



MADISON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
P O BOX 26
WINTERSSET IA 50273-0026
THIRD QUARTER NEWSLETTER 2016

MEETINGS: Our meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at the community room in the Winterset Public Library. We meet at 7:00 pm year round.

DUES: Payable January 1 of each year. \$10 per person or \$15 per family. Life membership is \$115.

RESEARCH: \$10 per hour plus cost of copies and postage. Send to the above address.

OFFICERS FOR 2016:

PRESIDENT:	Pat Hochstetler
VICE PRESIDENT:	Linda Smith
SECRETARY:	Cheryl Gray
TREASURER:	JoAnne Walker
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:	Mary Hart

LIBRARY OBITS:	Mary Hart
	Shirley Keating

DIRECTORS:	2016	Mike Mahan
	2017	Linda Smith
	2018	Ida Morse

MADISON COUNTY WEB
SITE COORDINATORS: Judy Wight Branson
Kent Transier
NEWSLETTER: JoAnne Walker
Linda Smith

<http://iagenweb.org/madison/index.html>

Fall is upon us and so far it's been very pleasant. The colors have been very noticeable this year for us to enjoy.

We had a very interesting program this past month on the "Rock City Cemetery History" given by Beth Gray. Next month will be "Family Influence of Life & Land" to be given by Rick Breeding. Rick is a sixth-generation Madison County resident. A big "Thank You" to Linda Griffith Smith for having such informative and interesting programs for our monthly meetings. All programs are open to the public and are encouraged to attend.

Since winter is upon us, it's time to think about those projects we have been putting off. I have decided that it is time to update some family records and organize them better. By looking at some of my files, it might turn in to being more than a winter project, but needs to get done. Also, there are always those pictures that we neglect to identify the people in them. Remember, our children and grand children won't always know who everyone in those photos is. Sometimes it is also nice to identify the place and date the picture was taken.

Pat Hochstetler
MCGS President

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REMINDERS:

With winter just around the corner we want to remind you if the Winterset schools are closed on the day we meet, or close early on that day, we will not hold the meeting.

Also, dues for 2017 are payable January 1st.

If you have not turned in a five generation chart, please do so and it will be featured in one of our newsletters. Any suggestions or contributions to the newsletter are most welcome.

American Legion Post 184 needs monetary help for the restoration of the four cannons and the monument in Monumental Park. There is an account set up at the Farmers & Merchants State Bank, 101 West Jefferson Street, Winterset, IA 50273. Make check payable to American Legion Cannon and Monument Fund. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

Veterans Day is November 11. The American Legion Breakfast will be November 12 from 7:00 to 11:00 am at the Legion Hall. Biscuits, sausage gravy, scrambled eggs and drinks are on the menu. See a member for a ticket or pay at the door.

* * * * *

The early bird gets the worm, but it is the second mouse that gets the cheese.

Bits and Pieces

County Fair Rules Enhanced

Each year, as entries come into the Genealogy Exhibit at the Madison County Fair, we find that some items just don't seem to fit the classifications that we have set up. A small group of MCGS members, Pat Hochstetler, Ida Morse, and Linda Smith, met to see if a few updates within the classes would eliminate unlike items competing against each other. Based on what was entered in 2016, they feel they have a better list for next year's fair. Or at least until the 2017 entries appear! The full list of rules, divisions, and classes will be available in the spring at our website, <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~iamadcgsl> or upon request.

Familysearch Scans Madison Co. Records

For several weeks during the summer of 2016, volunteers from familysearch.org scanned Madison County genealogical records. Delpha Musgrove, Preservation Specialist from the State Historical Library, visited Winterset earlier to obtain the necessary permissions and to mark the records to be scanned. Did you happen to visit the Genealogy section at the Winterset Public Library and see green tags hanging from our collection of cemetery notebooks? That was Delpha's work. Some of the records chosen to be scanned, beyond the cemetery notebooks, were records from various funeral homes, court dockets, and divorce records.

Once all the records were identified, Bill and Janice Hubbard from Newton, IA stayed in Winterset for six-plus weeks to complete the scanning. They even came to July's MCGS meeting to fill us in on their progress. The Hubbard's explained that it may take up to two years for the individual scanned images to be grouped, indexed and fully processed. Once that is completed, they can be viewed at familysearch.org, the free-to-all website that is filled with records valuable to every family researcher.

2017 IGS Spring and Fall Conferences

As you plan your 2017 calendar, here are two dates to note. The Iowa Genealogical Society has already chosen the days and speakers for their annual Spring Conference as well as for their Fall Conference.

