



Tree Climber

Smoky Valley Genealogical Society and Library, Inc.

Smoky Hill Museum Building
211 West Iron Avenue
Suite 205
Salina, Kansas 67401
785-825-7573

Library Hours

Monday through Saturday – 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~kssvgs/

2011 Tree Climber - Issue Two

**IN LOVING MEMORY
OF SVGS MEMBERS**

RALPH K. SCHLEIGER

Born - October 10, 1932 in Grand Island, Nebraska

Died - May 12, 2011 in Salina, Kansas

Buried in Roselawn Memorial Park

Salina, Kansas

New Records Now Available At SVGS

About two months ago, Smoky Valley Genealogical Society acquired the Saline County, Kansas school records from the Register of Deeds Office. This acquisition is very valuable for those people who are searching Saline County families from 1866 thru the early 1960's.

At one time, there were 88 schools in Saline County. The records that we acquired, cover the rural school districts and include student information (i.e. birthdate, parent's names, etc.). There is also financial information showing how much the teachers were paid and how much money was spent on maintaining the school building.

We are in the process of giving the old records a little "love" and will be making new labels for the file cabinets. This will make it easier for the researcher to locate the information they are seeking. These records will help "fill in the gap" between census years and in some cases, these could be the only records of a family's life in Saline County.

Elementary Schools That Existed in Saline County At Various Times

<u>Date Organized</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name of School</u>	<u>Township</u>
1 Feb 1866	1	Riverside	Greeley
24 Feb 1866	2	Union S & D	Solomon
4 Sept 1867	3	Schippel	Cambria
24 Sept 1866	4	Berg	Smolan
5 Mar 1866	5	Cracker Box	Solomon
10 Mar 1866	6	Muir	Smolan
7 May 1866	7	Lockhard, S & D	Elm Creek
Oct 1866	8	Shiloh	Elm Creek
24 Jan 1867	9	Red Brick	Dayton
28 Mar 1867	10	North 80 & New Cambria	Elm Creek
22 Apr 1866	11	Humbarger	Elm Creek
12 May 1868	12	Parsons	Greeley
8 Oct 1868	13	Fore	Liberty
Jan 1869	14	Sunny Corner	Smoky View
30 Jan 1869	15	Buckeye	Dayton
19 Mar 1869	16	Poheta	Solomon
15 Jul 1869	17	Bavaria (R2)	Ohio
15 Mar 1870	18	Bridge Hall	Eureka
16 Mar 1870	19	Lightville	Ohio
19 Mar 1870	20	Malmgren	Falun
25 Apr 1870	21	Ebenezer	Pleasant Val.
20 Aug 1870	22	Brookville (R1)	S. Spring Crk.
23 Sep 1870	23	Berwick	Walnut
29 Oct 1870	24	Smolan	Smolan
29 Dec 1870	25	Benfield	Greeley
1 Apr 1871	26	Mulberry	Smoky Hill
20 Apr 1871	27	Stimmel	Smoky Hill
6 May 1871	28	Stone	Greeley
29 Jun 1871	29	Pliney	Gypsum
24 Jan 1872	30	Crystal Spring	Cambria
22 Jan 1872	31	Cox	Cambria
25 Oct 1872	32	Pleasant Hill	Pleasant Val.
1872	33	Martin	Glendale
28 Mar 1872	34	Eff Creek	N. Spring Crk.
28 Mar 1872	35	Maple Grove	Eureka
28 Mar 1872	36	Assaria	Smoky View
28 Mar 1872	37	Sunny Corner	Smoky View
28 Mar 1872	38	Rose Hill	Smoky View
20 Apr 1872	39	Powers	Pleasant Val.
10 Mar 1873	40	Hobbs Creek	Gypsum
10 Mar 1873	41	Stagg Creek	Gypsum
10 Mar 1873	42	Earl Hill	Gypsum
17 Mar 1873	43	Washington	Washington
15 Apr 1873	44	Carmony	Smoky Hill
17 Apr 1873	45	Cooley	Ohio

