

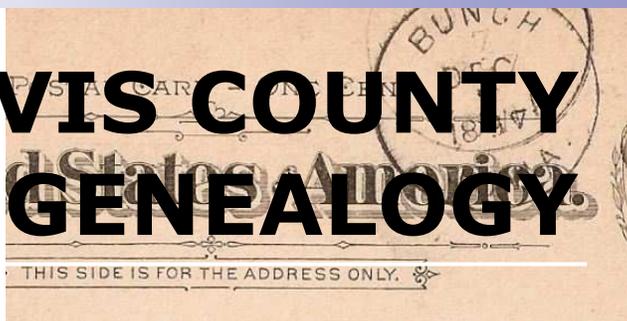
April May June
2013

Volume 30, Issue 2



P O Box 94 Bloomfield, IA 52537

DAVIS COUNTY GENEALOGY



Inside this issue:

Marriages	2
Blue Book of Women	3
Fair Rules	4-5
Floris Church Bell	6
Floris School	7
Floris tidbits	8
Gone Missing	9

President's Notes

Rent is paid for the next year, and we are looking at what we need to do to continue to thrive as a society. Our outlook is not bleak, but does depend on our memberships and volunteers. Life is about changes and it certainly can throw obstacles into our paths.

With that said, we recently had a fundraiser garage sale during the city wide sales. While nothing to brag about to take to the bank, it is one of the necessary things we need to do to raise funds. Donated items were accepted. We may do this again in the fall.

We will assist the Old School with an open house in a few months, there will be some great programs going on then.

Keep in mind we have a few items in our ongoing "book sale", stop by to look at the stack, periodicals and resources. Email us for a listing.

The next expense we can expect is a computer upgrade, as the ol dinosaur takes a while to warm up, but still gets

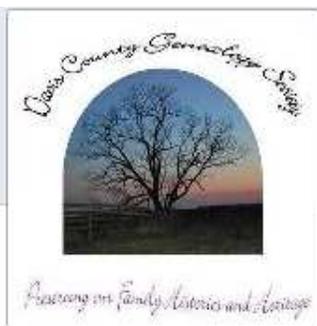
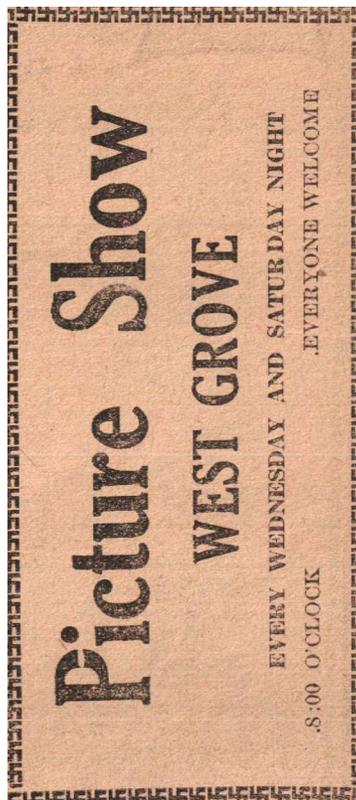
the job done.

And the next fall grant, may be for the dinosaur replacement, but we still would like to continue to fill in blanks of microfilms or purchase digital of what we have.

Don't forget the Davis County Fair! This is an undertaking as well, and we will be counting on each of you to provide your items for judging and display. Along with spending time as a volunteer at our booth. Come on by, and sit a spell, we have the most knowledgeable, historical, momentous area in the fair grounds. It's always dry & cool too! Get your items ready now, see the Fair Rules enclosed.

Floris has been a hot topic, as we were loaned photos to make copies, and folks are seeking out these artifacts. This newsletter and the next will be devoted to the little town.

Deb Barker, President & Editor



Find us On

facebook

Davis County Genealogical Society

64 likes · 1 talking about this · 10 were here

Marriages on Microfilm-

- Index to Marriage Register 1844-1911
- Vol A 1844- 1860
- Vol B 1862-1868
- Vol 1 1880-1899
- Vol 2 1899-1905
- Vol 3 1869-1877
- Vol 4 1877-1885
- Vol 5 1885-1894
- Vol 6 1894-1902
- Vol 7 1902-1908
- Vol 8 1908-1912

I am still in process of transcribing years of Marriages. These are more than likely one in the same, as I mentioned in the last newsletter, a member transcribed by hand in 1984, and I am digitizing, in 2013. Donated by Bonnie Mares and covers through Vol 13, 1936.

