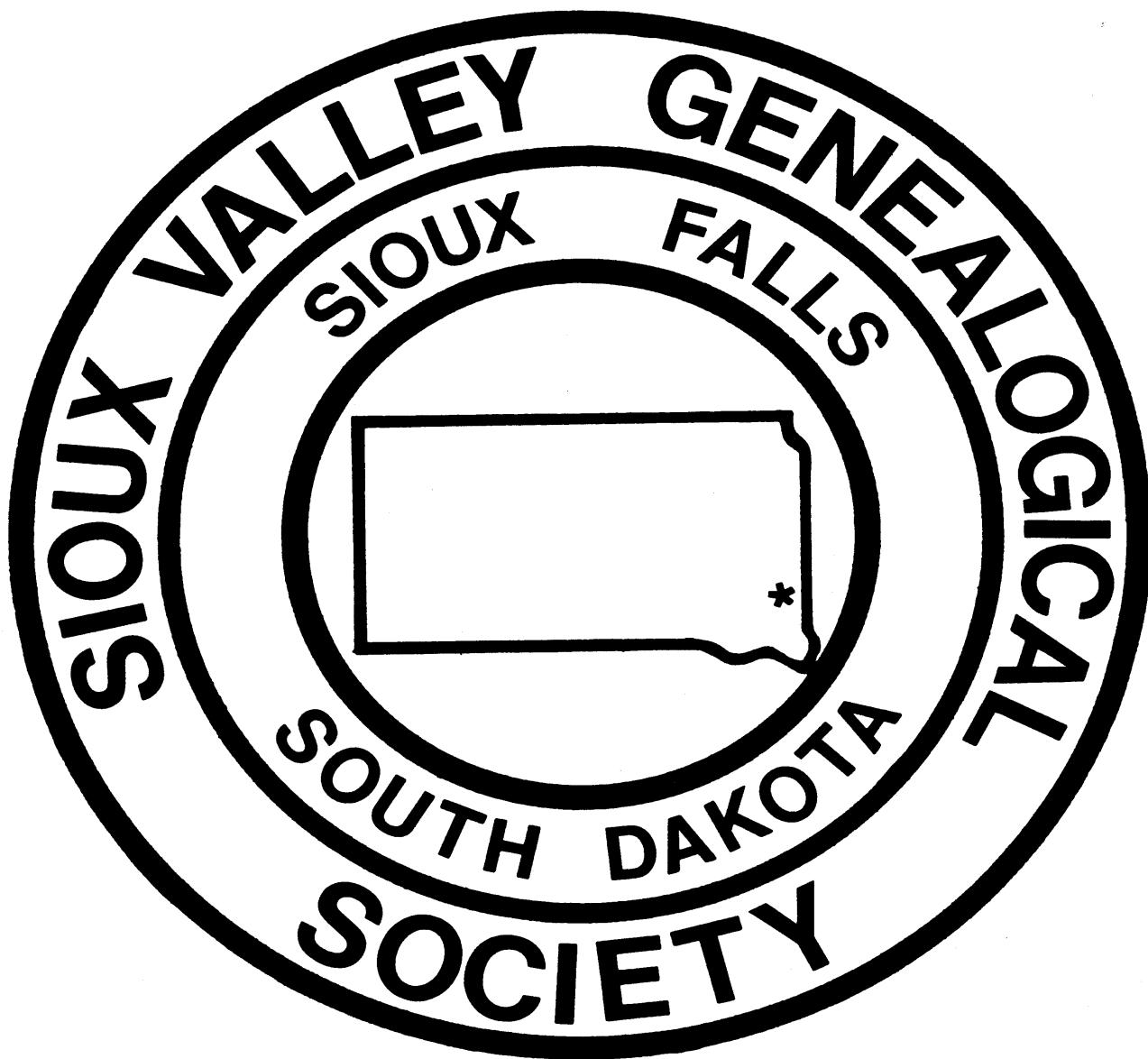


Volume 49

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Spring 2023

# PIONEER



# PATHFINDER

# The Pioneer Pathfinder

Published Quarterly by the *Sioux Valley Genealogical Society*

200 West 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57104-6001

Web Page: <https://siouxvalleygenealogicalsociety.org/>

Pioneer Pathfinder issue dates are: Winter (January), Spring (April), Summer (July) and Fall (October)

The Executive Board and Editor have made an effort to publish accurate information  
but are not responsible for errors or omissions.

## **The purpose or intent for which this Society has been organized are:**

to assemble people who are interested in preserving family history; to carry on projects of a genealogical nature; including the publication of *The Pioneer Pathfinder*; the instruction of interested persons and to provide a means of carrying out the above objectives.

**Meeting Date/Time:** First Thursday monthly at 7pm. No meeting in June, July and August.

**Meeting Place:** Usually at Old Courthouse Museum, 6<sup>th</sup> & Main, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

**The Society's Library** is on second floor of the Old Courthouse Museum and is usually staffed by a member volunteer Monday through Friday from noon to 4pm.

During unattended hours, members may ask for the key at the lobby desk.

***Please be aware, a membership card and signature is required for the key.***

The Old Courthouse Museum is open Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Thursday 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sunday 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. and is handicapped accessible.

The Sioux Valley Genealogical Society is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization.

Donations are welcomed and are tax deductible. It is a member of the Federation of Genealogical Society and an Affiliate Member of the South Dakota Genealogical Society.

## **Membership Dues:**

All Membership fees are due and payable on January 1<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year.

The *Pioneer Pathfinder* will be printed and mailed to you in hard copy for the cost of:  
\$25 Single; \$30 Family (One Pathfinder, two votes); International \$30 email only.

***Electronic copies of The Pioneer Pathfinder cost \$5.00 less per membership.***

## **Sioux Valley Genealogical Society**



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<b>SAVE THE DATES!!!</b>
2023 SDGS Spring Conference Saturday, April 15, 2023 Brookings, SD
National Genealogical Society 2023 Conference will be in Richmond, VA 31 May - 3 June, 2023

<b>CALENDAR</b>
SVGS Monthly Meetings are held on the first Thursday evening of each month excluding June, July and August and weather permitting. We meet at The Old Courthouse Museum, downtown Sioux Falls, South Dakota, beginning at 7:00 pm.
The Norway Gig meets on the last Tuesday evening of most months. Location and time varies. Contact Susan Eckert, 605-336-0589 for details

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Your Sioux Valley Genealogical Society officers have been busy reaching out to a greater audience so we can increase our membership numbers. Presentations or workshop sessions during the past year have been to OLLI members, a local brewery clientele, at a ladies church group and to folks at the main library in Sioux Falls. We plan on continuing this mission to reach out and expand our interest in genealogy research by offering assistance and advertise this through Facebook and postcards.

If you belong to a church or community group that would like a presentation or workshop, let us know and one of the officers or society members will be glad to help out. We would like to feature a contest in the middle schools here and have reached out so are working on this avenue as well.

If you have any insight into where we can spread our information next, let an officer know!

Another exciting area that I have discovered is all of the fantastic videos offered through Roots Tech. Make sure you take time to see what is available there online via YouTube. You can also download those videos.

One other source I have noted happens to be the various webinars that societies are offering via Zoom and advertise them on Facebook. If you have a particular area of geographical research there is probably a speaker in that area who can assist you. Just go to Facebook and search and you just might find that area which will help you. Sometimes there is a small charge but often it is worth the cost.

At the March meeting we discussed the idea of short road trips to a library or research center, especially in the mid-west. Do you have a particular library you want to go to and would love to have company? Just us know so we can arrange it. Watch for more information on this topic in the near future via email or our website.

