

THE SUNFLOWER

Reno County Genealogical Society P. O. Box 5 Hutchinson, Kansas 67504-0005

ISSN 1048 - 048X



The Reno County Genealogical Society of Hutchinson, Kansas was founded in 1978 for the purpose of fostering genealogical research, promoting the exchange of information and encouraging the deposit of genealogical and historical materials in established libraries and archives. Membership in the Reno County Genealogical Society is open to anyone interested in genealogy. Dues are \$12.00 per year, per family from January 1 to December 31 each year. Meetings are held the third Monday of each month [except December / noted otherwise] in the Children's Reading Room of the Hutchinson Public Library, 9th and Main, 7:00 – 9:00 P. M.

RCGS 2007 Officers

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[* Includes Program & Membership Chair]

RCGS Email: RCGS@cox.net

RCGS Web Site:

http://rootsweb.com/~ksrcgs

KCGS Web Site:

http://skyways.lib.ks.us/genweb/kcgs

RCGS 2007 Standing Committees

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Web Coordinator Gale Wall

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The Sunflower welcomes your articles and photographs about your Reno County ancestors.

- · Email to: RCGS@cox.net
- Mail to: RCGS P. O. Box 5 Hutchinson, KS 67504-0005
- Assistance is available in formatting your submissions
- Submissions are subject to editing and space availability

Deadlines				
Issue	Due by			
Feb	12/5			
May	3/5			
Aug	6/5			
Nov	9/5			

The Reno County Genealogical Society is a member of the Federation of Genealogical Societies and the Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies.

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Coming Soon ~*~ Coming Soon

The Kidnapping of Electa Forrest

• The Reno County Poor Farm

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The Reno County Genealogical Society has a number of events scheduled for the coming months. Will you do your part to support each event? The events are: [A] Monthly meetings: show your support by coming to the meetings. A lot of work goes into planning the programs for the meetings. Won't you volunteer to contribute to the 2008 programs? [B] Cemetery work day, scheduled for May 12, contact Gale for more information about how you can help. [C] June 16 - Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies Annual Conference and Meeting at the Salina Holiday Inn Convention Center on Crawford Street. Tony Burroughs is the speaker.

I have attended one of his workshops and he is a great speaker. [D] Sep. 1 - Your entry in the Favorite Ancestor Contest is due. What is the Favorite Ancestor Contest? Ask a RCGS Board Member how you can enter at the next meeting. [E] Sep. 9 - 15; Four 2-hour genealogy programs are scheduled to be given at the Kansas State Fair. Will you volunteer to give one of the programs - Family Health History, Forgotten Settlers of Kansas, Internet Genealogy, Immigration to Kansas, Land Records, Homestead Records or you choose a topic you are interested in sharing with others. [F] Oct. 15 - Annual potluck dinner at Delos Smith Center. Bring your spouse, a friend or someone you know who is interested in genealogy and let them see what a great group we are. [G] Oct. 20 - Family History Fair at the Hutchinson Public Library. You will be needed to set up, answer questions at the Fair and pack everything up after the event. Do you have certificates, pictures, family treasures or other things of genealogical interest that you would display? Let Gale know what you have.

Yes, we have some interesting monthly programs and special events planned. We also have some very active members. Are you one of them? I just sent in the information needed to get seven Forgotten Settlers of Kansas Certificates. They now have enough applications to print a new publication. I am challenging every member of RCGS who has an ancestor who was in Kansas before Dec. 31, 1900 to submit their application for a certificate. I'll be seeing you at the meetings. Let me know your ideas about how we can get new members and improve our present programs. Ruth Hair Filbert

RENO RECORDS



Cemetery records - We are updating our cemetery records. Phase one is to retype our publication from 1980 and it is almost complete. We need an electronic copy to assist in our verification process. Phase two will be to obtain access to cemetery records. Most do not have official records and we will need to walk each cemetery to obtain the information from the marked graves. This phase will be long-term.

JOIN US SATURDAY, MAY 12TH - 9:00 AM AT EASTSIDE CEMETERY

Cemetery Volunteers Needed:

- with digital cameras; assist in cemetery; proofread and help with typing
- Wanted: Cemetery Team coordinate and oversee record upkeep

New volunteer: Sally Eubanks Welcome!

Other Project Help Needed:

- Coordinator to assemble a team to index the State Census schedules for Reno County.
- Volunteers for a scanning project

New CD Publications: RCGS has produced two new publications in CD format.

- 1888 issue of Harper's Weekly has been digitized. The city of Hutchinson is the featured supplement. Has a great two-page spread with drawings of local places.
- 1902 Reno Plat Book has been digitized. Both are formatted as a PDF file with auto run. [see pg 51 & 53]

NEWS & NOTES - DATES TO REMEMBER

- National Genealogical Society Conference Richmond, VA May 16 19, 2007
- Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies Conference Salina, KS June 16, 2007. If you plan to attend
 please let Ruth Filbert know. KCGS has a conference registration challenge. The society with the most
 registrants will win a paid 2007 2008 membership. Reno County had 9 attend in 2006. Let's top that!
- Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference Ft. Wayne, IN August 15 18, 2007
- Kansas State Fair Entry Genealogy in Fine Arts August 15th
- Marriage books update: The marriage books are still out for microfilming, but you can complete the temporary form providing the name and date to request a copy of a marriage record. Average response time is about a week and the cost is \$2 per record. We'll keep you posted.
- Ancestry.com has added the Kansas State Census collection; 1855 1915 [added late Feb]
- "A Prairie Beacon" History of the Peace Creek Church of Christ has been published. See our website for more details. Click on books from the home page and then on the title of the book.



In Memory of

Zola F. McGonigle

5/22/1919 - 2/20/2007

Born in rural Sterling of Reno County, the daughter of Emerson B and Norma

E. Baker Belden. She married Harry Wallace "Jack" McGonigle. He died in 2002. Burial was in Memorial Park Cemetery. Zola was a charter member of the Reno County Genealogical Society.

In Memory of

Billy D. Taggart

11/11/1925 - 11/17/2006

Born in Castleton, the son of Leroy and Effie Louise Wakefield Taggart.

He married Dona Mae Wilson of Hutchinson. She survives. Burial was in Lonestar Cemetery with military graveside rites.



RCGS 2007 PROGRAMS

- 1/15 <u>Tour of the Kansas Room</u> [2nd floor of HPL] by Cheryl Canfield
- 2/19 Family Health History by Rita Lingg
- 3/19 Preparing a Kansas State Fair Genealogy Entry by Keith Burgess
- 4/16 <u>Immigrant Origins</u> by Marilyn Finke, Archivist, National Archives Central Plains Reg.
- 5/21 <u>Documentation & Citing Sources</u> by Ruth Filbert
- 6/18 <u>Census on the Internet [HPL computer lab]</u>
 by Cheryl Canfield

- 7/16 <u>Internet Resources & Web Sites</u> by Karen Burgess
- 8/20 TBA
- 9/17 <u>Creative Ways to Display Your Family History</u> by Ruth Filbert & Gale Wall
- 10/15 <u>Celebrating Family History Month</u> Join us at the Delos V. Smith Center, 101 W. 1st, 6:00 pm.