Spring Conference: April 8, 2017

Speaker: Jay Fonkert Follow his thoughts at fourgenerationsgenealogy.blogspot.com

Fall Conference: October 20 & 21, 2017

Speaker: Judy Russell, The Legal Genealogist
www.thelegalgenealogist.com

Most years, the IGS fall conference is held at on the same weekend as the Madison County Covered Bridge Festival. But next year will be an exception since the Festival is scheduled for October 14-15. So take the opportunity to support IGS and expand your knowledge.



Annual Preservation Award

During the 2016 Covered Bridge Festival, the Madison County Antique Association gave their annual Historic Preservation award to the Madison County Historic Preservation Commission and their volunteers for providing the information needed to nominate the Winterset Courthouse Historic District. That work could not have been done without the groundwork laid by the MCGS. Online obituaries were a valuable aid as the histories of the buildings were intertwined with the lives of the people who owned them or worked there. The research group often called upon the memories of those in the MCGS to make a family connection or recall a location. Your years of past work is greatly appreciated.

History of the Winterset Cemetery

Beth Gray, current Secretary/Treasurer of the Winterset Cemetery Improvement Association, presented the history of the cemetery for our October program. Below is an excerpt from her talk and a picture she shared.

The Winterset Cemetery belongs to the city and is located in the southeast part of Winterset. Just before 1850, A.D. Jones platted "Original Winterset" marking the boundary, blocks, and lots. The cemetery ground was purchased for burial purposes by a pioneer citizen committee, chaired by Jones, that resolved the Winterset cemetery be "located on or near the northeast corner of the claim belonging to one Davis, on a ridge southeast of Winterset, which continued out from the residence of A. D. Jones and consisted of one acre of land lying south of a certain oak bush, as designated by said committee." In early days, it was known as the "Rock City Cemetery" due to the extensive limestone deposits surrounding Winterset.

We know only a little about early burials because no records were kept until 1878 nor during the years of 1884, 1885, and 1886. The first burial was a small child; possibly an Indian child. The first adult was John Moon. His monument does not give the date of death but it evidently was in the early fall of 1850 as he died from over eating green corn and watermelons – to be exact: 1 ½ dozen ears of corn and 2 watermelons and he drank a gallon of buttermilk. He died during the night. The oldest marked grave is that of John R. Farwell who died April 10, 1851.

For many years, Chapter A.G. of the PEO sisterhood had taken on the beautification of the cemetery. The pavilion or gazebo, which is still in place today, was built by the PEO sometime before 1900 and is located on the northwest corner of the Original Cemetery. In 1907 the Chapter had the roof of the pavilion painted and planted vines around the building which they hoped would soon furnish shade for those who wished to rest there. They supervised construction of several of the driveways and planting of trees. Iron arches were put up over each of the large gates with the lettering "Rock City Cemetery" and an iron fence was erected.

These projects were done with the assistance of the city council who advanced one-half of the money necessary to defray the expense, but the plans, correspondence and supervision of the work were all done by the ladies. In June of 1909, the PEO chapter placed before the public the need of a permanent cemetery association. There were such associations in many towns, where the population and wealth were more limited than in Winterset, so the ladies felt that Winterset could also support a cemetery association. These associations were mainly composed of the women of the towns who looked after the cemeteries, so the PEO took the initiative in this movement and called a town meeting in order to awaken an interest in the proposal. They hoped that an official association would involve the citizens of Winterset to assist the women with the upkeep of the cemetery.

The Winterset Cemetery Improvement Association was formed on June 11, 1909 at a meeting held in the court room of the Madison County Courthouse in Winterset at 3:00 p.m. A full set of officers was elected and Articles of Incorporation were written. This Association still manages the care of the cemetery.

After a survey for the Cemetery Association was completed, the first lot was sold to Fred Mardis on June 28, 1910, and the first grave was dug on Lot 250 for the remains of S.O. Banker which were moved from the Original Cemetery. The first regular funeral was held on October 26, 1910, when Edward W. Templeman was buried by Civil War Veteran organization, the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.).

The Cemetery Association made plans to extend and beautify the "city of the dead." Lots which were overgrown had been cleared and in several instances stones were found marking graves which had been concealed so long that no one knew they were there. While many lots had been carefully tended,

they were spoiled by an overgrown space nearby. Uniformity was what the association's goal and it hoped to be able to interest non-residents in paying yearly dues, initially set at \$1.00.

