

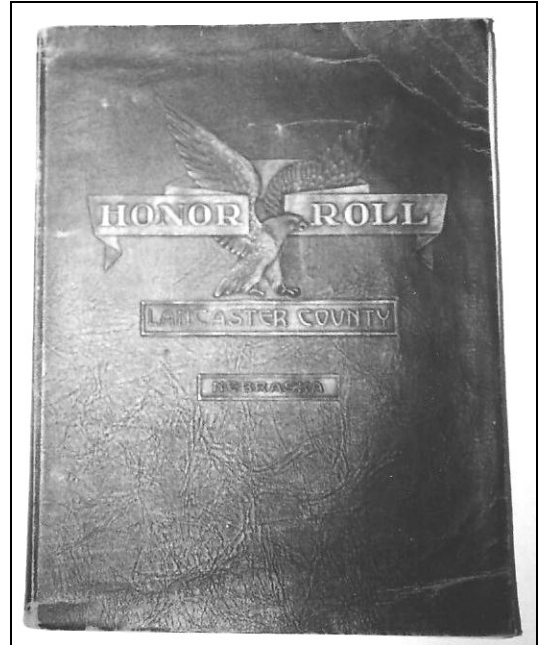


VETERAN'S DAY REMEMBRANCE

Since this issue of "Tales and Trails" includes the month of November, it seems appropriate to include an article on our debt to veterans. DCHS was given, as a donation, a book listing all the veterans of Lancaster County who served in WW1. We have attempted to do an index of all those who were from our DCHS area. We apologize if we have missed some who were from the area but not identified as such. Included is the page from the book. These pages can be accessed from the website.

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nelancas/>

If you recognize someone from your family in these pages, we would certainly like a short biography of that veteran to be added to our veterans notebook. Send to the PO Box from this newsletter.



NAME	ADDRESS	BORN AT	PARENTS	PAGE
Pvt. Harry Abbott	Lincoln	Denton	Harry and Clara	8
Pvt. Homer H. Anderl	Martell	Sprague	James and Lena	8
Pvt. H. Roy Armann	Martell	Martell	Abraham and Ellen	9
Pvt. Earl M. Barcus	Lincoln	Denton	Cora and S.	9
Pvt. Adolph H. Behrends	Roca	Emerald	Benjamin and Mary	10
Pvt. Harry Burgess	Lincoln	Lincoln	Joseph and Annie	13
Pvt. Albert Culp	Denton	Denton	Elmer and Mary	373
Pvt. Edward D. Dittmer	Emerald	Sprague	Louis Dittmer	18
Edwin J. Duteau	Lincoln	Merrill, Wi.	L.C. and Emma	18
Ernest A. Freye	Martell	Martell	M/M Henry	20
Corp. Albert F. Haase	Denton	Pleasant Dale	Henry and Anna	20
Seaman Ben E. Haase	Denton	Omaha	Henry and Anna	20
Seaman Robert B. Haase	Denton	Omaha	Henry and Anna	20
Pvt William H. Haase	Denton	Lincoln	Henry and Anna	20
Pvt. Albert Hasler	Martell	Lincoln	N/A	22
Seaman Carl H. Heidenreich	Lincoln	Emerald	Charles and Augusta	22
Pvt. Arthur F. Holk	Lincoln	Denton	William and Augusta	22
Sergt. Albert Horton	Lincoln	Denton	Mrs. Eliz. Preece	24
Pvt. Arthur I. Hudson	Lincoln	Lincoln	Edward and Hannah	24
Corp. Edward H. Hudson	Lincoln	Lincoln	E.S. and Emily	24

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from Page 1)