Potluck - bring your favorite dish to share Bring a family item to share for "show & tell"

- 11/19 <u>Book Review & Genealogical Magazines</u> by Ruth Filbert
- December No meeting Happy Holidays!

EDITOR'S NOTE



It's been a busy year. The Board [officers & committee chairs] has accomplished a lot in such a short time. You'll see a lot of those accomplishments highlighted throughout this issue.

In the last issue I mentioned listing some topics that we would like to see researched for future issues, publication and for our new website. Please review the following and let us know if you would be willing to research a particular topic. Also, there are several short articles waiting for a volunteer to type and these can be emailed to you in PDF format. Will you help? Can anyone

give me some history on the time capsule that is buried at the Wildmead Cemetery? I've been to City Hall and the Library in Nickerson but no one could help.

We'll see you in August! Gale Wall

* most wanted	Family - farms *	Mayors	Salt Mines and History
1874 grasshopper invasion	GAR	Military; wars, veterans *	Schools *
1890 Reconstructed *	Ghost Towns	Nurses, register of	State Fair
Anti Horse Thief Assoc	Heritage recipes	Obituary Index *	State Census Index *
Books - Pre 1923 - transcribe *	Historical pictures of Reno	Orphan Train	Tax Records - Index
Buildings & Homes history	County	Pioneers / Old Settlers *	Teachers
Census - districts, enumerators	IOOF	Policemen [Sheriff]	Townships *
Churches	Land Records - Index / list of ledgers	Post Offices	Women's Relief Corps
Cities	Livestock Marks and Brands	POWs - in Hutch	
County Commission minutes	Maps - Plat index *	Railroads	
Doctors	Marriage Records - 1914 + *	Reformatory	an House Research

NEW MEMBERS

Brown, Debby - Parkville, MO
Dean, Jerry - West Hills, CA
Eubanks, Sally - Hutchinson, KS
Miller, Alan & Vickie Wall - Baldwin, KS
Mladnick, Becky - Forest Lake, MN
Montford, Jeanie - Hutchinson, KS

Morgan, Melody - Plano, TX Pitzer, Phillip - Partridge, KS Poulton, Sharon - Hutch [renewal] Wall, Gary & Karen - Ponder, TX



ON THE COVER

The Hutchinson Sugar Mill

Built about 1881 the sugar mill production was short lived in Hutchinson. It closed for the second and final time in March of 1885. Around 1887 an effort was made to revive the sugar mill operation. The building sat idle for many years. In July 1888 the Hutchinson Soap Factory began operations from the building. In 1901 it was sold to the Nelson brothers for use as a warehouse. In 1983 the Reno County Historical Society tried to raise the funds to buy the property. In 1984 it was purchased by a real estate developer. In 1985 it was listed in the National Register of Historical Places. The building is currently used for storage.

Photographed by Gale Wall

2007 KANSAS COUNCIL OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES CONFERENCE



KCGS P. O. Box 3858 Topeka, KS 66604-6858 The 33rd Annual

KCGS Conference

presented by
The Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies, Inc.
and
The Smoky Valley Genealogical Society

June 16, 2007 Holiday Inn Convention Center - Salina, KS 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Conference Schedule

Session One

The Nature of Genealogy

Session Two

Farmers, Tenant Farmers, and Share Croppers

Session Three

The Six Phases of African-American Genealogy

Session Four

Creating Order Out of Chaos

Featuring: Tony Burroughs

Tony Burroughs is a professional genealogist who has been teaching genealogy at Chicago State University for fifteen years.

Visit Tony's website:

http://www.tonyburroughs.com

Visit the KCGS website for a registration form: http://skyways.lib.ks.us/genweb/kcgs

Early registration \$40.00 - includes syllabus and catered lunch. Must be received by May 26th Late registration \$45.00 - Syllabus and luncheon cannot be guaranteed for late registrants / walk-ins.

Note: There is a registration challenge between the member societies. If you are going please let Ruth Filbert know when you have mailed your registration form. Last year Reno County had 9 people in attendance. Let's top that number this year. The event is close enough that it will be a one day trip. Let's carpool.

PIONEERS & SETTLERS OF RENO COUNTY

Diary Extracts of Pioneer W. J. Ross, Continued

The following extracts were taken from the diary of W. J. Ross, who settled in Roscoe township in the fall of 1873. Mr. Ross each day entered in his journal the record of the day's events. During the stirring days of the Indian scare, the gloomy period of the grasshopper days and the other experiences of Reno County, Mr. Ross kept this journal. It is one of the best records of early days in Kansas obtainable. Extracts from 1874

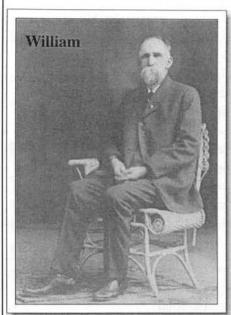
- 7/26 North wind blew up last night. Cool. Showers of grasshoppers from the north lit down at sunset. [Sunday evening]
- 7/27 Immense clouds of grasshoppers flying south.
- 7/28 The grasshoppers have entirely destroyed a part of our corn. By night there will be nothing left but the bare stalks.
- 7/29 Went to Hutchinson yesterday. Grasshoppers have destroyed the crops from Minnesota south. Most of the corn is stripped from here to town. Light south wind. Hoppers flying north.
- 8/1 O. McMurray came to our house and let us the contract to carry the mail on horseback from Peace [now Sterling] to Caldwell, about 110 or 1?? (illegible) miles to make one trip a week at \$50 per month.
- 8/6 A Texas steer came in sight. Warran Fields ran it around into their corn and called on Charles to shoot it. Killed and dressed it.
- 8/8 Went to town. Mr. Jordan along. Attended meeting of citizens to consider ways and means for relief. Large convention. I presided over it. Railroad company offers to buy wheat and rye and deliver to the people in Hutchinson for seeding this fall. Also attended meeting of independent central committee. Decided not to run a separate ticket this fall.
- 8/15 At 2 pm discovered the prairie on fire southeast of the place; fought it off on the south and fired around the north side of the farm. Have saved about 300 acres from burning. Jordan's saved some and Chaffin's saved part of Ritter's claim. In all about a section of grass is saved. We were at work against the fire until 10 pm.
- 8/25 Went to Mr. Baker's to a meeting of the citizens of this township to see about seed wheat and who were in want of state aid. A cloud of grasshoppers settled yesterday evening. Real thick today.
- 9/5 A few hoppers in the air floating north.
- 9/9 Heavy rain.
- 9/13 Rained nearly all night. Much wetter than it has been at any time within year. Roof leaks and the rain beats in at the gables and about the window and door.
- 9/23 Remained in town all day. One car load of wheat came. Did not get any.

