

**CASS COUNTY  
GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY**

**Newsletter May 2019**

**NOTE FROM LAVON**

Somewhere in the many notes and promotions received in my internet file I found FAMILY HISTORY DAILY. It looks almost too good to be true so if you have experience using this site, please share it via this newsletter.

The description says, "Family History Daily has been providing articles, courses and tools to help family enthusiasts discover their ancestors since 2013." There is an opportunity to question contributors to the site.

Meantime, I will continue to explore. It offers articles and online courses. I am receiving a tip a day for a month as a beginning. You can receive a free weekly newsletter. Each article gives a tip and additional articles to read. You can also follow it on Facebook and Pinterest.

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**NEXT MEETING: MAY 23 - Tour**

**10:30** Meet at Library to carpool

Visit Iowa Veterans Memorial Cemetery

Lunch in Greenfield

Tour Aviation Museum, Greenfield Airport

Cost: Museum fee \$8, lunch

**May 18:** contact [casscgs@gmail.com](mailto:casscgs@gmail.com) or Mary before this date to give your plans to attend and/or carpool.

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**June 27 MEETING**

Atlantic Public Library 1 pm

Watch video and discuss: **Gems and Junk**

**Genealogy Tip # 26: Scanners**

This information is from Family History Daily

Scanning photos, documents and articles allows you to save them from various sources and safely save them. There are portable scanners available ranging in price from \$50 to \$200. Also available are pen scanners. They allow you to pinpoint text and turn the printed words into typed text on your computer.

**GOOD NEWS!** At least two new, free apps are available for use with your phone or tablet. The apps are safer for your documents because the items do not have to be handled as much. Some will scan through a photo album page. The quality will be the same or better as most scanners.

PHOTOMYNE is one of the options. The basic version is free but there is another option offering more services at a cost.

You can scan groups of pictures or pages in albums. The app does some work for you like crop around edges of photos. All of your photos are accessible from the Photomyne website and are stored on the cloud.

Another app is GOOGLE PHOTOSCAN. Family History Daily says that the vice president of Google Photos was inspired to create the free app by his own family's past.

Photo scan applies various filters to your scanned items. They include glare reduction, cropping and perspective corrections. The results can be stored in a Google Photos account or anywhere you usually back up photos.

Scanning and digitizing means all of those saved items can be moved around, shared, cropped and more without touching them. Think about the documents found in various places that cannot be taken with you.

About the same time I was reading this information a phone call came from my phone provider. I mentioned this to her. She is anxious to find out more and help me. I hope to have experiences to share with you.

## **Mary's Page**

**Hawkeye Harry, The Young Trapper Ranger, Vagabond Joe, Delaware Dick, Minkskin Mike** are just a few tittles of the exciting stories written by Oll Coomes of Franklin Twp., Cass County IA during the late 1800's and early 1900's. These exciting western dime novels were written and sent off to **Beadle Publishing Company in New York City**. Coomes would usually receive between \$50 and \$100 for his books, however, his **Omaha Prince of the Prairie** netted him **\$1,000**. Other publishers of his works were **The New York Weekly and The Saturday Journal of New York**. Oliver Coomes was born in Licking County, OH on August 26, 1845. As a young boy he moved with his parents to Jasper County, IA. He attended district school in the winter and worked in his father's pottery in the summers. In the winter of 1865 he attended Iowa College in Grinnell but was soon needed back home to help with family finances. On October 10, 1867 he married Adelia Kellogg and in the fall of 1870 they came to Cass County and settled on a farm in Franklin twp. The children of Oll and Adda were Royston, Arthur and Isaiah. Mrs. Coomes died November 2, 1907. Oliver later married Adelia Johnson on June 5, 1913. Miss Johnson was a cousin to his first wife. Oliver and his second wife died in 1921 from injuries received in a car accident near Storm Lake, Iowa. Oliver and both wives are buried in the Wiota Cemetery. Besides being a farmer and author, Oliver Coomes was very active in community affairs as well as politics. On April 15, 1872 he was appointed as the first postmaster for Wiota, he was a trustee in the Wiota

Methodist Church, served on the school board and represented Cass County for two terms in the Iowa State Legislature in 1877 and 1879. In Politics he was a Republican.

Picture taken from the 1980 Cass County History Book



Oliver and Adda Coomes, Arthur, Isaiah

## **JUST FOR FUN:**

The following was taken from **Cass County "Just The Facts" Book**

**Dewey History:** Dewey, a town once located five miles south of Massena, had its beginnings when the Elgin Cream Company of Creston built a creamery there to accept cream from local farmers. The cream was hauled to Massena where it was put on a train to Creston. Herb and Belva Hostle operated the Dewey Store, a general store, which was open until Midnight most days, because residents would come to socialize. One night a resident had to return to the store to pick up his son who had fallen asleep in the corner. The town was named Dewey in 1898 in honor of Admiral Dewey when the post office was established in a corner of Adolph Bernhardt's country store. Herbert and Belva Hostle purchased the store from Bernhardt in 1918 and operated it until it closed in 1978.