Find us On



Continue your Newsletter

Send

MEMBERSHIP DUES

**SEND \$15 TO PO BOX 94,
BLOOMFIELD, IOWA
52537**

AGE	AG	BO	PA	DATE	Witness	Father	Mother
	Kauffman, Edmond	Eliza Sterick		31 May 2 413 1874	John Bohi		
26	Karr, James L Born Hamilton Co., IL	Emma V Painter	27	1 26 1883	Brides Parents	Harvey L Joseph V	Mary E Spangter Mary Russell
28	Karr, Joseph H Born Carthage, IL	Emma Jane Huston	20	1 23 3 Jan 1883	L Corkhill	Harvey L James B	Mary E Spangter Martha Blankenbaker
25	Karr, Wm O	Maud Beck Residence Ottumwa	18	1 45 1884	Mr & Mrs J M Logan At H L Kerr	Harvey L James B	Mary E Spanger Minnie May Berry
24	Kaster, Nathan L Residence Schuyler Co, MO	Sarah Jane Foster	1	69 16 Jan 1887	R L McKinzie, W L Foster	Conrad	Sarah Jane Cas- tleman
	Keck, Benjamin F KEIGLY, A J	Carter, Lorina MULLY A WEEDEN	A	3 Jan 1854 151	At brides parents	John F	Eliza Jane Smith
22	Keller, Jas J Residence Van Buren Co	Rukanna C Hendrickson	20	1 57 1886	JM Simpson, E J Cooper at Drakeville	John W Elijah	Margaret Smith Eve Jackson

MRS. A. H. FORTUNE

Effie Caroline Law was born March 31, 1863, in Bloomfield and has lived there all her life. Her father, William James Law, was born in Frederic county, Va., in 1826. Her mother, Caroline Catharine Brunner, was born in Somerset, Ohio, in 1827. They were married in Ohio in 1845, and ten years later came to Iowa, moving to Bloomfield, where they resided the remainder of their lives. Their daughter was educated in the public schools and in the Southern Iowa Normal School. On May 10, 1888, she was married to A. H. Fortune, a cashier in the Davis Co. Trust Co. Bank. Mrs. Fortune has unusual business ability and experience. She was in the money order department of the post office for four years and has had experience in bank book keeping. She has aided many clubs by starting the books in a business like way. She has been a member of the P. E. O. sisterhood since her girlhood days and has received many honors from them. She has filled most of the local chapter offices, was corresponding secretary and president of the Iowa grand chapter and for four years was on the Supreme Board as treasurer and custodian of supplies. She is a member of the Conversational Club and of the Chautauqua Club, having received two diplomas and having to her credit several years of reading. In religious faith she is a Presbyterian. She has contributed to local papers and to the P. E. O. Record and appeared on many convention programs. She is a woman having a wide acquaintance in the State, as well as among the women of other states with whom she has been associated in club and society work.

MRS. J. L. SAWYERS

Mrs. Jennie Drake Sawyers, daughter of the late General Francis Marion Drake, Ex-Governor of Iowa, and Mary Lord Drake, was born in Drakeville, Iowa. Her father should be remembered in Iowa history, not only because he was governor of the commonwealth, and a man of large financial interests, a general in the Civil War with a record of which Iowa may feel proud, but because he was a great man, a Christian man, who stood on the side of righteousness, a generous philanthropist, and a patron of education. Mrs. Sawyer was the first graduate of the Centerville high school, she later attended Oskaloosa College, the Chicago Female College, studied art in New York City, which was followed by three years of travel and study in the art centers of Europe. On June 12, 1883, she was married at her home in Centerville, to Dr. John Lazelle Sawyers, a successful physician and surgeon of Centerville, one of the best known men in his profession in southern Iowa. They have two daughters: Mary Drake Sawyers Baker of Baltimore, Md., and Hygiene Drake Sawyers, who is at school in the east, and one son, Francis Lazelle Sawyers. Mrs. Sawyers is a member of the Church of Christ, in Centerville, a member of the Christian Women's Board of Missions, and of the Philathea Class in the Sunday School. She is a member of the P. E. O. sisterhood, and has an active part in the society life of Centerville when she is at home. The Drake family has been prominent in Centerville since 1865, having always been interested in church school and other local interests.

Rules for Genealogy Exhibits for the 2013 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 8, 2013 between noon and 5 p.m. Open judging will begin at 5:30 p.m. Contact jadavis@netins.net with 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, and relationship. Index card recommended.
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

"Unless otherwise specified, exhibits must directly relate to exhibitor or exhibitor's family."

Category A: Research Material

1. Genealogical Collection: 3-ring Binder, Notebook, Scrapbook, etc. (Not published.)
2. Compiled Research: summary of research. Includes Ahnentafels & family group sheets. (May be published.)
3. Genealogical Proofs: copies or transcriptions of original research on one family or one line.
4. Two or more documents relevant to each other, ie: birth/death, marriage/divorce, enlistment/discharge, etc.
5. Genetic Genealogy: finding from DNA testing.