- 9/24 Got our wheat in the evening.
- 10/5 Sowed the last of the 25 bushels of wheat we got from the railroad company on 26 acres of land. Thomas and Will hauled chips.
- 10/21 Five buffaloes passed south of the house.
- 10/26 Boys hauled chips. Texas herds on south Ninnescah yet.
- 10/30 Clara Collingwood brought letter over from W. B. B. He says he has sent us three barrels of potatoes, 1 of onions and 1 of turnips, 1 sack of sugar and coffee and 1 box of clothing. All of which we are much in want, in fact we are in want of almost everything except health and appetite. We are very thankful that we have the latter and will be thankful for whatever our friends may send us.
- 11/14 A lot of the young folks from over east came in last evening and we had spelling school until near midnight.
- 11/15 Will, Nellie and Charles walked over to school house to singing.
- 11/17 Thomas and I started to Medicine with team after timber and timber seed.
- 11/18 At Chickaskia ranch. Snowed all night. At 1 pm three men came through from Kingman nearly perished.
- 11/19 Started back home. Roads badly drifted. Had to dig out with the spade twice. Stayed at Ball's hostel Kingman overnight.
- 12/4 Covered the house roof all over with dirt and fixed for winter.
- 12/9 Mr. Baker called. Wants me to visit Iowa and obtain help for the destitute.
- 12/10 Boys returned this evening without any chips. Stalled in the Ninnescah and had to throw all the load overboard.
- 12/12 Children went to Collingswood's to singing in the evening. [Mr. Ross left for New York to solicit aid for grasshopper sufferers on Dec. 17. Did not return until March 8. In the meantime diary kept by his children.

The original diary is supposed to be at the Reno County Museum. I have not been able to verify that. The rest of the extracted diary in the news article will be placed on our website in the near future.

PIONEERS & SETTLERS OF RENO COUNTY

William Hodgson



William Hodgson was born in Wigton, England in 1842. He arrived in Taunton, Massachusetts with his parents at the age of 2, where he lived until the age of 10 when the family moved to Steele County, Minnesota, then the edge of the frontier bordering the Sioux and Winnebago Indian lands. He learned many things from his Sioux friends through his teenage years. Runaway slaves were often harbored in the Hodgson home, and at the onset of the Civil War William chose without hesitation to enlist with the 4th Minnesota Infantry rather than follow his brothers to college.

He served from 1861 until 1865 when he mustered out as a Corporal. He was the first color-bearer in the 4th Minnesota regiment as it marched first in line at the Grand Review in Washington, DC. At the end of the war he returned to Minnesota, where he married Ellen Ware, the daughter of a circuit-riding preacher. He farmed there until 1867, when he moved to Missouri, "partly on the advice of friends and mostly from my own desire." He with his wife and daughter moved to Hutchinson, Kansas, arriving on April 14, 1873. He lived first at the Commerce Hotel, owned by his

brother Harry, near Sherman and Main, but soon bought out the farm interests of his brothers who had home-steaded the north half of section 20 of what became known as Reno Township. On this section, William Hodgson gathered over 600 wagon loads of buffalo bones.

He first built a small home, 14 by 20 feet, in 1874. He built a stable, dug a good well, and planted about 12,000 trees on the farmstead those first years. He soon added a granary, shed, and windmill, and planted a 40-acre orchard. Eventually he built a large family home on the farm. He had lilac bushes and several first edition books from England sent to him by his Grandmother, and by 1915 he owned over 100 books in his library, including an original set of Shakespeare's complete works. This home and its family heirlooms were destroyed in 1928 when the house caught fire during the night.

William Hodgson was active in the Republican party, a charter member of the GAR Post 17 in Hutchinson, and was township trustee and on the township school board for many years. William & Ellen Hodgson had several children, four of whom survived to adulthood: Minnie (who married Charles Theiss), Edward, Herbert, and William L. Descendents of Herbert and Will remained on the Hodgson farm continuously until August of 1974.

William Hodgson died at the age of 83, on November 23, 1925. He was buried in the Hodgson family plot at Eastside Cemetery. His wife, Ellen, preceded him in death on May 13, 1906. His friends summarized his life: "Mr. Hodgson had many interesting reminiscences of early days in Kansas and of the dangers and perils of the Civil War, but, so modest was he, he could not be induced to talk about many events in which he was conspicuous and not at all about certain ones in which his neighbors say he played the part of a hero. There can be no doubt that his war record is as good as that of any man in Kansas, and he was an earnest, patriotic citizen of the most substantial personal worth, a gentle and benevolent man, whose sense of honor is high and whose deportment in all relations of his busy and useful life has been admirable and in all ways worthy of emulation by young men."

Submitted by Darren McMannis



See pg 49 & RCGS website for more family info

VETERAN IN RENO COUNTY

A

Bringing Dean Home

John Dean Armstrong was born in 1917 to Guy and Margaret Armstrong. He graduated from Kansas State University in 1938. On October 31, 1938 he enlisted in the Navy and was an ensign in the naval air force for three years. He volunteered to resign from the Navy to serve as a civilian instructor, training Chinese pilots for service in the Chinese Army. In the summer of 1941 he went to Burma where he was a member of the American Volunteer Group [AVG], later known as Chennault's "Flying Tigers". On September 8, 1941 Dean was killed in a mid-air crash at Rangoon, Burma.

He was the first Reno County man to die in the war. He was buried

in St. Luke's Anglican Church Cemetery in the Toungoo region of Burma, known today as Myanmar. His parents were notified of his death via cablegram and the story of his death appeared on the front page of the Hutchinson News on September 10, 1941. In the 1950s Dean's father, Guy, traveled to Burma in an effort to locate his son's grave. He was not successful.

Lynn Evans and Karen Beauprie, nieces of Dean, have been on a mission for several years to locate, repatriate and re-inter their Uncles remains at Fairlawn Cemetery with his parents. In February 2007 they were able to obtain the Distinguished Flying Cross awarded posthumously in 1996 to members of the AVG [at which time their military status was rein

posthumously in 1996 to members of the AVG [at which time their military status was reinstated]. Due to the political climate in Burma it has been hard to find the answers they seek. With the help of a Canadian graduate student living in Thailand and willing to travel to Burma last fall, Lynn was able to obtain pictures of the area in question. The original cemetery has been relocated and separated as Muslim and Christian and it is not known at this time if Dean's grave was marked and moved accordingly. Sadly, the gate was locked and the student was not allowed to enter the cemetery. The new burial location is essentially in a swamp area that is accessed through a dumpsite. Lynn and Karen began this journey with little information and have realized this isn't going to be an easy task. We will follow and chronicle this journey as it unfolds. Let's hope they are successful in bringing Dean home.