NAME	ADDRESS	BORN AT	PARENTS	PAGE
Corp. Walter W. Hudson	Lincoln	Lincoln	E.S. and Emily	24
Corp. Leo J. Kelly	Lincoln	Denton	William and Cynthia	24
Pvt. William F. Lesoing	Lincoln	Denton	William and Mary	26
Pvt. Montie F. Littler	Denton	Belvidere	Mrs. T. B.	28
Pvt. Wilmer E. Littler	Denton	Denton	Mrs. T. B.	28
Pvt. Geo. H. Lostroh	Malcolm	Emerald	wife Martha	28
Sergt. Sidney B. Maynard	Lincoln	Syracuse	Sidney and Minnie	28
Pvt. Leo L. McClain	Lincoln	Sprague	Mrs. A.J.	28
Sergt. Walter W. McClain	Lincoln	Sprague	Mrs. A.J.	28
Sergt. Morgan G. McCurdy	Rokeby	Weeping Water	Daniel and Nellie	28
Sergt. Frances W. Merrill	Crete	Johnstown	M/M W.J.	28
Pvt. Joseph Merrill	Crete	Berks	M/M W.J.	28
Corp. Charles F. Miller	Denton	Denton	Walter and Maggie	28
Pvt. Albert M. Pickel	Lincoln	Emerald	Sam and Louisa	31
Tunis J. Safford	Lincoln	Lincoln	Harry and Effie	34
Pvt. Martin C. Sanders	Lincoln	Emerald	Fred and Mathilda	34
Corp. Arthur Scott	Hickman	Centerville	Rhine and Anna	34
Pvt. Walter Scott	Hickman	Centerville	Rhine and Anna	34
Pvt. Albert L. Schultz	Crete	Denton	Albert and Augusta	34
Seaman Loyal V. Shafer	Emerald	Emerald	C.E. and Lizzie	34
Seaman Joseph F. Stutheit	Sprague	Sprague	Edward and Edna	37
Sergt. Glenn W. Taylor	Lincoln	Sprague	M/M Wilbur	37
Robert E. Taylor	Denton	Denton	Mrs. Bertha	37
Robert I. Urban	Lincoln	Sprague	Mrs. Anna	40
Cook Henry Vollstedt	Emerald	Emerald	John and Mary	40
Sergt. Elvin J. Waugh	Lincoln	Denton	M/M Edgar	40
Sergt. Harry B. Wigg	Lincoln	Denton	John and Ruth	40
Pvt. John P. Wigg Jr.	Lincoln	Denton	John and Ruth	40
Pvt. Harold T. Wilson	Lincoln	Emerald	Charles and Maude	40
Pvt. Edgar E. Zimmerman	Martell	Lanc. Co	William and Mathilda	40



Veterans' Day - 2013

Ask and you shall receive----I asked members to send "How I Met My Spouse" letters to me and the response was slow and so I started to work on other topics with Marilynne Kinner on the newsletter. Then the responses started to come in. So since there were too many to put into this issue, some of the last ones received will be in the January issue. If you did not get your letter sent, there is a lot of time before January to do so. I think they have been fantastic.

Teresa Sullivan

How I Met My Husband - Roberta (Giles) Spitz



It was my first day of high school in Crete. After completing grade school in Denton, I was excited and scared that first day at Crete High. I'd been in a class of two in Denton, so this was a big change for me. One of my teachers thought there was a problem with my schedule and sent me to the Principal's office to get it straightened out. A sophomore boy, Bob Spitz, was chatting with the principal when I got there, and the principal introduced us. That afternoon when I got home from school, I told my mom I'd met a Crete boy, and his name was "Bob Spitz." I said, "Wouldn't you hate to have a name like that?!" We



started dating when I was a junior and Bob was a senior. Two years after my high school graduation, we married. Since my high school friends gave me the nickname "Bobbi", I've had the name of "Bobbi Spitz" for over 52 years!

How I Met My Husband—Jennifer (Safford) David

My husband, Steve, and I went to grade school, junior high, and high school together in Lincoln. In fact, from age 12 on, our families lived just around the corner from each other. Of course, all boys were "icky" in grade school and "dorky" in junior high.

But then in sophomore year of high school, we were assigned as lab partners in biology class. He dissected worm, frog, and fetal pig, specimens; I wrote up the lab reports (thank goodness!). There was a spark. We went steady for two years. We broke up. We dated others, all the time keeping each other in mind. Junior year in college brought us back together quite by chance ... and we married a year later. We consider ourselves "high school sweethearts", and have been married 44 wonderful years.

How I Met My Husband—Elaine Thayer

I really don't remember it at all! But my daughter, Loree, has helped me by recalling what she has known through the years.

Loree said that Kenneth came to our place to buy eggs when they had just moved out to George Wilson's basement house. They had a barracks moved out when the old Lincoln Air Base closed after WW 2. They had planned to live in it until they could build a new house, I think. However, the barracks did not move well, so they lived in the basement house, and later on we (Kenneth and I) moved into it.

I remember seeing Kenneth for the first time when I drove down there to go to some people over toward Pleasant Dale to buy some summer apples. I couldn't back up a car very well so I asked him to drive it for me. Anita and I lived in an apartment in Lincoln where I got a job at Bankers Life. One night he called us and asked for her (Anita) but according to Loree, Anita said, "I think you want my sister, Elaine" then we started dating and it just seemed like mutual agreement that we would marry.

I actually met his parents first at a monthly school fun night.

