

Past Organizations

Submitted in 1986

American Legion, Wilson-ABTS Post No 113

The original American Legion Post #113 was chartered as the "Dee Wilson" Post, November 6, 1919, with the following charter members listed: Victor Brown, Albert Larsen, Jesse E. Bernard, Glen E. Peters, Dr. S.S. Gibson, Michael Wintz, Frank W. Gillespie, J. Lyle Courtney, Leslie L. Hall, Bert F. Gleason, E.V. Hickel, Clark Blizzard, Alfred Nelson, M.M. Bowles, and M.M. Waggoner.

In May, 1947, There was tendered a new charter, Wilson-Abts American Legion Post #113, with 128 charter members.

The post held meetings above the "Kratcheils Store" now the location of "New Horizons" from October, 1924, until February 1, 1927. Meetings then were held at the "Lions Den," located where the bowling alley is now located. On May 9, 1941, meets were held in the city auditorium. In August, 1942, World War II veterans were approved for membership in the American Legion.

During the years of 1922 and 1923, the Legion Pavilion was built at the city park. On December 20, 1923, the pavilion was leased to the Randolph High School for basketball and other activities for the amount of lights, heat and cleanup.

On August 8, 1927, it was necessary to repair the roof. In February of 1929 there was a small fire which caused needed repairs.

During the years when dances were held, most of the big name bands played here. Lawrence Welk made many appearances in his early years. In 1936 the pavilion was sold to William Munter and was moved to the present location. It is now the West Randolph Ballroom, where dances, skating and bowling are offered.

In 1945, the Sons of Herman Hall was purchased and all meetings were held there. Extensive changes were made on the building. It was rented to the school for several years as a band room and classroom. The building was sold to Michael Kollars in 1974. The first "Boys' Stater was Paul Borst.

American Legion Aux. