

# CASS COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter November 2020

## NOTE FROM LAVON

It was fun to plan an open house. Thanks to Glenna Thompson for major work on that event. When you are going to have special guests coming to your home, do you “spiff up” a little bit? We reorganized a bit and added some signs following Mary’s lead.

Remember that the door to the Genealogy Room is open. There are various ways to make a contact to receive assistance;

E-mail: [casscgs@gmail.com](mailto:casscgs@gmail.com)

Call: 712-243-5477 ext. 4

Write: 507 Poplar St., Atlantic 50022

Contact: Web page for Atlantic Public Library provides a contact page.

There will be no regular meeting and program in December. As we plan meetings and programs in the New Year, we have thought about connecting via Zoom. It would be safer for all and maybe encourage members far away from Atlantic to “attend.” Please let us know if you are interested:

[Casscgs@gmail.com](mailto:Casscgs@gmail.com) or

[Lavonfay@gmail.com](mailto:Lavonfay@gmail.com)

## DIGITIZING DECISION

After much discussion over several months a decision was made which will make it easier to access Atlantic newspapers. All will be on the Advantage site. There are 81 rolls of microfilm to digitize to get the job done. The cost is \$17,805. Would you like to make a donation of any amount? Or make a gift of \$125 to sponsor a specific year to recognize someone’s birthday, wedding, graduation or other special event.

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Genealogy: In the end, it’s all relative.

## Quilt’s Family Found

The September newsletter gave information about a quilt which had been registered with the Iowa Historical Society. It was part of my quilt collection. It was time to downsize so I wanted to find a new owner.

To my surprise and great delight, an email message arrived the day after the newsletter was sent out. Lois Trinity lives in Red oak and is a member of Cass County Genealogical Society. The quilt maker, Lovisa Brand was her 2<sup>nd</sup> great-grandmother.

Lovisa received training as a tailoress when she was young in New York. When she married she moved to Warren County, Iowa which is where she died in 1919. One of her daughters, Sarah, moved to the Cumberland area when she married and likely brought this quilt with her. Sarah was Lois’ great-grandmother.

Lois attended the Open House so the quilt was returned to a family member. We are both delighted thanks to Cass County Genealogical Society.

## Lois Trinity and family quilt.





## Note from Mary

The following picture was taken from the Cass County History book printed in 1980.

### TREE IN THE MIDDLE OF ROAD



Tree in the middle of the road

An interesting fact about the large cottonwood tree growing in the middle of a country road intersection nine miles northwest of Anita is that it was accidentally planted. Humphrey Parker and his brother John, who was the great-grandfather of Bill Parker of Anita, were measuring land in the area about 100 years ago. Humphrey, who was crippled, was carrying a young cottonwood sprout he had cut by the creek nearby to use as a walking stick. When the men decided where the section line should be they used the stick as a marker. It later sprouted and grew into a giant tree. Although the tree appears to be in a hazardous location, there has never been a serious accident because of it. *By: Carole Parker*

This particular article has been a hot topic on Social Media for some time now. I have seen people from all over the state and country posting about it. This tree sets in the intersection of a dirt road and a gravel road just south of Interstate 80. Humphry and John Parker were sons of Abraham Parker and Sarah Chubbuck Parker. Abraham was born 1787 in Bristol, MA and died 9, August 1872 in Cass County, IA. Abraham's burial location has yet to be determined. The 1870 federal census shows Abraham living with his son Humphrey in Pymosa Township. Was Abraham buried at Lorah Cemetery since they were living in Pymosa Twp. in 1870? Could he have been buried in Highland Cemetery since his son John was originally buried there? Was he buried at Bowen Cemetery in Exira Twp. of Audubon County? Bowen Cemetery is just north of the Wiota exit and back east a mile or so. I believe it is located in Exira Twp., Audubon County. Abraham Parker received 160 acres of public land in the state of IL for his service in the War

of 1812. 1850 Census shows Abram and Sarah living in Rutland, LaSalle, IL. As a neighbor to son Humphrey Parker.

John Ashley Parker was born June 1825 in IN and died 24 December in Cass County. He married Hester Garver. John was first buried in Highland Cemetery and later removed to Evergreen Cemetery in Anita. John A Parker served in the Civil War. John's family seemed to remain mostly in Cass County.

Humphrey was born in 1819 in IN and died 25 Apr 1901 and is buried in Lander, Fremont, WY. Humphrey also was a veteran of the Civil War. We have many working on this family since 2009 and possibly earlier.

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We had 10 members and 6 guests at our October 29<sup>th</sup> open house. Those winning \$5 Atlantic Bucks for successfully completing our Detective Game were Cheryl Siebrass of Urbandale, Glenn Fleming of Atlantic, Alan Neumann of Georgetown, TX, Dave Hancock of Atlantic, Eva Robinson of Atlantic, Suzanne Rasmussen of Kirkman, IA. And Lorane Smith of Lewis who also won 2 hours of free research. Glenn Fleming won a 1980 Cass County History Book and Lois Trinity of Red Oak won a free membership for 2021. We were pleased with our open house.

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We have a new addition to our library from Duane and Shirley Acker. It is a booklet of the George Smith and Elizabet Geist Acker Family in Iowa from 1869. Thanks to Duane Acker.

