milton, Iowa. I hope to hear from you soon. Our e-mail is ernjean@iowatelecom.net—Jean Birchmier

My great-grandmother was Sarah Belle [Minnick] Hart, granddaughter of Adam and Hester Minnick of Davis Co. ... and wife of Charles Augustus Hart, s/o John and Sarah [Newman] Hart of Davis Co. I have information on John Hudson Robbins and Hester Elizabeth Minnick...and would like more. Am still researching, especially after Hester's death. Great-Grandma (whom I was VERY close to and got most of my early Davis Co. information and leads from) told me when Hester and John left for "out West", her mother, Hester Minnick (who spoke no English, just German) started crying and said she would never see her daughter again. And she didn't because Hetty died in childbirth. They buried her and the unnamed baby on the wagon train trail, and then the wagons drove back and forth over the graves to pack them down so animals would not dig them up. -Wanda Doris; Monterey, TN



Davis County Genealogy Society
PO Box 94
Bloomfield, Iowa 52537
<http://iagenweb.org/davis>