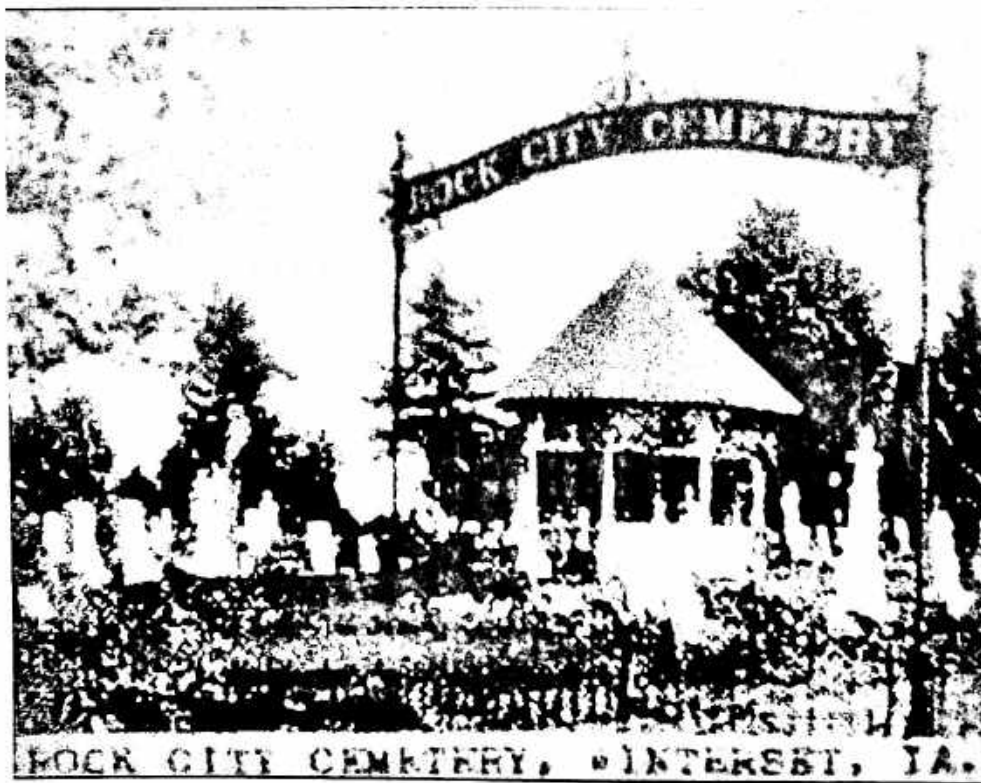
The date that the tool shed was built was not found, but on July 10, 1911, a fire destroyed the first tool house and contents. The new tool shed cost \$774.50 of which the Association paid half with the City of Winterset paying the other half. In the minutes of the annual meeting of the Improvement Association, additional enhancements were noted including a well to be dug near the new tool house and trees to be planted to replace evergreen and hard maple trees that had died.

The cemetery grounds have expanded considerable over these many years. Records show that the Original Cemetery of 1½ acres was purchased from Otho and Jane Davis on May 10, 1855, for \$20.00. Thirteen additions have since been added between 1869 through 2006, and the cemetery consists of approximately 40 acres in 2016. The 1905 Addition consists of one row located just north of the Original Cemetery. In 1975, an alley running through the 1910 Addition was closed and became the one-row 1975 Addition, just south of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. Baby Row or Babyland, located in the very northwest corner just south of East Summit Street, was created in 1962.

In 1921 a new imposing gateway at the northwest entrance to Rock City cemetery on East Summit Street was erected which is built of mat-faced brick in shades of red and brown. The posts and connecting walls are capped with Bedford stone. The main entrance for vehicles is fourteen feet wide flanked by eight foot posts which were originally topped with wrought iron lanterns for electric lights. Between these posts and the connecting walls are foot gates about four feet wide. The entire length of the structure is about 66 feet.

In City Ordinance Number 16 in Section 2 it states there was a need "... to employ a suitable person subject to the approval of the Council to act as sexton of such grounds." Interestingly, there have only been four sextons for the cemetery since 1910. Those sextons are Henry Burd, Claire Burd, Eugene Snelson, and Glen Grandfield.

Our thanks to Beth for providing this information. Our next newsletter will continue with more about the monuments that have been erected in the Winterset Cemetery.



The Life of a Former Slave, Charlie Moore

This summer a gravestone was put on the unmarked grave of runaway slave, Charlie Moore, who traveled through Madison County on his way to freedom. Charlie returned to Winterset to live the last 50 years of his life and became an active part of the business and the pastime of horses. Here's more of his story. Some words now considered offensive are included only because they are part of a direct quote.