Wendy Stubbs, President

[president@siouxvalleygenealogicalsociety.org](mailto:president@siouxvalleygenealogicalsociety.org)

## LIBRARY NEWS

Is it possible that spring is coming? It sure doesn't seem like it for us here in the Midwest. Well, maybe it is if a person considers the latest weather forecast of a blizzard watch preceded by a thunderstorm with heavy rain and winds. This forecast has me wondering if the library should be closed, yet again, to keep the volunteers and visitors off the road and safe.

Yes, the library has had to endure too many weather-related closures this winter that affect the amount of work we can do on the various projects and lessens our availability to help people wanting information. To me, this is further proof that our library holds large quantities of useful information and that all information is NOT available on the internet.

Requests for Pioneer Certificate continue to arrive. The applicants complete the form and provide proof of the connection between the Dakota Territory Pioneer and the recipient of the Certificate. These applications and their accompanying proofs are saved in our library and made available to future applicants who can access and build on that information.

We recently sent copies of two earlier Certificate applications to a woman planning a family reunion this summer. She will add to that information and give it to her 80+ family members in anticipation of their applying for their own Pioneer Certificates.

Was your ancestor a resident of Dakota Territory prior to November 2, 1899? Are you thinking it's time to apply for a Pioneer Certificate for yourself or a family member? SVGS members pay \$10 for each Certificate, non-members pay \$15. We'll help you, too, if some information is already in our Pioneer Certificate notebooks.

Thinking positively, I believe better weather is coming and that means it will be time for

genealogy road trips and time spent researching in South Dakota's county courthouses. If you don't have a Research Card, you should have one. The never-needing-renewal Cards show you are a Research Associate of the South Dakota Genealogy Society and give you access to records (except those restricted by law) in *all* South Dakota Courthouses. After you locate the record of interest, you can choose to write out the information or to purchase a copy of the actual record.

If you plan to visit our library, contact us ahead of time to make sure the library will be open and a volunteer available to help you. Our planned hours are M-F afternoons until 4PM, but other days and times may be possible. Contact Old Courthouse Museum 605-367-4210 or me: email: [sueeckert1@gmail.com](mailto:sueeckert1@gmail.com) call or text: 605-366-0589.

Don't forget to check our website at [svgssd.org](http://svgssd.org) and the Facebook page for Sioux Valley Genealogical Society

## NORWEGIAN GIG

Only paid members of SVGS were allowed to participate in the Society's virtual meetings this year, but Norwegian GIG (no Membership fee required) had in-person meetings in both February and March with a *grand total attendance of three people!!!!*

I realize there are valid reasons for not making it to a meeting and other organizations are dealing with similar issues, but low attendance is only one difficulty I face as leader. In addition to this winter's horrid weather with its many travel problems, other issues include the early seasonal sun-downs and the problem finding and booking new & interesting programs for our group. Members themselves are dealing with changes in priorities post-pandemic, changes in their living and/or driving circumstances and/or their own or a family member's health issues. Each of us has to decide what works for us as individuals with no other person's choices being more valid than our own. How will Norwegian GIG face these issues?

Our group will meet in April and May on the last Tuesdays of both months at 7PM. Enter the lower level using the 17<sup>th</sup> St door of Grace Lutheran Church, 3300 E. 18<sup>th</sup>, Sioux Falls SD. See you then?

Sue Eckert for Norwegian GIG

## SIOUX VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Regular Meeting Minutes for January 5, 2023  
Zoom Meeting 7 p.m.

Tonight's speaker was Amber Oldenburg presenting via Zoom on MIDWEST ARCHIVES: WORTHY OF MORE THAN JUST A FLYOVER.

### **Business Meeting:**

The regular SVGS meeting was called to order at 8:05pm by President Wendy Stubbs. Cindy Schultz read the minutes of the last meeting. There were no corrections or additions to the minutes. Motion to approve by John Aden with second by Sue Eckert. Treasurer's Report: Bob Black gave the treasurer's report. It was approved and will be held for audit. Actual report will be attached.

### **Officer reports:**

Pathfinder: Cindy Schultz reports the latest Pioneer Pathfinder is in the final steps before publishing.

Librarian Sue Eckert is looking for a Wednesday volunteer in particular, and anyone that would like helping in general.

Recording Secretary position is open.

Membership: Suzanne Folk states we have several new members as well as those renewing.

Norwegian GIG facilitator, Sue Eckert, says their speaker, Charles Burdahl, was great. The GIG meets on the last Tuesday of most months.

Corresponding Secretary, Phyllis Knutson states membership has slowed.

Obituary Committee: Phyllis Knutson will be updating the obituary data base soon. We will now have 180 thousand plus names listed.

Research: Lynette Trainer

Vice President, Kim McKeon reports the upcoming speakers for the months of January, February, March and May have been confirmed.

### **Old Business:**

1. Book sales are in full swing. Take a look.
2. Pathfinder Editor – ideas and submissions are always needed

### **New Business:**

1. Newsletter decision tabled till Monday
2. Recording Secretary position is open. Due to personal reasons, Linda Holbeck can no longer be recording secretary. The new secretary position would be till Spring 2024.
3. Elected Positions to be voted upon for 2023: Researcher, Treasurer, Registrar, Librarian and Editor/Publisher of PIONEER PATHFINDER.
4. Wendy Stubbs is organizing some genealogy work sessions. They will be held on Saturdays in the public library.
5. RootsTech 2023 Registration is now open – virtual and in person - <https://www.familysearch.org/rootsTech/> - March 2 – 4. Free online and only \$98 in person.
6. Interested in a trip to Salt Lake City, contact <https://ancestorseekers.com>

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Respectively submitted,

Luci Feenstra

## Acting Recording Secretary

### SIOUX VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Regular Meeting Minutes for February 2, 2023

Zoom Meeting 7 p.m.

No. of members and any guests present? 29 total were in attendance for this online meeting.

Meeting was begun at 7 pm. The Speaker was Dave McDonald on migration routes. The Business Meeting was begun at 8 pm.

**Secretary's report** was read by Luci Feenstra. Motion to approve by Bob Black and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lynette Trainer. Motion passed.

Are there any corrections or additions to the minutes? Can I have a motion to approve the minutes? Second? All in favor "AYE", opposed NAY".

**Treasurer's Report** was read by Robert Black The report will be held for audit.

#### Officer reports:

Pathfinder: Cindy Schultz – given about the decision to go to 3 times printed plus \$15 more a year.

Library: Sue Eckert – we did obtain 3 new volunteers and can always use more help.  
Rec. Sec.: open

Membership: Suzanne Folk - no report

Norwegian GIG: Sue Eckert – meets last Tuesday of the month. Welcome to attend.

Corr. Secretary: Phyllis Knutson - several pieces of mail and a donation.

Obituary Committee: Phyllis Knutson – we need help still scanning. Some can be done at home.

Research: Lynette Trainer - Officers being planned to run – can use a recording secretary still.

VP Report on Speakers: Kim McKeon – speakers being planned – March is Phyllis K., April is Constanze H. and May is Virginia Hanson.

#### Old Business:

1. Book sales – Sue reported she had a couple orders.
2. Officer positions open - Positions to be voted upon this year: (Section 3.)  
Election of Researcher, Treasurer, Registrar, Librarian, Editor/Publisher of PIONEER PATHFINDER shall be at the annual meeting in odd numbered years.

#### New Business:

1. Special board decision – 3 issues and cost to increase for mailed copies.
2. Death of long-time member Donna Crichton
3. Beginning Genealogy workshop on Monday, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at WoodGrain Brewery All are welcome.
4. Research Help Sessions At Downtown Library In February.  
Feb. 4, Room B, 10 Am To Noon Feb. 11, Room B, 10 Am To Noon  
Feb. 18, Room A, 10 Am To Noon Feb. 25, Room B, 11 Am To 1 Pm

5. Future associations or conferences

- a. RootsTech 2023 Registration is now open – virtual and in person - <https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/> - March 2 – 4. Free online and only \$98 in person.
- b. Trips to Salt Lake City – Ancestorseekers.com  
If there is no other business to discuss at this time...the meeting is adjourned.