22 Apr 1873	46	Star	Liberty
23 Apr 1873	47	Summit Hill	Walnut
22 Apr 1873	48	Dry Creek	Falun
1873	49	Harmony	Solomon
19 May 1873	50	Pleasant Grove	Smolan
26 May 1873	51	Mount Tabor	Solomon
28 Jun 1873	52	Bell	Dayton
26 Jun 1873	53	Tobin	Dayton
17 Mar 1874	54	White Rose	Falun
14 Mar 1874	55	Fairview	Ohio
17 Mar 1874	56	Paul	S. Spring Crk.
17 Mar 1874	57	Sunny Valley	S. Spring Crk.
24 May 1874	58	Iron Mound	Greeley
27 Nov. 1875	59	Wheeler	Liberty
29 Jan 1877	60	Englund	Washington
7 Aug 1877	61	Twin Mound	Pleasant Val.
3 Apr 1877	62	Cottonwood Falls	Smolan
14 Feb 1879	63	Sunny Slope	Smolan
4 Feb 1879	64	Falun (R7)	Falun
24 Feb 1879	65	Sunny Side	Summit
24 Feb 1879	66	Glendale	Glendale
4 Jan 1879	67	Sunny Side	Summit
1879	68	Union Kipp	Solomon
3 Apr 1879	69	Pleasant Bend	S. Spring Crk.
14 Feb 1879	70	Carlson	Washington
27 Mar 1879	71	Lighter	Liberty
13 Jun 1880	72	Cole	N. Spring Crk.
1880	73	(No Name)	N. Spring Crk.
7 May 1881	74	McGavern	Glendale
26 Jun 1882	75	Bethel	Eureka
25 Jun 1883	76	Mentor (14)	Smolan
25 Jun 1883	77	Magnolia	Smoky Hill
12 Jan 1884	78	Sunflower	Smoky View
10 Mar 1884	79	Bridgeport	Smoky View
26 Apr 1884	80	(No Name)	Dayton
1 May 1884	81	Hall	Elm Creek
19 July 1886	82	Gypsum	Eureka
31 May 1884	83	Happy Corner	Elm Creek
23 Jun 1884	84	(Part of Poheta)	Solomon
22 Aug 1887	85	(No Name)	Eureka
7 July 1886	86	Chapel Hill	Gypsum
19 Mar 1892	87	Trenton	Elm Creek
1887	88	Mahan	Glendale

While reading the familysearch.org blog, I was excited to see the following comments..... Many thanks to the author!!

<https://www.familysearch.org/blog>

Local County Genealogical Societies Are a Great Source

June 28, 2011 - 12:54pm by **larsonw**

This summer I had the privilege of doing research in the field and visiting two wonderful county genealogical societies--the Smoky Valley Genealogical Society in Salina, Kansas, and the McPherson County Archive, which is a part of the McPherson County Old Mill Museum in Lindsborg, Kansas. Research problems were answered that couldn't have been otherwise.

The Smoky Valley Genealogical Society has all kinds of records, such as citizenship, mortality records, military records, school records, township assessments, probates, photos of headstones in cemeteries, a few family bibles, and more. They have produced a number of indexes for the county, including marriages, deaths and interments, probate records, obituaries, biographies, and a few other collections. Many of these items are available to search online through Ancestry.com. It is exciting to search the items in person, but if you cannot make the trip, a research team is available to do research for a fee.

While at the Smoky Valley Genealogical Society, I tried to find a death of an individual. We knew that she was alive in the 1900 census but not alive in the 1905 state census of Kansas. By using the list of residents in the Smoky View Township in the tax assessment records, her death was narrowed down to between May 1902 and May 1903. Hopefully, a Swedish American newspaper will mention her death and burial. It is nice to have the time period reduced from five years to one year.

The McPherson County Archive also has a gold mine of information, and most of it is available online at their [website](#).

Indexes of census records, vital records, probates and wills, naturalizations, obituaries, cemeteries, maps, and a few miscellaneous records are available online. By contacting the archive at the McPherson County Old Mill Museum, you can order records from the indices for a fee. There are also many other records available to search at the archive.

The Old Mill Museum and Archive have many volumes of a Swedish-American newspaper called Lindsborg Posten which was published in Lindsborg, Kansas. It was enjoyable to search through the actual newspapers rather than view microfilms. Here a death was found which stated that the person had died the previous Saturday and was buried on Sunday. By calculating from when the paper was printed, a death date was determined. So far a death date has not been found for this person in any other record. When doing research, always consider using local county genealogical societies as one of your sources, whether online, in person, or by requesting their services. They are getting better and better. Great results are possible.