How I Met My Husband—Marilyn Miller Wedberg

John and I had mutual friends, so we had seen each other "around", but the day I really noticed him for the first time was unforgettable. I was going into the student union on campus and he was coming out. It was November 22, 1963, and he told me John Kennedy had been shot.

HOW WE MET - Lavina Kraus Vagts

It was in the fall of 1948. I was 12 years old and in the 8th grade in District #76 in Seward Co. and all alone because our close knit foursome group of Beverly Vaverka, Dorothy Prochaska, Barbara Culp and I, and all but me, moved on; Beverly and Dorothy to Pleasant Dale High School, P.D.H.S. Barbara returned to her District #19 now that school had sufficient students to reopen. It was a struggle being the only big kid among all the little kids and had it not been for the teacher Betty Daniel Hodtwalker, it could have been a very unhappy year for me. Because I was the only one in my class it allowed me to study at my own rate. The semester passed quickly and I had a lot of time on my hands. Besides the regular 8th grade studies she introduced me to additional material that expanded my knowledge and prepared me for High School.

One afternoon as I was performing my school duty for that week of putting up the flag and taking it down, Dorothy's car pool ride dropped her off and she came running to tell me some good news. She asked permission and received it from the superintendent of PDHS to bring a visitor to school. She knew I didn't have school on Armistice Day, Nov 11th, because of a County Teachers Meeting. My parents consented.

It was an exciting day. The school seemed so big. I knew about 10 of the students and met many more. There were boys!!! I wasn't accustomed to being around boys for the only boys at Dist #76 were my brother, Leon in 4th grade and Melvin Daniel in 2nd. At lunch time some of the girls, including Dorothy and me, sat on the sidewalk on the south side of the school where it was warm and ate our lunch. I didn't know where the boys ate but soon a group of them began playing basketball on the court there. I know this is hard to believe but the basketball court was dirt, or mud or snow depending on the season but that didn't deter them a bit. I tried to learn all their names, but the game went too fast and I couldn't keep up. It was a great day.

The next day as I was lowering the flag, Dorothy came running to me with news. One boy asked her if he could have my picture. I asked who he was and she said, "Ivan Vagts, you remember he was dressed in black". I did remember seeing a skinny kid in black but didn't pay much attention to him, but gee whiz, a boy actually wanted my picture so of course I said yes. I learned later he made known to his fellow students if that girl comes to PDHS she's going to be my girl. Later that year he was injured in a hunting accident and did not return to PDHS. The next two years he attended Milford High School.

Fast forward to 1952 and I was a Junior. Ivan and his sister, MaryAnn, enrolled in PDHS. Ivan anticipated meeting me on the first day of school, but I wasn't there. Such a disappointment!! Why did he leave Milford? In those days students were given one free day to attend the State Fair so three of us girls went that day. The following day in school he said "Hi" to me and that was all but he sure kept his eye on me. I wasn't too impressed although he was no longer a skinny kid in black but a tall handsome young man. The day of freshman initiation, between classes, somehow he got hold of my favorite green headscarf and I wasn't ecstatic about it. He cornered me later and said if he could take me home after the initiation party he'd return my scarf. and I said I'd ask my parents.

That was the beginning. We were married 4 years later and the picture that started it all is in our Wedding Book.



Wedding Reception of Ivan and LaVina Vagts

Denton Community Hall - May 14, 1955

Tom and Sue (Rischling) Juricek

Ok, here is "Our Story" of how we met!! I never really dated in high school, and I don't think Tom really did either. The summer of 1974 I had just graduated Crete High School and was working at the Crete Dairy Queen. I had worked there all my high school years. Tom was working out at Waneks on his summer vacation from the University of Nebraska. He mostly worked as a delivery person. Tom came into the Dairy Queen a lot that summer for lunch from Waneks. He was real friendly and so was I, so after he had been in a number of times, I finally asked him what his name was. He said Tom Juricek. Right away I said "there is a Juricek that farms my folks place!!" and Tom asked "what is YOUR name?" and I said "Sue Rischling", and then he was all shocked also and said "WE FARM your folks place!!" So, then, we started dating right away, and the rest is history!! 38 years now!!

Bill and Linda Bryant - Panama NE

Bill and I met at a Husker spring game party. We were both with other friends, and he was very friendly and we talked a little bit. We met a week later at Uncle Sam's Nightclub and he cut in on his friend that I was dancing with and for some reason asked me to marry him while we were dancing. Of course that made me angry as I thought it was a pick up line; I stomped off the dance floor, called him a 'jerk', and he thought "this girl is for me!" We dated for two years and got married May 6, 1978- 35 years ago, and we are still married, still putting out The VOICE News together 31 years later!