Stay updated and informed at our website:

<https://www.siouxvalleygenealogicalsociety.org/>

or on our Facebook page

## How to Find Your Norwegian Ancestors

By David A. Fryxell

(Continued from Winter 2023 Issue Pioneer Pathfinder)

### Finding Norwegian Vital Records

Norway's official Lutheran church began keeping parish records (*kirkebøker*) in the 1600s, with the oldest dating from 1623; these were required by law beginning in 1688. Church recordkeeping was standardized by royal ordinance in 1814, with updates in 1820 and 1870. The ordinance also created a system of duplicate registers called *klokkerbøker* (clerk books), kept in a separate location for safety; the FamilySearch catalog denotes these with a *kl* label. FamilySearch also has a useful guide to how parish register headings changed over time. As with other Norwegian records, Digitalarkivet is the easiest, most complete, and cheapest (free) way to access digitized parish records, many of them now searchable. Once you know your ancestors' parish, you can use the dropdowns on the Find Source page to hone in on records from the right place and time. The Norwegian Historical Data Centre also has an ongoing parish-record transcription project.

In the United States, FamilySearch has some searchable Norwegian records.

Both MyHeritage and Ancestry.com have collections of 42 million searchable parish records, spanning 1815/1812 to 1938 and created in collaboration with the National Archives of Norway.

### Births and baptisms

Parishes generally recorded only baptisms (*døpte*) prior to the 1814 standardization, and even subsequent records may give only the exact baptism date. You can still closely estimate birth dates, since children were baptized within a few days of being born. Early records may give only the name and residence of the father (*far*), while later registers add the mother (*mor*) and godparents (*fadder*)—worth noting since godparents were almost always relatives.

From 1820 to 1870, the standard column headings meant:

- Entry number
- Reported birth date
- Baptism date
- Child's full name
- Legitimate or illegitimate birth
- Parents' names, status, and residence
- Witnesses' names
- Who performed the baptism if at home
- Illegitimate children reported by a child's mother or parishioner

## Marriages

Besides names of the groom (*brudgom*) and bride (*brud*), Norwegian records for marriage (*viede*) typically list the date and their place(s) of residence. Post-1814 records might add information about the couple's ages and occupations. After the 1830s, you may also find their fathers' names and birthplaces, as well as bondsmen or witnesses.

Standard column headings for marriage records from 1820 to 1877 were:

- Number
- Marriage date
- Groom's name and status; bride's name
- Groom's birthplace and residence; bride's birthplace
- Bride's and groom's ages
- Groom's father's name
- Bride's father's name
- Bondsmen's names and residences
- Dates of banns
- Person requesting banns
- Reason if banns weren't declared
- Smallpox or vaccination certificate
- Information about groom's contribution to a widow's fund
- Information about any former marriage

## Deaths and burials

Parish registers of burials (*begravede*) list the date and place of burial and, after 1814, the deceased's age (sometimes only a guess), residence and occupation.

When selecting death records in Digitalarkivet, note that date ranges may differ from other vital records in the same volume, and volumes may overlap. Deaths in Malvik parish during 1834, for example, are spread across a few different books. Also note that the pages may be divided into upper and lower parts, separating men (*mannkjønn*) and women (*kvinnekjønn*). Other death records may be on the same or facing pages with baptisms.

Beginning in 1820, death registers used printed pages with these column headings:

- Number
- Death date

- Burial date
- Full name and status
- Age
- Residence
- Cause of death

## Other events

In addition to moves, births, marriages and deaths, churches kept track of when a child—typically as a teenager—was confirmed and ready to receive first communion. These records may list details such as parents' names and residences, and can even partly substitute for missing birth records. Digitalarkivet is the best source for these *konfirmasjon* records, found under “Church books/Parish registers” and “Confirmation”; it's difficult to look specifically for confirmations in other online sources. Even on Digitalarkivet, fewer of these records have been indexed and made searchable, so you may have to browse digitized pages. Start by skipping to the years when an ancestor would have been 16 or 17, then work backwards and forwards if necessary.

Parishes also recorded when people were vaccinated. Vaccination against smallpox was a key driver of Scandinavian emigration, as the protection enabled the population to grow. Norwegian *vaksinasjon* records, found on Digitalarkivet but generally not searchable, can establish where a person lived in a specific time, much like a census. They may also give ages, which can be used to estimate birth years.

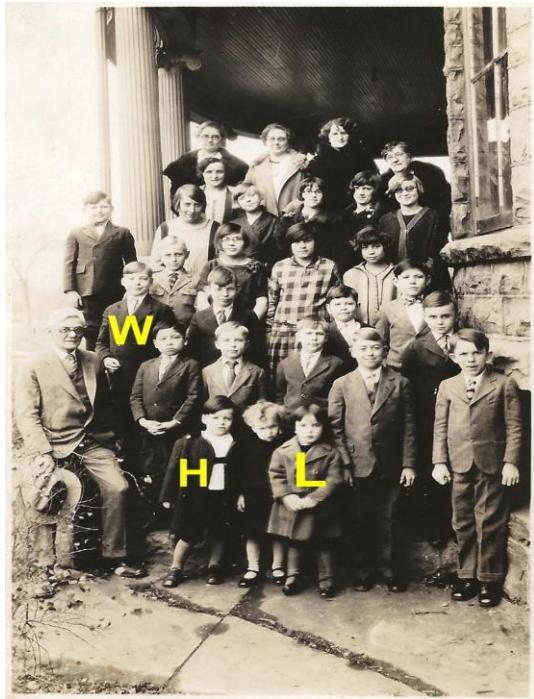
## Studying Norse Censuses

All the most genealogically important censuses of Norway—1801, 1865, 1870 (incomplete), 1875 (incomplete), 1900 and 1910—are searchable at Digitalarkivet. (FamilySearch, Ancestry.com, and MyHeritage each have at least a couple of these censuses as well.) Digitalarkivet also has a few rural headcounts, a partial 1891 enumeration, the 1920 census (just released in 2020), and municipal censuses for some cities.

Enumerations between 1801 and 1865 were strictly statistical, creating an unfortunate black hole for genealogists. Otherwise, however, these records are enormously valuable, usually listing all family members and others in the household, along with relationships, ages, occupations, and marital status or history. Birthplaces were added beginning in 1865, and 1910 asked for exact birth date. You can find common census abbreviations and a guide to occupations.

Census searches work best with as few filters as possible, narrowing only if you get too many results. Make use of wildcards, especially at the end of surnames (*Rasmus\**), which were often truncated, abbreviating *-sen* or *-datter*. Working back and forth between censuses and parish records is a smart strategy.

A version of this article appeared in the March/April 2022 issue of *Family Tree Magazine*.



## EDWARD PETER OLSON

Submitted by Peg Teslow

(Continued from Winter 2023 Issue *Pioneer Pathfinder*)

The South Dakota Advocate, October 1925 issue:

Last August, Mr. Edw. P. Olson and family made a trip in their "Henry" sedan to Edgeley, N.D., to see his sister, whom he had not seen for 15 years. They also visited relatives in Kulm, N.D. On the return trip, they stopped at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Loucks at Aberdeen, S.D. A picnic for the Deaf was held in that city the next day and a very enjoyable time was reported by all who attended. They also stopped in Castlewood, S.D., to call on James Tone. They enjoyed their trip very much after a two-week's vacation.

Two years after their last son was born, Annie contracted tuberculosis and was hospitalized at the Sanator Hospital, located south of Custer, South Dakota for several years.