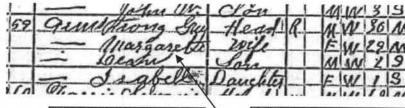
Census: 1920 Clark Co. Kansas

Pictures: L to R

Margaret, Guy & baby Dean 1917

Dean and Guy

Dean and Guy

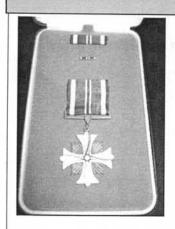








VETERAN IN RENO COUNTY



Editor's Note: There are many web sites for The Flying Tigers. Here are 3. There have been a multitude of books written as well. Fortunately, for the Armstrong family, 2 books written contain detailed information on the crash and photographs of Dean's funeral service and burial. (1) Flying Tigers by Daniel Ford and (2) The Lady and The Tigers by Olga Greenlaw.

http://www.flyingtigersavg.com http://www.flyingtigerline.org http://www.acepilots.com/misc_tigers.html

Dean was in the 2nd Pursuit Squadron - Panda Bears









Pictures:

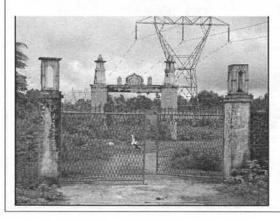
Row 1: Left: The Distinguished Flying Cross - There are 2 citations with the cross, including a Presidential Citation issued on December 8, 1996; posthumously.

Row 1: Right: New Anglican Church, Myanmar

Row 2: Dump, Christian Cemetery pictures

I thought I would include this beautiful picture of the elephants the graduate student included as a "lighter note". The elephants are used for logging.





Muslim Cemetery

Entrance [L]

Graves in swamp area [R]



PHOTOS & POSTCARDS



Photos donated to RCGS by Darren McMannis

[Darren purchased on Ebay]

Left - *on the back*Howard Waller
Hutchinson Elks Convention

Below - on the back

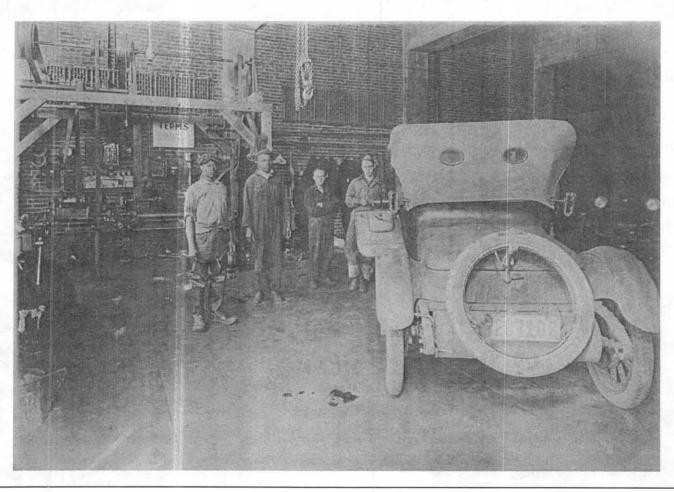
23 E 1st

Granden

Williams

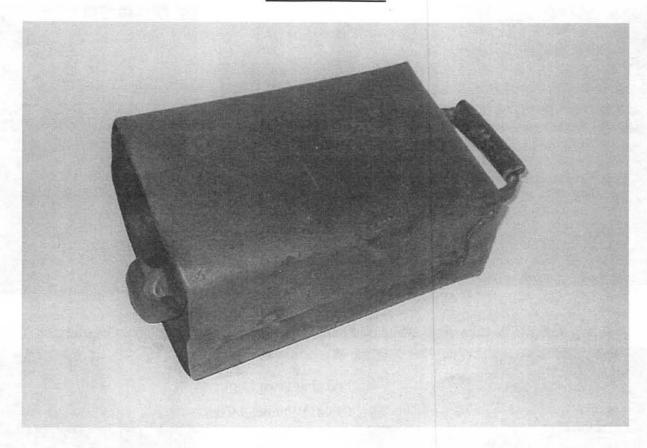
Caldwell

Green



HEIRLOOMS ~ FAMILY TREASURES ~ KEEPSAKES

Zachariahs's Bell



RCGS member, Bill Rexroad, was able to acquire this bell after learning about it while on a trip to West Virginia. His 5th Great Grandfather, Zachariah Rexrode, came to America from Germany in 1749, the first Rexrode to this country. He was a blacksmith by trade. Recorded in "The History of Pendleton County, West Virginia" it is noted that Zachariah made excellent bells, the sound of which could be heard for several miles.

This bell is believed to be one of those that Zachariah made.

Share your family keepsakes!

MEMORIALS

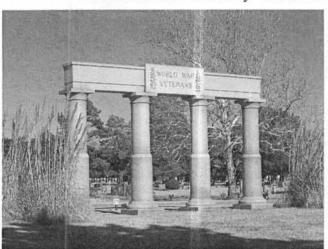
Most of us has someone in our family, in at least one or more generation, that has served in the military. Here are a few memorials to our veterans in Reno county.







L to R: Eastside Cemetery - Memorial Park Cemetery - Buhler Municipal Cemetery



Left: Fairlawn Cem. Right: Wildmead Cem.



Soldiers and Sailors Memorial 1st Avenue and Walnut

Memorial Day History and Information Sites

http://www.usmemorialday.org/
http://www.history.com/minisites/memorial/
http://www.memorialdayfoundation.org/info.asp?id=1963
http://www.americanfamilytraditions.com/memorial_day.htm
[editor's note: no endorsements are made by listing these sites]

CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

Created in 1861, more than 3,400 medals of honor have been awarded. Two Civil War recipients call Reno County their resting place.

Thomas A. Blasdel / 1843 - 1932

Fairlawn Cemetery; Lot 273

Rank and org: Private, Company H, 83 Indiana Infantry.

Place and date: At Vicksburg, MS, 22 May 1863.

Entered service at: Guilford, IN

Birth: Dearborn County, IN [1/2/1843] [death: 10/12/1932]

Date of issue: 11 August 1894.

Citation: Gallantry in the charge of the "volunteer storming party."

1930 Reno Co., KS

1880 Dearborn Co., IN

1920 Reno Co., KS

1870 Dearborn Co., IN

1915 Anderson Co., KS

1910 Anderson Co., KS

1905 Reno Co., KS

1900 Reno Co., KS







Franklin Hogan / 1843 - 1932

Eastside Cemetery; Lot 698

Rank and org: Corporal, Company A, 45th Pennsylvania Infantry.