Melvin and Marilyn (Kunz) Giles

In March of 1965, my parents and sisters (Elmer and Leona Kunz and Luana and Jan) and I moved to my grandpa's farm (Henry Melichar). I worked at the St. Elizabeth's hospital.

My sisters would go to church at the Methodist church. Up to this time we were not in the habit of going to church. We sat toward the back and this guy came and sat behind us. I, of course, did not know him but my sisters knew him. His name was Melvin R. Giles and he thought Luana and Jan were twins. On Sunday evenings, Jan, Luana, Gray Brhel, and Melvin and I would go to the Pleasant Dale Methodist Church for MYF-Methodist Youth Fellowship. Melvin was the one with a driver's license and a car! So we would ride with him. On September 6, 1965, we went on our first date with Marie Van Andel, and Gary Brhel, Tom Vance and Jan Van Andel. We went to the State Fair in Lincoln, Ne.

Our marriage lasted almost 45 and 1/2 years, when he died on February 2, 2012. Gary Brhel married Marie Van Andel on April 26, 1968 and their marriage lasted 45 years and two months when Marie passed away on June 29, 2013. Jan Van Andel married Ron Bell and he died in 2012. I don't remember who Tom Vance married.

I met Melvin at the Denton Methodist Church and that is where I told him goodbye on February 7, 2012.

Marvin and Sue Williams

I graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan University in June 1964. I taught two years in Racine, Wisconsin, and then moved to Aurora, Colorado to teach so that I could ski on weekends.

In August 1967 one of my sorority sisters was getting married in Nebraska City. I drove to the wedding. I sat with Joe and Sharon at the reception. They told me that they had a neat pilot friend who they wanted me to meet. By Christmas I hadn't heard from this pilot, so when I sent Joe and Sharon their Christmas card, I mentioned that their friend hadn't contacted me. In January I received a letter from Marvin Williams saying that he was going to be in Denver area and wanted to meet me. Our first date was to Breckenridge to go skiing. A year later we were married. In November 2005 we moved to Holiday Island, (northwest Arkansas) and love it. We have been married 44 years.



Marvin & Suzanne (Sarver) Williams
Jan 4, 1969

HOW I MET MY SPOUSE - Joan Thickstun Buhrmann

It was September 1945. WWII was over. Service people were being discharged rapidly in order to cut the military spending. Peru, who had been hosting young men training to be officers in the navy for the expected push on Japan, was devoid of sailors on the campus. Obviously with the capitulation of Japan after the A bomb there was no need for them so they were sent home. The campus was virtually inhabited by women only. Well, that's not quite true. By whatever means Coach Al Wheeler had managed to scrounge up enough young men to field a reasonably good football squad. During WWII the coeds had not been able to follow their team to out of town games. At last the clamp down on gas was over and a bus was hired to take all the students who forked over \$5 a person. We were giddy with the prospect of seeing an away game.

So we loaded up with a preponderance of females. There were a few young men who were still awaiting the draft call and so were in school at Peru who also went. Probably the prospect of being with so many pretty coeds went to their head. We sang "99 Bottles of Beer on the Wall" until I'm sure the poor bus driver was ready to go mad. As I remember it was an evening game and we left about 5 p.m. But it could have been later. In those days I kept no diary so have nothing to fall back on but my memory and after some 67 years it is difficult to recall some of the details. The game started at 7 p.m. and we arrived in plenty of time to find seats in the Doane College, Crete, NE, football stadium seating on the east side of the field. There we were

A bunch of giggling, flirtatious, happy, excited young ladies enjoying our very first trip away from the campus to follow the team. The rivalry between the two campus' was well established and made the crowd positively ecstatic. After all, the war was over and now life would return to normal. The boys would be coming home very soon and back to the campus. I was seated with my room mate, Mary Rishel from Plattsmouth, approximately four or five rows up from the bottom line of seats. Down the row to my right was a handsome young Lieutenant in his summer uniform of the Army Air Corp seated with Louise Roettger, a former Peruvian, and they were holding hands. Louise was a lovely young lady with long curly eye lashes that probably dusted the ground when she blinked. Someone in our crowd pointed him out to us and said, "That's Red Buhrmann. He's coming back to Peru."

Now I had heard of Red Buhrmann along with several others when the upper-class girls would sigh and say how the campus wasn't the same without the old crowd who had gone off to war. Not having been there at that time I thought it was pretty lively with all those navy men. When I glanced down the row this handsome young officer seemed to be looking in my direction more than just casually. Being a little egotistical I thought to myself, "I bet he goes with me when he comes back. I bet I marry him." Never before in my life had I ever said or thought those words.