*May 1926 issue of The South Dakota Advocate:*

"Acting on the advice of her family physician, Mrs. E. P. Olson is preparing to go to Custer, S.D., where she will spend some time in a sanatorium taking treatment for tuberculosis. For the past year, her health has been rather poorly and the doctor suggests that she take a rest. The three children will be placed in the South Dakota Children's Home in this city for the time being. Her host of friends hopes for her a speedy recovery with lasting benefits.

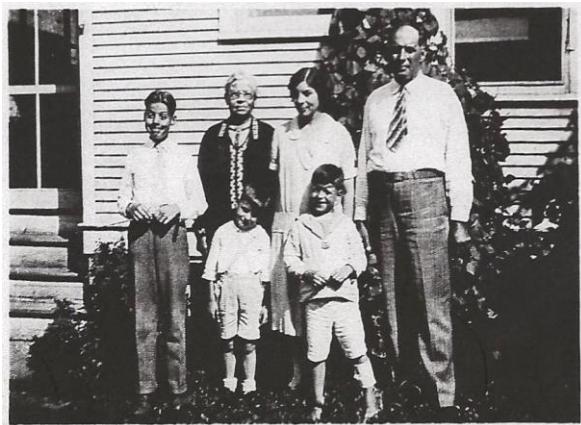
After an enforced layoff from work for almost half a year, Ed. P. Olson has finally secured a job slinging type at Brown and Saenger printing establishment. Originally, he was engaged for two months only. By the end of that time the building season will be in full swing and Ed may be able to land a job at his regular trade. Ed.'s brother Olof has gone to Huron where he has secured a job with the leading contractor of that city. The report has it that Huron is to see four hundred new houses this season."

As was common during this pre-depression time, (1925-1928) when one parent could not care for their children because of illness in the family and/or the necessity of needing to work, the three sons were

institutionalized at the South Dakota Children's Home for care. It was during this time Edward returned to his vocation as a carpenter. Olof and Edward went to Storm Lake, Iowa during these years to help rebuild the town after half of it had burned down. The two brothers also helped build the Sioux Falls City Hall and several homes in the area.

Picture of the boys at the Children's Home shown with Mr. and Mrs. Stuck the caregivers. W. is Wallace, H. is Harold, L. is Lloyd.

Once Annie was cured of TB and returned home, Harold related that he and Lloyd didn't really recognize her as their mother and escaped their home, he pulled a wagon with Lloyd in it finding their way to the Children's Home as it was their "home for those years they lived there.



The photo above is of the family during the early 1930s when Annie's mother came to live with them after Annie recovered from tuberculosis. The photo (right) is a picture of the family in the backyard of their home at 1105 S. Main taken May 29, 1937.



In 1939, the couple's eldest son, Wallace, age 22, was severely scalded and received 2<sup>nd</sup> degree burns when the water line in his car broke in the midget auto races at Luverne, MN. He died three weeks later of diphtheria as a result of an abscess of the parotid gland. At the time of his death, he was an order filler at John Morrell's.

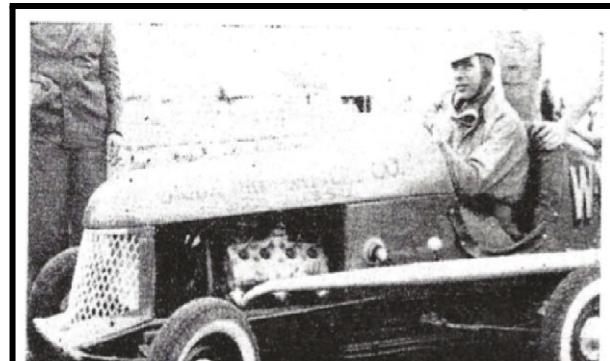


This photo is Wallace and his fiancé Cleo (last name unknown)



Edw. P. Olson, retiring President of the S. D. Association for the Advancement of the Deaf

Edward was a member of the carpenter's local No. 793, served as secretary of the SDAD in 1921, 1923, 1928 and 1930, president in 1925 and charter member of the Sioux Falls Division #74 in 1919 of the NFSD (National Fraternity Society for the Deaf).



Tragedy struck in 1940 when Edward suffered a heart attack at the age of 61 and passed away leaving Annie with two teenage sons to raise. Annie went to work in the laundry at the Cataract Hotel located at 9th & Phillips. When the boys left home, she rented out a bedroom to struggling women college students.

Son Harold served in the Army Air Corps in Spokane, WA in April 1943 until he mustered out of the service and returned home. He married June Drake in 1945 in Sioux Falls, SD and they were blessed with a set of twins in 1948; a boy, Larry Wallace, and a girl, Sheryl June. The family moved to Idaho and eventually Spokane where he had a successful career with 3M. He resided there until his death on September 18, 2008.

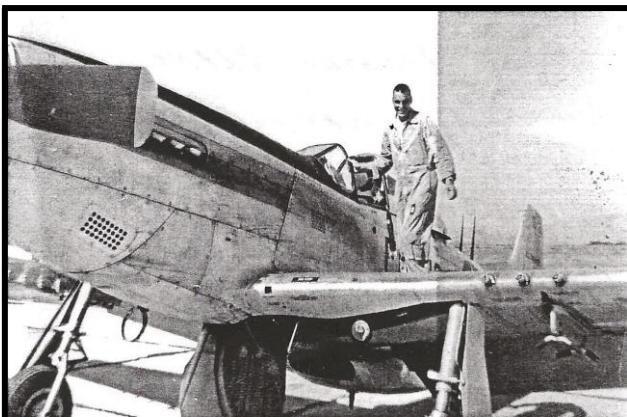


Harold related that in 1943 while he was stationed in Spokane and while visiting with them he discovered that one of the men owned a printing shop and was his father's printing instructor. He attempted to locate the gentleman only to find that his business had closed. Harold's son Larry Wallace passed away in 2021.



Son Lloyd attended several colleges before entering the US Navy on December 8, 1942, where he served as a Navy carrier pilot in the Pacific during World War II and served with the US Air Force during the Korean Conflict from March 1, 1951, until November 30, 1952.

Upon his discharge in 1945 he was a pilot and safety officer with the South Dakota Air National Guard from 1946 (with the exception of the military stint he served during the Korean war) until his retirement in 1978 as a Lt. Col.



Following retirement he was a pilot for Max Paisley, who started the McDonald Restaurant franchise in Sioux Falls. Lloyd married Inez Griffith of Bryant, SD in 1946.

They have six living children: Annell Brunsmann, Curtis G., Robert P., David L., Donald S., and Patricia Schriever. Daughter Victoria, age 5, passed away in 1958. Lloyd passed away in 2002.





Picture of Lloyd and his Blue Star mother Annie Olson outside of their home at 1105 South Main Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD.

Annie was a Blue Star mother and displayed two blue flags in her window denoting she was the mother of two active military members during WWII.

Picture of Lloyd and Harold taken in front of the Brannsforssund highway sign leading to four buildings, one of which was where their father Edward was born. It is here where they met descendants of their father's sister Eva in 2000.



A picture of Lloyd and Harold at the home where their father was born in Sweden was taken *\*Argus-Leader*, Sioux Falls, SD, September 1, 1891



*Redfield Observer*: The state school for deaf mutes at Sioux Falls opens September 10. Any resident of the state between 6 and 25 years of age can have free board, tuition, lights, washing, etc. Parents only pay railroad fare. Anyone thus sadly afflicted, in this section, can be sent there for an education.

\*\*Believed it was Phil Axling. He was one of the earliest pupils at Dakota Territory School for the Deaf, now known as S.D. School for the Deaf. Following his graduation, Axling became a printing instructor at SDSD. He ran a couple of printing shops before moving to Spokane, Washington where he operated a printing shop and published for many years and even had a street named after him. In 2017 Axling was inducted into S.D. Association of the Deaf Hall of Fame.