Place and date: Front of Petersburg, VA, 30 July 1864.

Entered service at: Howard, PA

Birth: Centre County, PA [1/7/1843] [death: 4/5/1932]

Date of issue: 1 October 1864.

Citation: Capture of flag of 6th Virginia Infantry (C.S.A.)



1930 Reno Co., KS

1895 Reno Co., KS

1920 Reno Co., KS

1885 Ellsworth Co., KS

1915 Reno Co., KS

1880 Ellsworth Co., KS

1910 Reno Co., KS

1905 Reno Co., KS

1900 Reno Co., KS

Children of Frank & Elizabeth

Edward, Mary R, Harry, Stella,

Elzie & Robert

	LAND RECORDS						
1915 Land owners i	in Enterprise	Dunn, FM	34		Houston, FM	22	
Township		Dunn, FM	35		Ireton, CE	5	
		Dunn, Frank	34		Ireton, EM	8	
Name	Section	Dunn, GW	22		Ireton, Wm	8	
Anderson, JM	34	Dunn, GW	22		Kaufman, BE	19	
Anderson, Ora A	27	Dunn, GW	22		Kaufman, LM	19	
Anderson, WA	27	Dunn, GW	26		Kellam, RC	35	
Armstrong, J	24	Dunn, GW	36		Kellams, JC	1	
Armstrong, J	24	Dunn, JP	30		Kelsey, RD	9	
Baker, S	26	Dunn, JP	35		Kerr, WS	23	
Baker, S	26	Dunn, WJ et al	28		Kerr, WS	23	
Baker, S	28	Ehling, P	29		King, JH	21	
Barber, OF	18	Ehling, P	29		King, JH	21	
Baughman, A	6	Ehling, P	29		King, JH	21	
Beck, Joseph	19	Ehling, P	29		Kittle, SF	11	
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THE SUNFLOWER May 2007

BIOGRAPHIES & FAMILY RECORDS

Levi Hopkins & Elizabeth Hicks

Submitted by Kendall Griggs

Levi Hopkins

Born: 03 JAN 1803 - Bourbon Co., Kentucky; Died: 24 APR 1883 - Reno Co., near Haven, Kansas

Elizabeth "Betsy" Hicks

Born: 04 DEC 1804 - Surry Co., North Carolina; Died: 23 APR 1880 - Reno Co., near Haven, Kansas

Levi Hopkins was born in Bourbon County, Kentucky on January 3, 1803. His family moved to Clermont County, Ohio where he met and married Elizabeth Hicks on February 14, 1822. Levi was well educated and had excellent penmanship. [I have a mathematics book Levi wrote by hand in 1820-21. Some example problems: #20. Said Harry to Charles, my father gave me 12 apples more than he gave my brother Jack and the difference of the squares of our separate parcels was 288--now if you can tell how many he gave each, you shall have half mine? #8. If the carriage of 1200 lb. 150 miles cost \$15; what will the carriage of 500 lb. 180 miles be? The pages were dated from January 4, 1820 to June 11, 1821.]

Levi was a shoemaker by trade and probably worked at a large tannery that operated in Bethel, Ohio during the mid-1800's. In 1826, Levi was listed as a property owner in Franklin Township of Clermont County. In 1845, Levi was listed as being among the early members of the first Methodist church organized in Clermont County, the Sugar-Tree Wesleyan Methodist Church, two miles southwest of Bethel.

The 1850 census listed Levi, Elizabeth and Levi W. Hopkins living in Tate township of Clermont County: Levi a farmer and Elizabeth as being insane. The family moved to Iowa around 1855 and Levi W. Hopkins married Sarah Elizabeth Carter on September 29, 1859 in Wapello County. The 1860 census listed both Levi and Levi W. as farmers in Wapello County, Iowa.

In August 1875, at the age of 73, he and his wife made the trip to Kansas with their son Levi W. and his family. They purchased land five miles south and one mile west of Haven, Kansas. Levi died on April 24, 1883 in Reno County, near Haven, Kansas and was buried in a cemetery four and one-half miles south of Haven.

Elizabeth Hicks was born on December 4, 1804 in Surry County, North Carolina. Her parents were Joshua and Diana (Adams) Hicks. Joshua was born about 1765 in Surry County, North Carolina, the son of Samuel Hicks. Diana Adams was born about 1768 in Virginia. Joshua and Diana were married on September 19, 1794 in Rowen, North Carolina and moved to Clermont County, Ohio about 1805. Elizabeth died in Reno County, near Haven, KS on April 23, 1880. She is buried at Haven Priest Cemetery.

Buried: Both are in unmarked graves 4 1/2 miles south of Haven, Kansas. [see page 48 & 49]

Five children were born to this union:

- 1. Joshua H. Hopkins born September 22, 1823
- 2. Mary Hopkins born January 27, 1825
- 3. Diana Hopkins born December 26, 1826
- 4. Elizabeth Ann Hopkins born July 31, 1837
- 5. <u>Levi Whitcomb Hopkins</u> born January 5, 1840 in Clermont County Ohio, married Sarah Elizabeth Carter on September 29, 1859 in Wapello County Iowa. Levi W. died on December 3, 1883 and Sarah died on November 19, 1919. They had six children.

Levi is also buried in an unmarked grave 4 1/2 miles south of Haven, Kansas.

See Levi W. & Sarah's biography and sample pages of Levi's math book on our website.

BIOGRAPHIES & FAMILY RECORDS

The Perilous Road to Peace Submitted by Grant Clothier

When I was a child, my father recounted many exciting stories of the adversities encountered by his pioneer family. Among them were tales of grasshopper invasions, prairie fires and droughts. They gathered buffalo bones to sell for ready cash when times were hard and crops failed. However, the one story that remains forever fixed in my memory is the story of their effort to escape the danger of a possible Indian massacre.

The lone rider came out of the west one spring morning in the late 1870's and paused briefly at the homestead of my grandfather, J. B. Clothier. "An Indian raiding party has attacked some settlers over west of here and my be headed this way," he said breathlessly. "You'd best take your family to town where you'll be safe."

J. B. immediately swung into action. He rounded up and harnessed his fastest team of horses while grandmother dressed the children and hastily collected some extra clothing, bedding and a few provisions. Quickly he loaded his wife, their five children and the few meager provisions aboard the wagon, whipped up the horses and set out for Peace, a village just across the Arkansas River, about twenty miles northeast of their home, and safety.