Category B: Stories and Articles

6. True Story: biography, memory, etc written by exhibitor. Typed, may include photos. Not to exceed 700 words.
7. Storytelling Display: timeline specific with photos.
8. Article from publication other than local.
9. Written Davis Co History: church, school, place, event. Typed, may include photos. Not to exceed 700 words. Need not directly relate to exhibitor.

Category C: Charts

10. Pedigree/Family Tree Chart: number of generations and completeness within those generations is considered.
11. Straight-Line Lineage Chart: relationship between 2 people: ancestor & descendant
12. Collateral Lineage Chart: relationship between 2 people, ie: Arnold Schwarzenegger & Maria Shriver.

Rules for Genealogy Exhibits for the 2013 Davis County Fair

Category D: Personal Documents

13. Records: diary, letters, ledgers, school, etc.
14. Religious: baptism, confirmation, bible, etc.
15. Certificate: birth, wedding, membership in organization, etc. (not government records)
16. Document or Certificate relating to Davis Co History. Need not directly relate to exhibitor.

Category E: Legal Documents

17. Vital Statistics: birth, marriage, or death.
18. Will or Probate
19. Land: land grant, deed, mortgage, lien, etc.
20. Military Record: discharge, pension, award, etc.
21. Misc Court: immigration, divorce, guardianship, civil, criminal, etc.

Category F: Photos

22. Two people or less.
23. Three people or more.
24. Pictorial Family History: poster or organized photo collection.
25. Home: homestead, house, barn, farming, family business, etc.
26. Community: school, church, cemetery/gravestones, organizations, events, etc.
27. Photos depicting Davis Co History. Need not directly relate to exhibitor.

Category G: Miscellaneous

28. Miscellaneous

Category H: Junior Projects

29. Map of Ancestors: where they lived.
30. Immigration. National origin of ancestors.
31. Family Tree or Pedigree: can be creative
32. Family Photo
33. Timeline: life of an ancestor with historical events
34. Art/Craft project depicting an aspect of family history.
35. Art/Craft project depicting an aspect of Davis Co history. Need not directly relate to exhibitor.
36. Cultural or Historical Display pertaining to exhibitor's heritage.

Floris Iowa Christian Church

OUR BELL

It was cast in the East,
Traveled across this Great Land.
To the Christian Church,
Where it would stand.
High up in the steeple,
For a Century, or more.
There it's beautiful chime,
Meant an open door.

But the door's closed,
And the bell lost it's song.
It stood there in Silence,
For far-far too long.
A new home was built,
In the center of town,
Where the Bell could be viewed,
By the folks all around.

Today the Old Bell stands,
In it's house in the Park.
Where it's bathed in light,
As the evening turns dark.
It's shined up and ready,
And looking quite nice.
It will peal out it's song,
Should the occasion arise.



M E CHURCH, FLORIS, IA

Feb 1940

52 Years Ago at Floris School 1887-1888



These two groups are students of the upper and lower rooms of the Floris school during the 1887-88 term. John Lang of Bloomfield, teacher of the upper room, submitted these interesting pictures for publication.

In the above photo, of the upper room, are the following: first row (left to right)—Etta Heady, Mary Rouch, Katie Kendrick, Ruby Stark, John Lang, teacher, U. S. Heady, Lewis Hoffstetter, Lawrence Heady (visitor), Sarah Kendrick, Nora Wilkinson, Della McClure, Ella Klinginsmith, Della Heady. Second row (left to right)—Selma Feagins, Rose Milan, Annie Davies, Freda Rouch, Lib Box, Stella Howard, Ada McClure, Effie Pierson, Helen Sloan, John Rouch, Ode Strickland, Walter Hentz and Joe Sloan.

In the lower photo, students of the lower room are shown. They are: first row (left to right)—Elva Billhumer, Birdie Strickland, Ruth McClure, Charles T. Lang teacher, Frank Feidler, Elmer Wilson, Will Binz, Dan Kendrick, Willie Pearson, Charley Wilson; second row (left to right)—Anna Strickland, Katie Box, Bertha Hoffstetter, Ott Christ, Libbie Christ, Nina Sloan, Flora Gibbs, Pearl Strickland, Fanny Rouch, Bertha Elswick, Anna Koebke, Nate Binz; third row (left to right)—Fred Larzalier, Gustavus Koebke, Charles Howard, Francis Koebke, John Owens, Elroy Sweeney, Mary Koebke, Jessie Klinginsmith, Ida Strickland, Willie Billhumer, Frank Billhumer, Willie Rouch, standing in door, Jake Carr.