Author's Note: I am the daughter of Joseph and Fay Servold. Annie Gersdorf Olson was my Godmother. Following Lloyd Olson's passing, his brother Harold Olson and I wrote back and forth about doing a story on his father and mother. I recently found the folder of papers he sent and decided to get busy on this project. Many thanks to Nell Fleming, Librarian/Archivist of the Wisconsin School for the Deaf in Delavan, Wisconsin, Larry Puthoff, and especially Scott Miller for their help in preparing this story.

**Please feel free to share your articles or queries with the Pathfinder Editor.**

## **"If Your Ancestor Owned Land, Then There's a Deed"**

by William Dollarhide

### **Dollarhide's Genealogy Rule #23:**

Locating the county where your ancestor lived is the first step in finding records about the time he was hauled into court for shooting his neighbor's dog, threatening the census taker with a shotgun, or making illegal corn whiskey behind the barn.

### **A 90-Percent Chance**



Since the first colonists came to this continent, land ownership has always been an important part of our American society. As an example, nine out of ten adult white males in America owned land before 1850. Even today, the figure is more than 50 percent.

With this nearly universal coverage before 1850, and since genealogical research starts getting more difficult about that time, it's a wonder that family historians are not using land-ownership records more often to solve their genealogical puzzles.

For instance, did you know that there is a surname index to virtually every land owner in America since the early 1600s--an index that is more complete than any head-of-household census index ever compiled? And did you know that you have a 90-percent chance of finding your ancestor in that land-ownership index? The land-ownership index is not combined into a single name list. There are thousands of them. Usually called a "Grantee-Grantor" index, they can be found in the courthouse of any of the 3,141 counties in the U.S. Together, they comprise the largest index naming residents of the U.S., particularly for the period 1629 to 1860.

There are few indexes used by genealogists that offer a 90-percent chance of finding the right person. Even today, a modern telephone directory gives the names of only those households with a publicly listed telephone number. A recent study in Los Angeles County, California, for instance, revealed that about 20 percent of the telephone numbers are unlisted numbers. Yet there is a surname index for Los Angeles County that gives the names of 90 percent of the heads of household of that county during the 1850s and later.

Let's take the 1840 census as an example. In 1840, the names of the heads of household are all that are shown. But if you were to look at the Grantee/Grantor index for the same county, you may discover that one household could have more than one landowner. Say you find in the census that the head of household is John Smith, Jr. But what you don't know is that living in the same household is John Smith, Sr., and maybe even John Smith, III, and each of them owns a piece of property. Only John Smith, Jr. is listed in the 1840 head of household census, but the Grantee/Grantor index lists all three landowners.

We genealogists eventually recognize the significance of land ownership as we attempt to locate records of our ancestors. But, at first blush, we may not see the importance of land records because they do not seem to give us the vital genealogical facts we are after, i.e., names of parents, dates, children, and so on.

But genealogists who dig deeper into the land records will discover that land grants and deeds can provide evidence of the places where an ancestor lived and for how long, when he moved into or moved out of a county, and, in many cases, a surprising amount of detailed information about a person.

### **Why Land Records?**

Here are three good reasons why land records are valuable for genealogical research:

**1) The Odds Are Good.** Since 90 percent of the adult white male population owned land before 1850, land grants and deeds provide an excellent way of finding an ancestor in local records. Deeds are recorded at the county level; when property is sold, a deed is recorded at the local courthouse. It is a protection to both buyer and seller that the land being transferred is properly recorded. There are exceptions, such as a deed held by a private party and never recorded--which is every title insurance agent's worst nightmare. But deeds are almost always recorded at the courthouse of the county wherein the land is located.

**2) Land Records Are More Complete than Other Records.** Land records such as property tax lists, deeds and deed indexes, and the written transcripts of real estate transactions all go back further in time than any other type of record we use in genealogical research. The earliest records in Europe, other than those recorded for the royal courts, are land records. For example, the Domesday Books--which are property tax lists--were gathered for William the Conqueror in the 11th century, and they are the earliest English records in which a common farmer or tradesman may be listed by name. Certain Scandinavian land records date back to 950 AD. In America, land ownership has always been important, so much so that whenever a courthouse was destroyed by fire or natural disaster the deed records--proof of land ownership--were reconstructed by local authorities soon after. For example, deed records were reconstructed for several counties after General Sherman's troops burned courthouse after courthouse in the South during the Civil War.

**3) Land Records often Reveal the Name of a Man's Wife.** The English common law system of "dower rights" for a widow was followed in the American colonies and continued into the 19th century. Dower rights entitled a widow to 1/3 of her husband's estate upon his death. No written will had to specify that amount. As a result of the dower rights of a married woman, early land deeds almost always mention the name of a man's wife because she had a legal interest in any land being sold or purchased. In fact, a woman had "veto power" over the sale of land by her husband. Under the English system, a married woman could not own land in her own name; but with her dower rights, she could veto the sale of the land. Many early deed transcripts will include an affidavit in which a wife was interviewed privately by the court clerk to determine whether or not she was in favor of the sale.

# 2023 SDGS Spring Conference

**The Church of Jesus Christ of the  
Latter Day Saints**  
200 22nd Avenue  
Brookings, SD 57006

**Saturday, April 15th, 2023**

Doors open at 8:00am. Presentations start  
at 9:00am.

## Co-Sponsors:

(Contact us with questions)

**Brookings County Genealogical Society**  
<https://sdbags.org>

**Kingsbury County Genealogical Society**  
[itctel.com/kcgs/](http://itctel.com/kcgs/)

**Registration: \$20**

**Optional Bag Lunch: \$10**

Make checks payable to **BAGS** and mail  
with your slip to:

BAGS  
515 3rd Street  
Brookings, SD 57006

**Hotel Information:** A block of rooms has been reserved at both hotels for April 14th and 15th under  
“Genealogical Society”. **The deadline to reserve is March 26th.**

Hampton Inn Suites 3017 Lefevre Dr. 605-261-9721 2 Queen disc. Rate of \$129.99/night + tax  
Country Inn Suites 511 Sunrise Ridge Road 605-692-3500 2 Queen disc. Rate of \$129/night + tax

## Early Mail In Registration Slip

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### \$20 Registration Fee

**Optional \$10 Brown Bag Lunch:** A fresh baked cheddar bun, shaved turkey or ham, and Swiss American cheese. Served with mayo and spicy aioli on the side, and chips.

Choose One:  Ham Sandwich  Turkey Sandwich \*Please mark if you need gluten free: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Included:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Keynote Presenters

### Virginia Hanson

Virginia is an archivist with the SD State Archives. She is the liaison between the State Archives and the SDGS. Presentations: “Those Old Stone Memories” and “Newspapers, Newsletters, Newsworthy”

### Yvonne Haefner

Yvonne is a lifetime member of the International Society of Germans from Russia, where she serves on the board of directors. She is also a treasurer for the SDGS. Presentation: “Germans From Russia”

### Mary Clarkson Buchholz

Mary has had a lifelong interest in history. She has been involved in DAR, P.E.O., and Inquiry Book Club. She was also involved in the restoration of Belle Fourche Down town District which is on the Federal Listing of Historical Places.

Presentation: “Can We Match Up?

### Benda Berseth

Benda is a retired wellness instructor from Brookings. Her interest in genealogy began in the 1970's-80's by typing her mother's research into her family tree. She and a cousin planned a greatly successful reunion for family members across the U.S. and Norway who had been “lost” for 3 generations!

Presentation: “Search for Ancestors-Norway”

**\*\*Early Registration and Lunch Order Deadline is Monday, April 7th.** We will accept registration the morning of the event, but no late lunch orders will be available.