James Byron Clothier was no stranger to hardship and danger. He was born in Wisconsin in 1848 and moved with his parents to Iowa the following year. When fifteen years of age, he lied about his age and volunteered for service in the Union Army. After the war ended, he rejoined his family who had, at the war's end, moved to Bates County, Missouri, where he married and started a family. In the spring of 1874 along with his father, Chancy, and six other families, he formed a wagon train that took up homesteads in western Reno County. Here, they formed what came to be known as the Peace Creek community.

After an anxious but uneventful journey across the empty prairie, the family reached the Arkansas River by midafternoon. Normally the Arkansas was a placid stream, meandering across the prairie of Central Kansas. However, because of the torrential spring rains, it had become a formidable barrier to the family's safety. They faced a predicament reminiscent of the Israelites at the Red Sea pursued by Pharaoh's army. With little hope the surging waters of the Arkansas would be parted by Divine intervention, J. B. desperately sought a more practical solution to their dilemma. Finally, seeing no alternative, he plunged the frightened horses into the swiftly-moving stream.

In order to control the horses, J. B. climbed out of the wagon seat into the doubletrees, leaving grandmother and the children in the wagon box. As they cautiously entered the main channel, the chassis begin to sink, but the wagon box, with grandmother and the children, remained on the surface, a boat without oars or anchor. In a heroic effort to save the family, J. B. frantically whipped the horses forward, creating a drafting current which drew the box along behind the wagon frame. In a few moments the crisis was past as the wagon floated into shallow water where grandfather recaptured it and secured the box with its precious cargo to the wagon frame. With the help of his two older boys, he remounted the wagon box on its chassis and the family quickly covered the short distance to Peace.

After a few days of anxious waiting, the Clothier family learned the rumor of imminent danger was unfounded. They then returned home, but only after being assured the Arkansas River has resumed its normal peaceful character.

I knew my grandfather when he was past eighty years of age, hard of hearing and almost totally blind. However in my mind's eye he is forever the brave and resourceful pioneer who saved his family from a watery grave

Author's note: The city of Sterling was originally known as Peace when it was founded January 15, 1872. The name changed in 1876 when the city had a large enough population to become a city of the third class.

[See the RCGS website for more pictures]



CEMETERY CORNER - LOST CEMETERIES & BURIAL SITES

Research in progress to find and preserve the lost <u>and private</u> burial locations in Reno County. I was reminded while working on this article that not all burial sites are lost. Some may be unknown to the general public.

French Property: [Private Property]: Center Township, Greenfield Road.

<u>Hodgson, William: Homestead Burial:</u> Reno Township; Section 20, Twp 23, Range 6. Today, this land is where the Reno County landfill sits. See photo pg 49 and bio on page 37.

<u>Wall, Klaas: Homestead Burials:</u> Grandpa Wall [John 1899 - 1991] told his children that his sister Lena, brother Peter and two others he couldn't remember were buried in the pasture out behind the barn. Family records indicate 2 children named Helena and one named Peter were born to Klaas and Elizabeth. Klaas' obituary confirms 3 of 8 children did not live to maturity. Photo below.

<u>Jacob Rau Cemetery</u> [26.4 in RCGS Cem. Bk]: Sumner Township. Listed as Jacob *Run* cemetery on the 1906 Transactions of the Kansas State Horticultural Society. Section 32 - Haven/Sumner Township. Photo pg 49.

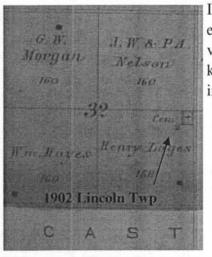
<u>Lincoln Township Cemetery</u> [14.2] Lincoln Township - Section 32, Twp 24, Range 6. On 11/3/1876 John McCoy deeded a parcel of land of 97 yards square to the trustees of the Lincoln Cemetery Association. It is said to have once contained 12 or more graves. Photo below.

Avenue B & Adams St: According to Sheridan Ploughe, in his 1917 History of Reno County, 3 bodies were buried at this location which he recorded as the first graveyard of Reno County. The first burial was in 1872. At one time it was marked by a little white fence and plum bushes but a prairie fire destroyed it. Years later a grader was being pulled on Adams and the bodies were uncovered. They were placed in new coffins and reburied in Eastside. Their names remain unknown.

Monroe & 17th St: Also listed in Ploughe's book, this second graveyard was laid out in 1873 on the northeast corner. It was abandoned in 1881 and many of the bodies were removed to Eastside when it was established. It is said there were many bodies left entombed in the old graveyard.

Others to be researched

Asbury Methodist Cemetery: [5.3]; Huntsville Rural / St. Paul Lutheran Cemetery: [12.3]; Mt. Zion Baptist Church/Cemetery [9.2]; Sumner Township Cemetery [26.3]; Troy Township Cemetery [28.1]; United Brethren Cemetery [11.4]; United Brethren Cemetery [27.2]; United Brethren Church Cemetery [17.1]; Church/Cemetery [11.3]



I'm sure there are more to be discovered. If you know of any lost or private burial locations please let us know so that we may preserve this information for future generations.

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CEMETERY CORNER - LOST AND PRIVATE BURIALS

Jacob Rau Cemetery - Lost Burials

Levi Hopkins: 2/3/1803 - 4/24/1883

(bio on page 46)

Elizabeth [Hicks] Hopkins: 12/4/1804 - 4/23/1880

Levi Whitcomb Hopkins: 1/5/1840 - 12/3/1883

Family members recall visiting the graves which were most likely farmed over in the 1930s or 1940s. Thankfully this information was recorded.

From a letter Gertrude Hopkins Shumway wrote Leslie Hopkins - 1960:

[Gertrude is the daughter of Levi W. and Sarah Hopkins]

"...Aunt Martha brought her aged father and mother (my mother) to America in June, 1854. They all settled in Iowa. When my father and mother moved to Kansas, they brought father's parents and Aunt Martha with them. My grandparent's and father are buried on the <u>old Rau place</u>. The graves Willie wanted to find..."

[provided by Kendall Griggs - Nov 2006]

<u>Lincoln Township Cemetery - Lost Burials</u>

Eliza [Harriett Newcomb] Bussing: Died 1/26/1890

Source: Obituary in the Hutchinson Weekly News 2/6/1890 [provided by Les Bussing - May 2006]

Wall, Klaas: Homestead - Lost Burials

Wall, Helena: 5/13/1877 - 8/25/1877

Wall, Peter: 12/3/1879 - 8/15/1881

Wall, Helena: 9/18/1890 - 12/29/1890 [provided by Gale Wall]

French Property - Private Burial

Perkins, Dale Eugene: 2/16/1944 - 4/22/2000

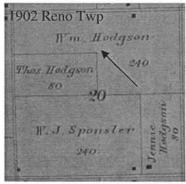
Ashes interred on a hill in the pasture.