Beginnings

In 1920 a *Madisonian* newspaper article, written shortly after Charlie's death by local historian E. R. Zeller, recalled, "He was born in Tennessee about 1830 of parents who were slaves on a southern plantation. While but a boy, he was sold to a man in Nashville who trained and traded race horses. It was there when but a youth that he acquired that fondness for the noble animal which was his well-known characteristic in older years. He truly loved horses and there were few who knew more about the nature and characteristics of them than he." In the 1895 census, Charlie listed his birth year as 1838 and his parents as originating from Africa.

Underground Railroad Days

Charlie came through Madison County around 1860 and stopped at the home of Matthew McGee (the great-grandfather of MCGS member Mary Hart) in Douglas Township. McGee's daughter, Mary, related in a 1930 *Madisonian* article, written by Cal Ogburn, that "the fugitives were hidden in the attic of their house until it seemed safe for them to be taken by night, to the next station. Once when some of them were concealed, she had a supply of hazelnuts in the attic, and to her displeasure, she heard them cracking the nuts! Some years thereafter, when slavery had been abolished, a negro came to their house one day and told about cracking and eating hazelnuts there, when hidden in the attic. It was Charlie Moore, who for many years was a familiar character in Winterset...industrious and respected."

Zeller posed two theories of where Charlie went after leaving Winterset, "One account is that he was spirited from the south through the underground railroad and that some man near De Soto hid him away." The other account doesn't seem to quite line up with what we believe to know; it states that Charlie was brought to Grinnell after the war ended, then moved to Amity and married before settling in Winterset. He may well have come through Winterset, to De Soto, to Grinnell which was a route followed by other slaves. And he may have found a wife in Amity which had a sizable population of former slaves.

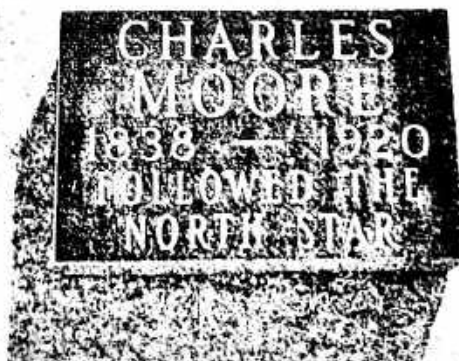
Return to Winterset

Charlie's experience with horses served him well in Winterset. He worked for or owned several livery stables. He created his own "RED LINIMENT" and sold it for years in newspaper ads. There was a horse craze in Madison County in the 1880's to raise and race pedigreed horses and Charlie was in the thick of it.

His first wife died here in 1886. He raised his son, Marion, who graduated from Winterset High in 1896, studied law and eventually joined the renown "Jubilee Singers" who sang and acted on the Chautauqua circuit throughout the Midwest, including in Winterset in July 1907.

Gravestone After Nearly 100 years

Charlie died in 1920 and was buried in the Winterset Cemetery, along the south end of the west road. If his grave had a marker at one time, it has long disappeared. Thanks to the generous donation of the Madison County Genealogy Society and other interested citizens, a gravestone was placed there late this summer to commemorate his escape from slavery and life as a Winterset citizen.



Jo Young shared this with me, and I found it interesting. It is from an unknown newspaper.

CUSHMANS WRITE FROM NORTHWEST

No Man's Land, S. Dak
July 9, 1928

Dear Folks,

I think this is Monday, but I'm not sure - no one keeps track of the days out here. It's a beautiful morning but it is going to be pretty hot. I got up at 4 a.m. this morning, so they could finish this job today and get out.

This is an old bachelor's joint, and I have had to do the cooking ever since I landed about eleven o'clock last Saturday morning. The men (Burr and Max) are both feeling fine. Max's thumb is all healed now. He cut quite a slice of flesh off the right thumb but it isn't going to bother him any, may be a little callous there, but it was quite sore for a while. They both eat good, most anything they can get.

This is just like Pioneer days. When it comes meal time, you stop and eat at the nearest house. If there is no one home, you go in anyway and eat what you find.

The first evening I got supper and called the men and we had six for supper, last night I served nine. All they want is bacon and eggs, bread and butter, potatoes (maybe) or perhaps pancakes, and black coffee. Don't think I will gain five pounds at this joint.