## Canadian Research

### **Are you starting your Canadian genealogy search and aren't sure where to find the good record sources? Here are some of the top Canadian research sites online.**

Do you have ancestors from the Great White North and want to research them more thoroughly? You don't actually have to go to Canada to get started. While a trip to your ancestors' Canadian homeland might be in order as you get more into your research and decide to take it on the road, you can do a lot of the legwork right from home on your computer. The Internet is full of all kinds of amazing resources for Canadian genealogy research. Here are some of the best of the best sites, both free and subscription-based, to get you started.

#### **#1 Canada GenWeb**

Canada GenWeb is a website run by volunteers who are trying to organize all of the Canadian genealogical resources on the Internet. There are pages of advice for conducting online Canadian genealogy research, as well as links to resources, many of which are organized by province and territory. There is even a section just for children who are interested in genealogy. If you are just beginning your Canadian genealogy adventure, this is really good place to start.

#### **#2 The Canadian Genealogy Centre**

This is a new website project designed and run by the Canadian federal government. Its purpose is to provide access to all of Canada's genealogy resources to anyone who wants to use them. The resources included on the site are both public and private collections. While the site is just links to resources now (which is valuable in itself), it is eventually planned that the site will have pages of content on genealogy research advice, research services, and research tools you can use.

Most of the public record resources on the site are located at the National Archives of Canada and can be found on that organization's website, too. The only public record collection that is the exception to this rule is the Canadian naturalization database. This is a database of around 200,000 people who became Canadian citizens between 1915 and 1932.

#### **#3 Our Roots**

This site has a searchable database of published local histories of different places in Canada. A lot of these histories are really old and out of print, which makes getting access to them online (or at all) really valuable in your research. You can find some gems about ancestors in these histories that are first-hand accounts from the time of publication that aren't available anywhere else. Sometimes, you may even find photos of your ancestors that have long been lost to your family. This is a wonderful site to use if you are looking for insight into your ancestors' lives based on where they lived, particularly if they were early immigrants to their city, town, or village.

#### **#4 Genealogy Research Library**

This is a paid site that has records from all across Canada. Local histories and directories make up a bulk of its contents, but there are other good record sources here, too. You

can search the index for free. If you find a match, you can see the full entry for a small, one-time fee that varies per record. Some of the records are even scanned copies of the originals, which is always nice to find when doing genealogy research of any kind.

### #5 Ancestry.ca

You can't go wrong with this Internet genealogy staple. It contains a plethora of Canadian genealogical records of all kinds. From census records to local histories, immigration records, and vita records, you will find it all here. Most of the records are scanned copies of the originals, though some are merely digital index abstracts (in many cases, Ancestry.ca will tell you how to order the original document if all they have is the index abstract). Either way, you will surely find something useful in the vast Canadian record holdings here. Ancestry.ca is a subscription-based website. You can choose to use a 14-day free trial, get a monthly membership, or choose from several levels of semi-annual and annual memberships, depending on your research needs.

There are plenty of Canadian resources out there in the online world. These are just a few of the most useful and well-known. Get online and start doing Google searches for Canadian genealogy. Be as specific as you can with your searches, and you can narrow down your results to very specialized sites that may have information on regional areas and even villages where your ancestors lived. You won't find this information anywhere else outside of Canada. Try the big sites, look for some of the smaller ones, and you will soon get to know your Canadian ancestors better than you ever imagined.