Kansas Marriage Laws

(Taken from "Kansas Marriage Laws have followed Liberal
Tradition of Pioneer Days,"
Kansas City Star February 24, 1947)

In 1855 the first territorial legislature in Kansas passed a law requiring the recording of marriages in Kansas. Many churches kept records of marriages and births, but there were no regulations requiring the registering of marriages prior to 1855. The marriage was to be recorded with the county recorder and the couple was required to pay a fifty cent recording fee. Many of the territorial marriages went unrecorded as the fee was a heavy burden for a young couple.

The first laws regarding marriage were debated in the 1857 Legislature of Kansas Territory. The proposed bill required the clerk of the county to issue a license three days prior to the marriage. A debate ensued and then failed with legislators declaring "women were too hard to get to make it more difficult to tie them up in a marriage contract." Marriage laws were passed in 1867 requiring a license before the marriage service could be performed. Men under twenty-one years of age and women younger than 18 year old were prohibited from marrying without the consent of the parent or guardian.

Marriage, in Kansas, was regarded as a civil contract and judges, justices of the peace, and minister could perform the ceremony.

Divorces, prior to statehood in 1861, could only be granted by an act of the legislature. The courts were given the sole jurisdiction for granting divorces after Kansas was granted statehood. The legislature granted seventy-five divorces between 1855 and 1861. In some cases a woman's maiden name and dowry were restored.

Telling Their Story Through Images

By Gena Ortega, Internet Genealogy Author

Not all of us are lucky enough to inherit photographs of our ancestors. In those cases, consider substituting photographs that depict their lives, such as images of maps, old vintage photographs of their town, photographs of battles they fought in, images of the clothing style they would have worn, or the ship they came to America on. One place to find vintage photographs is Flickr: The Commons. This collection of photographs from repositories including the Library of Congress and the UK National Archives are all available for download without any known copyright restrictions.

By ALBERT LIN

Russell County News

Currently on display at the Russell Public Library is a display entitled *All Things Royal*. The exhibit contains keepsake merchandise commemorating the British royal family. The items come from the collections of Cloie Brevik, Salina, and her mother, the late Alice Brevik. Cloie has friends in Russell.

Cloie's mother, Alice, was from England, and Cloie's father is the late Harold Brevik. The couple met when Harold, a member of the United States Air Force, was stationed in England. The couple's daughter, Cloie, was born in England and resided there with her parents for a few years, until Harold was transferred back to the United States. Cloie moved with her family to the United States in 1954. Alice accompanied her husband to the United States and changed her citizenship after five years in America. Cloie recalled she and her parents returned to England when Harold was transferred back there in the 1960s, and the family, including Cloie's brother, John, resided in England for three years, before moving back to the United



ROYAL MOMENTOS — Cloie Brevik, Salina, is pictured, Aug. 3, as she, assisted by some friends, installed the current display at the Russell Public Library. The exhibit contains several keepsakes commemorating the British royal family. Those mementoes are from the collections of Cloie and her mother, the late Alice Brevik, who was a native English woman.

States again.

Cloie said her mother liked America but was always British at heart. Alice Brevik never lost her British accent.

Further discussing her family, Cloie said recently, "There's a story that we're related to King Henry VIII, like everyone in England is related to royalty at some level."

Additionally, Cloie said almost everybody in England collects keepsakes of the royal family at one time or another. The Brevik family has dozens of items commem-

orating various members of British royalty.

Such keepsakes can be purchased in the United States, as well as in Britain.

Cloie said during the lead-up to the April 29, 2011, royal wedding of William and Kate, and during the period afterward, mementoes of all kinds which bore the image of the the royal couple have been selling well in Britain.

The Brevik family visited Britain in 1981, about three months after the royal wedding of

Charles and Diana. During that trip, the Breviks bought a keepsake "Charles and Diana" teapot and tea cup. These mementoes are displayed at the Russell Public Library.

Also exhibited at the library are magazines and books about the royal family.

Cloie said, "My mother always had a picture of Diana up at the house (in Salina), and she always had a picture of (Queen Elizabeth II) up."

The display at the library includes glazed ceramic commemorative dinner plates.

Also, there is original memorabilia commemorating the May 12, 1937, coronation of King Edward VIII.

Also exhibited, is a book commemorating the June 2, 1953, coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. There is also a commemorative tassel from 1953, which is made of the same cloth of which the queen's coronation robe was made.

Brevik has display of royal keepsakes

1940 Census Release Date

The 1940 U.S. Federal Census was conducted based on a census date of April 1, 1940. Given the seventy-two year privacy restriction, family historians will need to wait until **April 2, 2012** before they can inspect schedules from the sixteenth census of the United States. Since April 1st falls on a Sunday in 2012, we'll have to wait an additional day to access the 1940 census schedules, but recent announcements from officials at the National Archives have indicated the schedules are already scanned and being prepped for digital release through the NARA website, rather than microfilm as has been done in previous years.