[provided by Keith Burgess - March 2007]

Hodgson, William: Homestead - Lost Burial

Hodgson, Ellen Ware: died 5/13/1906 [ashes]

[provided by Darren McMannis March 2007]



STILL ON OLD HOMESTEAD. Wm Hodgson in South Reno on Land Still His Home. There are a good many of the pioneers of Reno county who are still living on the land on which they homesteaded forty years ago. One of them is Wm. Hodgson, of South Reno township. Mr. Hodgson homesteaded on section 20, across the river; and he still makes his home on the old claim; and Although I didn't get here until 1873, I want to be included among the pioneers," said Mr. Hodgson. "I came out from Missouri that year. My brothers and sisters had come before that."

One of his sisters, Mary, now Mrs. W. J. Sponsler, arrived in 1871 and homesteaded the claim which is now the Sponsler farm in South Reno. She lived on it for forty years.

Harry Hodgson and Thomas Hodgson arived here in 1871. The former was the first clerk of the court of Reno county. He was killed in a railway accident in Montana three years ago. Thomas Hodgson is now in Massachusetts, practicing as a physician.

Hutchinson News Thurs. 6/13/1912

RCGS WEBSITE AND E-NEWS

We Have A New Website

In February we launched a new website and continue to add new information regularly. We invite you to submit your Reno County family information and photos. It is our goal to make our website a digital repository for our history. Please look over the new categories and see where you can contribute your family history and photos. We welcome research volunteers too! Check the "What's New?" page often to see the new postings.

http://rootsweb.com/~ksrcgs

-News Launched

Reno County Genealogical Society

Reno County E-News

Volume 1 - Issue 1

Welcome to E-News

In our effort to better serve our membership we

have added a monthly E-Newsletter to commu-

nicate time sensitive information, meeting reminders and meeting reviews, along with other

informative news. You will receive E-News

around the second full week of the month.

2007 Meetings

- 1/15 Tour of the Kansas Room [2nd floor of HPL] by Cheryl Canfield
- 2/19 Family Health History by Rita Lings
- 3/19 Preparing a Kansas State Fair Genealogy Entry by Keith Burgess
- 4/16 Immigrant Origins by Marilyn Finks, Archivist, National Archives - Central Plains Reg.
- 5/21 Documentation & Citing Sources by Ruth Fil-
- 6/18 Census on the Internet [HPL computer lab] by Chervi Canfield
- 7/16 Internet Resources & Web Sites by Karen Bur-
- 9/17 Creative Ways to Display Your Family History by Ruth Filbert & Gale Wall
- 10/16 Colubrating Family History Month Join us at the Delos V. Smith Center, 101 W. 1st, 6:00 pm. Potlack - bring your favorite dish to share Bring a family item to share for "show & tell"
- . 11/19 Book Review & Generic gical Magazines by
- · December No meeting Happy Holidays!

Board Meeting 6:00 pm / Program Meeting 7:00 pm



Turon Cemetery Miami Township

KCGS - 33rd Annual Conference June 16, 2007 Holiday Inn Convention Center

Salina KS

Featuring: Tony Burroughs Early Registration: \$40.00 Late Registration: \$45.00

The 33rd Armus) KCGS Conference presented by cil of Genealogical Societies, Inc.

We hope you'll attend the meeting. Please join us and bring a friend!

The Smoky Valley Genealogical Society http://sloways.lib.lo.ps/genweb/kcgs/

We have added a monthly E-News to our member benefits. This tool will enable us to communicate more effectively and timely. It is emailed around the second full week of the month - the week prior to our program meeting.

E-News is delivered as an attachment in PDF format. You will need the free Adobe viewer to open the file. You can download this viewer at www.adobe.com. If you already have the viewer make sure you have the most recent version. If you would like the back-issues please request them at rcgs@cox.net.

There are a few members not receiving E-News because we do not have an email address for you. Please send your email information to us at rcgs@cox.net.

We hope you enjoy this added benefit! RCGS Board



Reno County Genealogical Society P. O. Box 5 - Hutchinson, KS 67504-0005 respired net

FAMILY HISTORY MONTH PLANNING

Family History Fair & Favorite Ancestor Story Contest

October is family history month. RCGS is planning to sponsor a Family History Fair to be held at the Hutchinson Public Library on October 20, 2007 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. The fair will be held on the second floor between the Kansas Room and the Reference area.

We hope ALL members will consider providing <u>a display of your family history</u> through photographs, books, and other personal family keepsakes that are special to you. Examples: Quilts, dishes, jewelry, farm tools and other interesting family items passed along and treasured by you. There will be one display case that can be locked. It will hold small items only and things we want to be protected. We will use this display for the whole month and not just the day of our Fair.

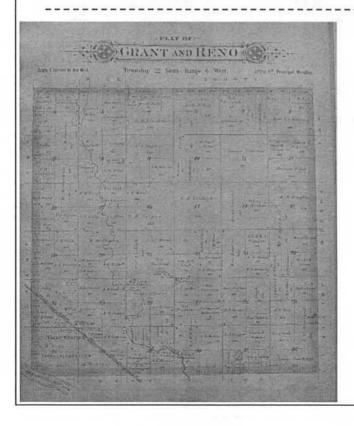
Other plans include:

- A table with materials for beginner genealogists. After all, we want others to know and experience the joys and frustration of this hobby [obsession?] we love so much!
- Favorite Ancestor Story Contest: still under development on judging, but we hope all members will submit
 a favorite ancestor story. We realize not all members of our society have Reno County roots, so we will
 accept your favorite ancestor story too and judge it separately. [max 500 words]
- Offer to scan [no charge] old family or county related photographs to CD. [limit 10 photos]
- Do you have an idea or suggestion? Want to help? Let us know!!! rcgs@cox.net

Volunteers are needed to make this a success.

Please consider volunteering for a 2 hour shift.

Look for more details on our website, E-News and August issue of The Sunflower.