The town of Floris and first Post Office (Lick Creek Township) was established in 1847 in Lick Creek Township on the application of a Dr O C Udell and George Duffield and was called floris (city of Flowers).

The first Post Master appointed was D Swinney from 1846-1865. In 1950 Ceina Birdsall was appointed, and more recently Sally Birdsall held the position.

July 1854 the town of Floris was surveyed and August 8, 1854 platted.

Floris was also the location of Chicago & southwestern & Rock Island railroad station.

On January 10, 1905 the town of Floris, Iowa was incorporated. The first Mayor was Isaac Hart.

Floris is 4 miles from the Log Church "Mars Hill".

The first switchboard operator was Pearl Strickland, with Bernice Hopkins being the last, as in 1965 the Floris telephone exchange was converted to dial service.

On June 26, 1905 the Floris Savings Bank was established, George Carson cashier.

In 1975 there were 2 churches, the Baptist and the Christian.

In 1974 the modern school building was sold to the Baptist church.



The different pictures of the Floris Churches, label them as Christian, M. E., and Baptist. Noting the bell tower, windows, distinguishes between them? Some photo's have 3 openings, some have 2 openings in the bell tower. Photo above is from 1976 TTT *This is Davis County* Maroon book. Previous page modern photos were taken before the Christian church destruction in 2008. The church photo on the previous page labeled M.E. was also on loan, Our next Issue will include more Floris photo's.

Who are We Missing?

Charter Member Lois Jones will be missed

Lois Jones

TROY: Vivian Lois Jones, 92, of Bloomfield, Iowa died April 13, 2013 at the Hospice Serenity House in Oskaloosa, Iowa. She was born April 3, 1921 in Davis County, Iowa to John Alfred and Ida M. Horn Gravett. She married Hunter Jones February 8, 1946 in Pulaski, Iowa. He preceded her in death April 7, 2003. She was a county school teacher, a school bus driver, and a homemaker. Lois was an incorporator of the Troy Academy and the Historical Society. She was active in Band Boosters, was a Girl Scout leader, 4H leader, a charter member of the Troy Mother's Club and the Davis County Genealogical Society, and was also a member of the Troy Rebekah Lodge. She was affiliated with the Troy United Methodist Church.

She is survived by a son, James A. Jones of West Des Moines, Iowa; four daughters, Anna Marie (Andy) Anderson of Adel, Iowa, Patsy J. (Ralph) Roberts of Oskaloosa, Iowa, Susan Kay (Ed) Foy, Cherly "Cheri" Lynn (Bruce) Porter both of Indianola, Iowa; seven grandchildren, Dawn Van Berkum, Cory Anderson, Shane Roberts, Brandon Roberts, Taylor Foy, Angela Besco, Nathan Porter; and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; a granddaughter, Kaitlyn Foy; three brothers, Lester, Bernard, and Beulas Gravett; and a sister, Velma Wimp.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 17, 2013 at the Wagler Funeral Home in Bloomfield with Pastor Jack Jackson officiating. Burial will be at the Troy Cemetery in Troy, Iowa. Visitation will begin after 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday with the family present to greet friends from 5-7:00 p.m. at the funeral home. Memorials have been established to the Troy United Methodist Church and to the Hospice Serenity House in Oskaloosa.



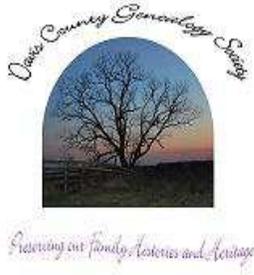
2010 Census puts Floris @ 128 persons. In 1920 the population was 252.

Floris hosts an annual Flag Day with festivities and good cheer.

Between seven and eight o'clock, Tuesday evening, August 23, 1881, George Brooks, an old resident, living near Floris, was fatally shot by his son Hiram, with a thirty-two caliber revolver. Hiram was arrested, and the case is now pending in the District Court.

DAVIS COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Mail: P O BOX 94
Location: 200 W LOCUST
BLOOMFIELD IA 52537

6416641501
DCGS@NETINS.NET



IADAVIS@NETINS.NET

2013 OFFICERS

DEBORAH BARKER,

EDITOR & PRESIDENT

KAREN PROSAPIO, VICE PRESIDENT

VICKI HOUK, SECRETARY

PAT HOWK, TREASURER

ALL VOLUNTEERS APPRECIATED!

ALL MEMBERSHIPS SOLICITED!

NORMAL HOURS

Tues, Weds, Thurs, Fri

1 - 4 PM

Saturday 10 A-1 PM

Monthly meetings the 3rd Thursday of the Month, 7 PM

at the Old School

Open to the Public