There may be no urgency in preparing for the 1940 census research at the moment, but don't wait until the night before to start getting ready. As of yet there is no 1940 census index available. Since researchers will be required to know the Enumeration District for the city or town where their ancestors lived, you will want to collect the addresses for those ancestors.

Start with direct-line ancestors you have found in the 1930 census and that you know were still living in 1940. While it's possible that they may still be living in the same city or state, don't rule out the fact that your ancestors may have moved. Once you have listed these individuals, consider looking for anyone in their mid-to-late teens or 20s who may have been living in the household in 1930, but may now be found as a head of their own household. Next, you'll want to repeat this same process for indirect ancestors - aunts, uncles, cousins, etc.

Sources for addresses include:

- *City Directories* (NARA has original Circa 1940 City Directories for Washington, DC. The Library of Congress holds a large nationwide collection of city directories and many libraries hold local directories.
- The *1930 Census* (useful for people who did not move between 1930 and 1940). If you have a person's enumeration district (ED) number from the 1930 Census you can use "The Converting between 1930 and 1940 Census ED1940s in One Step" search utility at <http://stevemorse.org/census/ed2040.php?year=1940> to find the equivalent ED for the 1940 Census.
- *World War II Draft Records* (contact the National Archives' Regional Location for the state in which your ancestor lived)
- *Naturalization Petitions or Declarations of Intent* filed close to 1940 (contact the National Archives' Regional Location for the state in which your ancestor lived)

Programs for Monthly Meetings Through December 2011

**Monthly meetings are held the second Saturday of each month from September to May
2:00 P.M. in Community Room 208 at the Smoky Hill Museum Building**

September 10th, 2011 - 2:00 P.M.

2011 is the 150th Anniversary of the start of the Civil War in 1861. As our first guest of the program season, SVGS is proud to host Dr. Merle (Boo) Hodges who has been a Civil War re-enactor for many years. Dr. Boo has always been fascinated with history and especially Civil War history.

He will be speaking about when the Civil War came to Salina and the impact that it had on Kansas.

October 8th, 2011 – 2:00 P.M.

Our October program will feature SVGS member, Ron Weddle, Wichita, KS. Ron will present a program called "Documenting and Organizing Your Research Using Legacy, Microsoft Office, and Other Tools." There are many genealogy software programs available for our use, and Ron has learned all the "ins" and "outs" of using Legacy. Come and learn how to integrate several wonderful tools for organizing your genealogy.

November 12th, 2011 – 2:00 P.M.

SVGS member, Sandy Farrell, will give a presentation on using and getting the most out of the new Family Search program that was released this past year. Sandy is the Assistant Director of our local Family History Center. The new Family Search website has a new modern look and powerful search technology. More and more scans of "real" documents such as marriage records, death records, etc. are now available on the Family Search website.

December 10th, 2011 – 12:00 P.M.

Annual Christmas Pot-Luck Dinner... SVGS provides the meat, drinks and tableware. We ask members to provide a side dish (vegetable, salad, dessert).

FOR THAT "NEW LOOK"

Below is an excerpt from the advertisement of *Smith's Illustrated Pattern Bazaar* which probably was widely published in newspapers of the United States in 1874 and 1875 (see *Leavenworth Daily Times*, December 29, 1874, January 26, 1875, etc.):

SMITH'S "INSTANT DRESS ELEVATOR"



THIS CUT shows how beautifully a LONG Skirt is changed into a Straight Front Walking Dress by the INSTANT ELEVATOR. You can raise your skirt while passing a muddy place and then let it fall, or you can keep it raised with the ELEVATOR. It keeps the skirt from the FILTH. IT LOOPS the skirt in a TASTEFUL and FASHIONABLE MANNER. IT SAVES more than TEN TIMES its COST, besides being CONVENIENT, NEAT and GRACEFUL. IT can be changed from ONE DRESS to ANOTHER in LESS than TWO MINUTES.

YOU NEED BUT ONE FOR A DOZEN DRESSES.

Price SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS each. Send 2 stamps for postage. The above ELEVATOR will be given FREE as PREMIUM to the person who sends \$1.25 for ONE YEARS subscription to "SMITH'S PATTERN BAZAAR."