The men sheared sheep yesterday and a man cut hay here. They don't know what Sunday means or when it comes. They cut a rattlesnake in two with the mower and brought the rattle up to Max. They have killed three since I have been out here. When I go to the barn I wear Max's boots and stay in the beaten path. There is a kid here, sixteen years old, a nice kid, and I feel sorry for him living a life like this.

A mouse got in my suitcase and chewed up my grey hose last night, also took enough wool out of Audrey's knickers to line a wonderful nest. I'm sorry I brought them now.

The mouse (or another one) then got in bed with me, and maybe you think I didn't get out! But I did, and shook that old bed to pieces, then crawled back in simply because there was no place better to go.

It was dark as pitch and no lamp in the house, just a lantern, and the boy went to bed last so he had it. There was either a ball game or a circus going on in the room among the different tribes of mice, therefore I got back in bed, but not to sleep. That's why I got up so early and sent the men to work. Dad and Max nearly hurt themselves laughing at me. Oh! I'm going to be a splendid camper - (when I get broke in).

They took me to a neighbor the first night, about ten miles from here, and honestly you would have thought I was the long-lost and looked-for cousin Sally, from the reception I received. They did the talking, though. All they asked of me was that I listen and nod my head once in a while. I couldn't have gotten a word in edgewise if I had wanted to.

There was a very nice family come out from Phillip (30 miles away) yesterday afternoon to watch them shear. They took me for a ride and I enjoyed it very much. They had lived in Iowa until the last ten years. I saw cactus growing wild, and the "Snow on the Mountain" flower that we cultivate back there, grows thick along the road. There are very few fences here and where they have them they use the barbed wire for telephone lines. I guess a cow had gone through the fence and put the telephone out of commission before I came, because Burr didn't get my telegram until Sunday afternoon. Didn't even send it out on the mail.

I rather surprised them, still they were half looking for me or else a letter when the mailman drove up. I think when I get back from this trip I will be able to do anything. It rained here the morning I came and I will be grateful for that raincoat.

I got off the train at a quarter of four - no one to meet me - no light anywhere near. The brakeman didn't leave me though until he had directed me to the hotel. I walked a block and a half, went in, and found a comfortable chair, and just waited until morning. There was a light in the office but no one got up until almost six. (You are at home out here wherever you take off your hat). Then I got breakfast there, and had to eat with twelve men. All had breeches and high-topped boots and wore spurs. The waiter and clerk were both women.

When I tried to phone out here, they told me it couldn't be 'did'. So I had them call the mail man, as Dad had told me to, but we couldn't get him until he came to the post office at 7:30 - then he didn't know who C. W. Phillip was, only knew him by a nickname.

When he finally found out he informed me that there was no one at home out here as he knew that Lum Phillips was in Philip serving at a Board meeting. I had quite a time convincing him that my husband was working out here and was going to stay here until I either came or he heard from me. Then he was real nice about it and was a perfect gentleman. But just think of me getting in a car with a strange man and riding 24 miles out here over the prairie, only passing six or eight houses at the most and all of them about a mile from the mail box. The mail box here is at least 1 1/2 miles from this house. That is why he didn't know anyone was working here, and if he knew the place I don't wonder that he hesitated to bring me out. It's a wreck.

Well, I guess this will be all for this time. Write soon. Mother.

Remember our Veterans November 11, 2016. American Legion Post 184 and VFW Post 8142 have been asked to present programs at the Winterset Elementary and Junior High Schools that week.

I found the words to Taps some time ago and want to share them with you.

Day is done
Gone the sun
From the lakes
From the hills
From the sky
All is well.
Safely rest
God is nigh
Fading light
Dims the sight
And a star
Gems the sky

Gleaming bright
From a far
Drawing nigh
Falls the night
Thanks and praise
For our days
Neath the sun
Neath the stars
Neath the sky
As we go
This we know
God is nigh

* * * * *

Caleb McFarland, son of Jesse and Carol McFarland, and a member of the Winterset High School band, has been helping the American Legion and VFW posts honor guards at military funerals in Winterset, and also at the National Cemetery in Van Meter, by playing Taps. He does an excellent job.

Membership Information

The Madison County Genealogical Society "year" runs from January 1 through December 31.

Dues are \$10.00 per year, per person or \$15.00 for a family membership. A lifetime membership is \$115.00.

Amount Enclosed:
Membership Rates:

_____ \$10.00, single - 1 year

_____ \$15.00, family - 1 year

_____ \$115.00 Lifetime membership

_____ Renewal

_____ New

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Please make checks payable to: MCGS - P.O. Box 26 - Winterset, IA 50273-0026