These

Are

Sample

Images

From

Our

New

CD

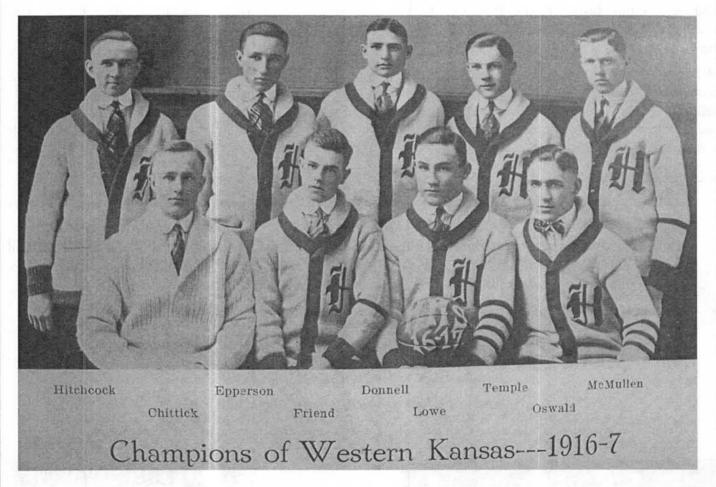
Publications



THE SUNFLOWER May 2007

SCHOOL DAYS

1917 Basketeers - Hutchinson High School



Marion Hitchcock, Harold Epperson, Karl Donnell, Eddie Temple, Allen McMullen M. R. Chittick; Athletic Director, Carroll Friend, Vere Lowe, Wallace Oswald

Hitchcock: Guard, Age 18, Wt. 152

Epperson: Forward, Age 19, Wt. 158

Donnell: Center, Age 20, Wt. 153

Temple: Left Guard, Age 17, Wt. 155

McMullen: Guard, Age 19, Wt. 160

Friend: Left Forward, Age 19, Wt. 135

Lowe: Captain / Right Guard, Age 19, Wt. 175

Oswald: Right Forward, Age 16, Wt. 150

LINKS & MORE Caring For Your Family Archives: www.archives.gov/preservation/family-archives Penny Postcards: http://www.rootsweb.com/ ~usgenweb/special/ppcs/ppcs.html SURVEY QUESTION What genealogy software do you use?

THE SECRET DOOR

Tell us at rcgs@cox.net

A secret door will be created within our website in the same month our quarterly is published. As a member of RCGS you can visit our site and look for the passageway. Once you find it, click on it and follow the instructions. The first member to locate and respond to the doorway will win a little prize sponsored by RCGS. Genealogy can give us all a headache from time-to-time, so we want you to take a break and have a little fun while visiting with us. After the initial unveiling, the secret door page will remain on the website. You can check it to see when the secret door has been activated.

Tips-

- -It will not be found in a PDF file
- -It could be behind a picture
- -It could be behind a word
- -It looks like the picture below [this time]

We hope you enjoy this activity.

Good Luck!



PUBLICATIONS ORDER FORM

Births - Recorded Early Births of Reno Co. 1890-1911 & Index Cemetery Book of Reno County, 1865-1978 SOLD OUT	\$17.00 \$23.00
	\$23.00
Cemetery Records of North Inman, Superior Township, McPherson County, KS	\$7.00
Deaths - Recorded Deaths of Reno County 4 volumes, 1890-1911 & Index	\$17.00
Homestead Records of Reno County Name, location & file date 1875-1945	\$21.50
Marriages - Marriages of Reno County 1872 - 1913	\$23.00
Naturalization Records of Reno County Index 1875-1955 filed at courthouse	\$12.50
Teachers of Reno County / 1884-1966 SOLD OUT	\$27.50
The Sunflower Back Issues 1979 - 2000 [\$10 + \$8.10 postage]	\$18.10
Harper's Weekly 1888 - The City of Hutchinson - featured supplement - PDF on CD	\$5.00
Plat Book of Reno Co. 1902 - PDF on CD	\$10.00
Postage & Handling included in price	
Kansas residents add 7.05% sales tax Member discount—\$1 each item	

To order a publication - clip and return to:

RCGS - P. O. Box 5 Hutchinson, KS 67504-0005

Zip:

Make checks payable to Reno Co. Gen. Soc.

RCGS MEMBERSHIP—\$12.00

Member Benefits

As of 2/19/07

- Four [4] issues of our quarterly "The Sunflower"-Published in Feb., May, Aug., & Nov.
- Free Queries in The Sunflower [limit 50 words]
- Monthly E-News communicating meeting review & reminders, time sensitive data and other informative news.
- · 11 monthly programs both educational and fun
- 1 free hour of research
- Vote in election of Officers [November]
- Surnames for Reno County ancestors posted on RCGS website
- Surname research profile [outside of Reno County] posted on RCGS website
- Discount on publications [\$1.00 per publication]
- List and link on RCGS website to member website [genealogy related]

To give a gift membership

clip and return with check to with:

RCGS P. O. Box 5 Hutchinson, KS 67504-0005

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TO: [red	cipients information]
Name:	
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City:	
City:State:	Zip:
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Thank you for supporting RCGS!

RESEARCH CENTERS

Hutchinson Public Library

901 N. Main

Hutchinson, KS 67501

620-663-5441

Mon - Fri 9:00 am to 9:00 pm

Sat 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

Sun 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

www.hutchpl.org

Hutchinson Family History Center

518 E 43rd Street

Hutchinson, KS 67502

620-665-1187

Tues 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Wed 9:30 am to 8:30 pm

Thur 9:30 am to 5:00 pm

Kansas State Historical Society

6425 SW 6th Street

Topeka, KS 66615-1099

785-272-8681

www.kshs.org

Reno Co. Historical Society & Reno Co. Museum

100 S. Walnut

Hutchinson, KS 67501

620-662-1184

Tues to Sat 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Sun 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

www.renocomuseum.org/about.html

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Last Minute News

Do you have a Reno County Veteran? If so, we'd like to feature him / her in our November issue. Please send an email to rcgs@cox.net.

Just in - "The Official Guide to Rootsweb.com" book has been released. You can order as an e-book download for \$7.95 or pre-order for the print issue for \$12.95 [to be released this month]. www.therootswebstore.com. The book was written by the former Roots Web Review Editor, Myra Vanderpool Gormley along with Tana Pederson Lord. People new to genealogy quickly find their way to Rootsweb.com, the host of the USGenWeb [and many other] project. And, Rootsweb.com hosts our very own web site at no cost to us.

Moving? Please notify us of your new mailing address. THE SUNFLOWER is not forwarded.

PUBLICATIONS

1880 Census of Reno County	\$18.00
Births - Recorded Early Births of Reno County 1890-1911 & Index	\$17.00
Cemetery Book of Reno County, / 1865-1978 SOLI	O OUT \$23.00
Cemetery Records of North Inman, Superior Township, McPherson County, KS	\$7.00
Deaths - Recorded Deaths of Reno County 4 volumes, 1890-1911 & Index	\$17.00
Homestead Records of Reno County Name, location & file date 1875-1945	\$21.50
Marriages - Marriages of Reno County 1872 - 1913	\$23.00
Naturalization Records of Reno County Index 1875-1955 filed at courthouse	\$12.50
Teachers of Reno County / 1884-1966 Color map of school districts included SOL	\$27.50 D OUT
The Sunflower Back Issues 1979 - 2000 [\$10 + \$8.10 postage] - While Su	pplies Last \$18.10
Harper's Weekly 1888 - The City of Hutchinson - featured supplement - Pl	DF on CD \$5.00
Plat Book of Reno County 1902 - PDF on CD	\$10.00
Postage & Handling included in price / Kansas residents add 7.05%	6 sales tax

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