## *“Delayed & Corrected Birth Records”*

It was during the late 1930s and early 1940s that the federal government encouraged people to register delayed birth records. The advent of Social Security, which began in 1935, was an important inducement for people to have a written proof of their birth, and a delayed birth record was a way of doing that. Regular birth records are usually recorded first at a town, city or county office, and a record copy of the original record is then sent to a state's vital statistics office. However, genealogists may discover that delayed birth certificates are only available at the county level and copies of them never made it to the state office.

~~~~~ We salute the Lives of Area Centenarians ~~~~~

**"When an older person dies ... another library has burned to the ground."**



**Margaret M. Smith**

**September 25, 1922 – March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Margaret Smith, 100, of Brookings, SD passed away on March 16th, 2023 at the Riverview Nursing Home in Flandreau, SD. Funeral Services will be held at 10:00 am Monday, March 27, 2023, at First United Methodist Church, in Brookings. Visitation will be from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm Sunday, March 26, 2023, at Rude's Funeral Home.

Margaret M. Smith was born on Sept. 25th, 1922 in Webster, SD to William and Ella Geary. She grew up and attended school in Conde, SD. After her mother passed away, she went to live with her aunt Mary. On November 20th, 1942, she was united in marriage to Arnold L. Smith in Conde, SD. After Arnold finished radio school, they moved to Aberdeen for a short time before making their way back to help on her father's farm. The couple had four children: John (Bonnie Nerison) Smith, Arnold (Joan) Smith, Jr., Raymond Smith, and Marsha (Steve) Moulton. In 1967, she moved with her husband to Brookings where she was employed at the Holiday Inn and SDSU. She was a member of the American Legion Women's Auxiliary in Brookings where she served her famous apple bars at BINGO night. Margaret and family would often enjoy summers at the lake cabin. Other interests and activities included: growing and attending to her garden, exercising at the senior center, playing cards, and puzzle building. She had a great sense of humor and wouldn't be afraid to poke a little fun. Margaret is survived by her children; John (Bonnie Nerison) Smith, Raymond Smith, and Marsha (Steve) Moulton; her grandkids, John (Barb) Smith Jr., Karla (Todd) Romano, Carmen (Tim) Ingalls, Todd (Kerith) Smith, Travis Smith, Jeremy (Suzy) Moulton, Darcy (Jamie) Vincent, and Josh (Brittany) Moulton; along with 13 great-grandkids and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Ella Geary; her husband, Arnold L. Smith; her son, Arnold Smith Jr., and three brothers Donald, Willard, and Glen Geary.



**Doris Elnora Bartels**

**July 11, 1922 – March 8, 2023**

Doris Elnora Klock Bartels was born on a farm in Turner County north of Chancellor, SD on July 11, 1922, first-born daughter of Ben and Mamie (Hermine) Klock. She attended a country grade school and grew to womanhood there.

She married Harm Bartels of Davis, SD, on September 24, 1940 at the First Baptist Church parsonage in Chancellor. They farmed in the Hurley, Parker, and Lennox areas and in 1970 moved to their farm north of Humboldt, SD where she lived and eventually retired. In 2013 she moved to Trail Ridge Assisted Living and in 2016 she moved to Dow Rummel Village where she died on March 8, 2023.

Doris was a member of First Baptist Church of Chancellor.

Doris taught herself how to play the piano by practicing with the piano at grade school and practicing using a window sill at home.

We are in awe of the work she was able to get done while also showing us her love through her cooking and baking that she shared with us and others. She worked for several years as an

assistant cook at Lennox Good Samaritan Center and briefly as cook for Tea Elementary in the late 60's – early 70's.

She brought countless meals and morning and afternoon lunches to the fields where farm work was being done. She loved Sunday School picnics and enjoyed bringing fried chicken, scalloped potatoes or potato salad and pies for potluck. You needed to be in the food line early if you wanted to get her food.

She gardened vegetables and purchased fruit to can for our winter use; she raised flowers to include Zinnia's, Four O'clocks, Cosmos and Bachelor Buttons and she loved the willow trees her husband planted at the Humboldt farm.

She was preceded in death by her husband in 1990, her parents, her father in 1968 and her mother in 1994; her brother, Roland Klock in 1990 and her sister, Darleen Klock Smith in 2011, her brother-in-law Robert Irvin Smith, Jr. in 2012 and sister-in-law Francis Steever Klock in 2018.

Grateful for having shared her life are her son and wife: Reuben (Linda) Bartels; two daughters: Charlotte and Virginia Bartels; two grandsons Mark (Kasey) Bartels and Matthew (Courtney) Bartels; seven great grandchildren: Layne, Isabel, Landon, James, Rylan, Peyton and Presley Bartels; and a number of cousins, nieces and nephews.

A funeral service will be held on Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm at the Southside Miller Funeral Home Chapel at 81<sup>st</sup> and Minnesota Avenue. Visitation is scheduled for Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> from 4 pm to 6 pm with the family present from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. Due to the depth of snow and cemetery conditions burial will be held at a later date.



**Guinevere S Fausch**

**October 24, 1922 – February 4, 2023**

Guinevere S. Fausch, age 100, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, died of natural causes on February 4, 2023, at Dow Rummel Village. No formal services will be held at this time.

Guinevere, the daughter of Ralph Clark and Freda (Ittner) Smythe, was born October 22, 1922, in Gilby, North Dakota. The younger of two sisters, she was raised in the many small towns across northern Minnesota in which her father was a station master for the Northern Pacific Railroad. She graduated from Fergus Falls High School in 1939, then entering Hamline University. She transferred to the University of Minnesota in 1941, graduating with high honors in food sciences and journalism in 1943. She worked for Kraft Foods and the well-known cook book author Meta Given in Chicago and San Francisco during the war years, until she and her husband Homer Fausch returned to Minnesota.

On Sept. 11, 1943, she married Homer in Minneapolis. They lived in Crookston and St. Paul, Minnesota while Homer completed college and graduate work. They moved to California for Homer's work at Cal Poly University, where they raised three children. With her sister Elaine, Guinevere developed a small business, **2 for 1 Household Account Service**, which organized financial and tax documents for their clients.

After Homer's retirement, the two resided several years in Mora MN before settling in Northfield from 1986 to 2014. Guin spent the last decade of her life in Sioux Falls near her son Mark. She is survived by three children, Dr. Deborah Fausch (R.D. Hunting) of San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, Dr. Mark Fausch (Mary Kay) of Sioux Falls, SD, and Dr. Kurt Fausch (Deborah Eisenhauer) of Ft. Collins, CO; five grandchildren, Stefan, Emily, Andreas, Eric, and Benjamin Fausch; and three great grandchildren, Felix, Linnea, and Anna.

Guinevere is remembered as a devoted wife and mother, a generous friend, and an intellectually curious woman. She used her considerable talents for the benefit of all she knew. A memorial will be held later in the year.

Guinevere was preceded in death by her parents, Ralph and Freda (Ittner) Smythe; her husband, Homer Fausch; and sister, Elaine Cressey Ohlin.

Memorials preferred to the University of Minnesota Food Science and Nutrition Program CFANS Legacy Scholarship Fund #1821 and the Employees Scholarship Fund of Dow Rummel Village.



### **Christina Kersbergen**

**December 20, 1917 – February 10, 2023**

Rock Valley, IA: Christina Kersbergen, 105, of Rock Valley, Iowa, died Friday, February 10, 2023, at Whispering Heights of Rock Valley. A funeral service will be held Wednesday, February 15, at 11:00 AM at Pioneer United Methodist Church of Rock Valley with Pastor Jim Sweers officiating. The service will be livestreamed at <https://www.porterfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/christina-kersbergen>. Burial will be held at Memory Gardens Cemetery of Sioux Center, Iowa. Visitation, with the family present, will be held Tuesday, February 14, from 5:30-7:00 PM at Porter Funeral Home of Rock Valley.

Christina Kersbergen was born to Ring and Winnie (Harskamp) Wallenburg on December 20, 1917, on a farm near Middleburg, Iowa.

Chris married Gerrit Van Dieren and they had a daughter, Jeanette, and son, Kenneth. Gerrit passed away in 1947. She married William Vugteveen and they had a daughter, Beverly. William passed away in 1948. Chris married Gerrit Van Surksum in 1951. Gerrit passed away in 1972. She married Richard Rikkers in 1975. He passed away in 1984. She then married Robert Kersbergen in 1986. He passed away in 1998. Chris was a barber for many years and also loved baking for the public for several years.

Left to mourn her passing are her daughter, Jeanette (Gerrit) Van Grootenhuis of Rock Valley, Iowa, son, Kenneth (Deborah) Van Dieren of Rochester, New York, and daughter, Beverly (Glenn) Van Bochove of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; 5 grandchildren; and numerous great and great-great grandchildren. She will also be mourned by many nieces, nephews, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; 5 husbands; grandson, Greg Van Grootenhuis; granddaughter, Amy Williams; 7 brothers; and 4 sisters.



### **Gladys Louise Mollet**

**July 15, 1920 - February 6, 2023**

The heavenly gates opened for Gladys Mollet, on the day of her passing February 6, 2023. She lived a long life of 102 years, 6½ months. Her life was full, filled to the brim with home, family, friends, community and teaching. She lived her life joyfully and busy doing good for others.

Gladys Louise Larson (Larsen) Mollet was born July 15, 1920, Geddes, SD, Charles Mix County. Her Mom and dad were Chris and Louise (Frohreich) Larson. When Gladys was 13 months old, she fought the fight of her life having Polio, paralyzing her right hand and arm. She worked hard milking cows and grazing them all day, every day. She attended Sunset Country School, graduated from Geddes High School. She enjoyed Home Ec. Band, Chorus, Declam, Geography and long-lasting friendships. She was confirmed at West Lake Lutheran Church, Lake Andes, SD. Because Gladys had polio, her parents thought she should have an education after HS. She graduated from Notre Dame, Mitchell, SD with a teaching certificate.