We did not meet at that game. Red and Louise went off to Lincoln where Red returned Louise to her domicile and Mary Rishel, known affectionately as "Rish" and I returned to the bus and thence back to the Peru campus singing the same song, "99 Bottles of Beer on the Wall" to the consternation of the hapless bus driver. Red did indeed return to the campus in time for the second quarter in October. It would be lovely if I could say he immediately dated me but that was not the case. I think he dated every other girl on the campus before he got around to me. I had begun to think that it had been wishful thinking on my part. However, on April 13, 1946 he asked for a date and from then on we were a couple. When I asked him if he remembered me from that football game he said, "No, I was looking at (she shall remain unknown)." That girl was far more generously endowed than I was. However, they never did date. Just as an aside, our third son, John, and youngest of our brood was born on April 13, 1961.

In fact, Red had not intended to come back to Peru. With the GI Bill of Rights he was going to go to Ames, IA and take up engineering. But first he borrowed his family's car and came down to Peru to arrange for his credentials to be sent over there. As he came around the curve (it has now been removed) he said he knew he was going to finish at Peru. The rest is history. After a whirl wind courtship of four months we were married in Omaha on August 18, 1946. We weren't the only couple tying the knot that month. The service men were ready, willing and able to settle down and they did. It was a very happy marriage that ended with the death of Red on December 3, 1996. We had celebrated our 50th the preceding summer. Oh yes, my husband's nickname was Red because of his red hair.

Items of Interest

On October 22 at 6 pm we will have a social hour as usual with refreshments and at 7 pm Cloy and Linda Stutzman will once again have us tapping our feet to their old time music and fun.

On November 26th at 12 noon we will have a pot luck dinner and later we will have an election of board members for 2014. Please consider joining the DCHS board. New ideas are always welcome.

There will not be a December meeting.

New address for Ken and Karen Sherwood 2301 N 164th St. Omaha Ne 68116 402-677-6639

Web sites <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nedchs/>

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nelancas/>

<http://llcgs.info/>

PROGRAMS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

Our May meeting took us to Spring Creek Prairie on a stormy night. Amy Pleetner, caretaker of the facility told us about the importance of preserving natural prairie. Jane Reinkordt captured several bugs and we looked at them through microscopes at the facility.

Our June meeting was devoted to the US flag since June is Flag month with a presentation by Edward Nolte. He brought a number of flags that have been associated with the United States from colonial times.

July brought Michael Maas to talk about the Civil War. He had several items that would have been a part of a Civil War soldiers equipment.

August brought Jerry Penry with another of his presentations he had done for us. He is Lancaster Co surveyor and his program described how and when Nebraska was surveyed.

All of these presentations were very interesting



Edward Nolte



Jerry Penry



Michael Maas

Obituaries

Marjorie B. Loos, widow of Merrill, passed away June 30 at age 100. She was the mother of David Loos who with his wife Karen are DCHS members. Cleo Hoy was her step-brother.

Marie E. (VanAndel) Brhel of Pleasant Dale, died June 29 at age 65 in Texas. Her husband Gary survives and also 2 daughters and their families. Her mother-in-law, Delores Brhel is a DCHS member.

Bertha "Eunice" Harwood died July 7 at age 78. A former resident of Denton, she was a member of the Denton Legion Auxiliary.

Dean Versaw age 92 died in Ohio on July 6th. He graduated from Rokeby High School. He was preceded in death by his wife, Wilma Hoy Versaw.

Gloria (Enright) Carstens died July 12 at age 66. She was the daughter of Kenneth and Emma Enright. Kenny's ancestors were of the Rosekrans and Enright families.

Sharon Allder died July 12 at age 58. Her husband was Jerry Allder. Dale and Shirley (Fraas) Allder, her parents-in-law, were DCHS members for a number of years.

Viola C. Sanks, age 82, passed away July 26. She was preceded in death by her husband Robert M. Sanks. Three children and their families survive.

Marjorie (Hollman) Freye, 93, died July 26 at Crete. She and her late husband Clarence spent their married years in the Martell community. Two children and their families survive.

July (Giles) Smith of Sun City, AZ passed away July 28. She was the daughter of Fred and Marie Giles and grew up in Denton. Her husband Ed Smith is from Martell.

Ione Ado Smith, age 90, died Aug 6. She was the daughter of Ernest and Anna Lipps who were from the Emerald area. Three children and their families survive



Denton Community Historical Society
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