She taught two years at Fairview Country School before moving with her parents to Union County, SD. The need to find land where it rained, became a necessity in 1941. Gladys' new position of teaching was at, Ludwig country school, Union County.

Gladys, her special fella, Vernon Otis Mollet, also of Geddes, in 1942, went off to War and Gladys continued to teach. Her family then moved north of Alcester, Gladys taught at Miller Country School. Verne came home safely and two weeks later they were married, Oct, 30, 1946 at Nathanael Lutheran Church, Alcester, SD. Verne and Gladys farmed west of Alcester their entire married life. They were proud parents of 4 children. Involved in their many school and church activities. Gladys went back to teaching country schools in 1964 while she took night and summer classes at the University of South Dakota, to obtain her BSE in teaching. Teaching in country schools; Elmwood, Dodd, Glenwood, Newdale, Brule, and Beresford. Verne passed away June 13, 1983. Gladys remained on the farm, taking on many community leadership positions in the VFW, church, 4 H, Extension clubs, quilters.

In 2010, Gladys moved into a nice home in Alcester, SD and later into an apartment where she so much enjoyed new and old friendships. Gladys lived at Hillcrest Care Center and later Colonial Manor in Randolph, NE where she has family nearby.

Gladys is survived by her four children, Janene (Curt) Abrahamson, Weatherby, MO, Janiece (Riley) Gall, Yankton, Murray (Neill) Mollet, Whitewood, SD, Marlon (Pam) Mollet, Sioux Falls. She has ten grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren.

Gladys is preceded in death by her husband, Vernon Otis of 36 years, father, grandpa and great-grandpa of their children and families, infant son John Ardel Mollet, great-grandson Dalton Benjamin Gall, mother Louise Frohreich Larson, father Chris Larson, beloved step-mother Ida DeHaven Larson, sister Viola Larson Biddle, brother-in-law Virgil Biddle, nieces; Verla Biddle, Glenda (Arnie) Jonson, and Virginia Biddle. Doris Carlson, devoted friend and cousin by marriage! Funeral services will be 10AM Monday, February 13, 2023 at Nathanael Lutheran Church in Alcester. Visitation will be 2-4PM Sunday at the church with a 3PM prayer service.



**Harriet Skillman**

**October 29, 1922 – February 22, 2023**

Harriet Skillman passed away on February 22, 2023, at the age of 100. Visitation with family present to greet friends will be from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 28, 2023, at George Boom Funeral Home & On-Site Crematory, Sioux Falls. Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 1, 2023, also at the funeral home. Private family interment will take place following the service at Pleasant View Cemetery in Valley Springs. The daughter of Walter and Margaret Carlson, Harriet was born October 29, 1922, near East Sioux Falls. She grew up near Colton, SD, attending a one-room country school before moving to Valley Springs, where she completed her High School studies in 1939 at the age of 16. She worked at the Valley Drug Store and the office of Allen Lumber until moving to Redfield in 1942 to work in the Soil Conservation Office. After marrying Norman Skillman in July, 1944, they moved to Omaha, where Harriet worked at Mutual Benefit Insurance while Norman was stationed at Fort Omaha. After the war ended, they moved back to Valley Springs and built the home they lived in for 57 years. Her three children—Lynnette, Terry & Wendy--were the cornerstone of her life. Harriet also shared a birthday with her great-granddaughter, Katelyn Malwitz—something very special to both. Throughout her life, Harriet worked at various jobs to help support her family. She thoroughly enjoyed her work outside the home, especially interacting with others and fostering relationships among her co-workers. She also volunteered a lot, using her talents and love of music by acting,

singing, playing piano etc. for others' enjoyment. Grateful for having shared her life are two daughters, Lynnette Olson and Wendy (Paul) Severson, Sioux Falls, and a son, Terry Skillman (Cindy) of Silver City, SD, a sister, Joy Outka, Sioux Falls, eight grandchildren: Michael Olson, Waynesboro, VA, Teri Lyn Hanson and Chris (Sara) Hanson, Sioux Falls, SD, Sara Skillman Blom (Bryan), Rapid City, SD, Anna Deets-Skillman (Pat Romberg), Thomas Skillman, Matthew (Elizabeth) Skillman and Megan Skillman (Eli Davis), of the Seattle, WA area, fourteen great grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild as well as many nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her husband, Norman, her parents, two brothers, Donald and Marvin Carlson, all in-laws, and a great-grandson.



**Lucille Wynette Keleher**

**October 22, 1921 – February 12, 2023**

Lucille Keleher, age 101, of Sioux Falls, SD, passed away on Sunday, February 12, 2023, at the Good Samaritan Village, Sioux Falls, SD.

Lucille Wynette Kamolz was born on October 22, 1921, near Lennox, SD, the daughter of Frederick and Florence (Folken) Kamolz. She grew up attending Bedford rural school and then Lennox High School.

On November 24, 1948, she was united in marriage to Gordon Keleher at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Sioux Falls. The couple made their home on farms near Sioux Falls and Lennox, then moving into Sioux Falls. In addition to being an active farm wife and homemaker, Lucille also worked outside the home in clerical positions, retails sales, as a wholesale egg supplier and as a healthcare aid for SD Social Services. Husband, Gordon, passed away at age 52, on May 20, 1968. Lucille remained in her own home until just 13 months ago.

Lucille was a member of Cathedral of Saint Joseph and Saint Michael parishes in Sioux Falls. She belonged to the Cathedral Club, St. Michael's Widows group, the Sioux Falls VFW Auxiliary and was an Arkota Ballroom supporter. She was also active in Lincoln County Historical Societies in Tea and Lennox.

Besides her parents and husband, Lucille was also preceded in death by one sister, Anna Blythe.

Grateful for having shared her life are her children: Tom Keleher, Woodbury, MN and Maureen (David) Lutterman, Laramie, WY and Utopia, TX; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren, as well as other relatives and friends.

Everyone,

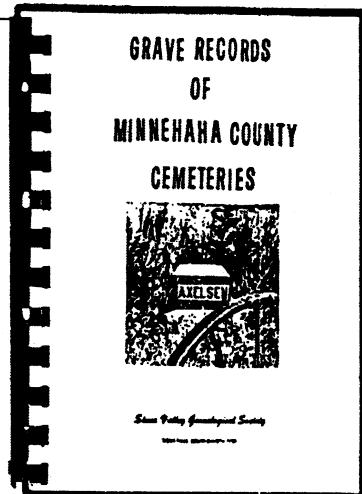
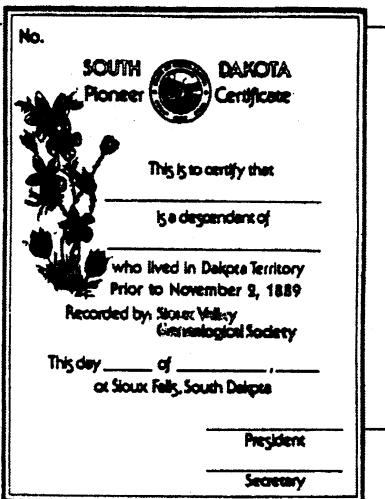
It has been a joy to edit the Pioneer Pathfinder for the last 4 years. Work and family commitments have made it necessary for me to step down and let someone else take over. I hope you enjoyed the pathfinders and found articles that were of help to your family search.

Cindy Schultz  
Past Pathfinder Editor

# These Items Are For Sale

## Pioneer Certificate

The Sioux Valley Genealogical Society has been issuing PIONEER CERTIFICATES to the descendants of the pioneers who lived in Dakota Territory prior to statehood in November 1889. These beautiful, authentic certificates are suitable for framing. Our Society is attempting to collect information on every one of the pioneers in order to preserve our past history. If you would like to have your pioneer ancestor included, send a self-addressed stamped envelope along with the order form below. You will receive the application along with instructions.



### Grave Records of Minnehaha Cty Cemeteries

This book was compiled in 1982 and reprinted in 1999. Over 14,000 names were taken from headstone inscriptions and records from cemeteries in rural Minnehaha County. Sioux Falls cemeteries are **NOT** included.

## Order Form

Clip or Copy this Order Form

I wish to order the following:

Pioneer Certificate

Applications for Dakota Pioneer descendants – please include self-addressed stamped envelope.

Grave Records of Minnehaha County Spiral Bound Book- \$22 for SVGS members, \$25 for non-members

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send your check today to:**

Sioux Valley Genealogical Society  
200 West 6<sup>th</sup> St.  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6001

## MEMORIALS/DONATIONS

Gifts may be given to the SIOUX VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY in memory or in honor of loved ones. Donations to assist in maintaining SVGS are also accepted. Donations of any amount are appreciated and are tax-deductible within IRS regulations.

My gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the SIOUX VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY (SVGS) is enclosed. I would like my gift to be:

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

My name is: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Please send acknowledgment (for memorial gifts) to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks to: Sioux Valley Genealogical Society (SVGS)

Address: 200 West 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Sioux Valley Genealogical Society  
200 W. 6<sup>th</sup> St. Sioux Falls, SD 57104 - 6001  
<http://www.siouxvalleygenealogicalsociety.org/>

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**Please enroll me as a member of the Sioux Valley Genealogical Society. I will be entitled to:**

1. Receive 4 issues of the Pioneer Pathfinder - Your choice paper or electronic.
2. Notification of meetings and special events in the area.
3. Discounted rates on registration fees for seminars and classes sponsored by SVGS.
4. Voting privileges at society meetings.
5. Support the organized study, research and preservation of historical and genealogically significant material.
6. Discounted prices on purchases from SVGS.
7. Access to "Members Only" page on the SVGS website.
8. Opportunity to network with others interested in Family History.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

(please print all information)

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Surnames Researching: \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of Research / Interest: \_\_\_\_\_

Nationalities \_\_\_\_\_

Countries \_\_\_\_\_ States \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERSHIP DUES SCHEDULE: - 1 YEAR**

- \$25 Single Membership with PATHFINDER printed and mailed to you
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Reminder the Dues Year is January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31st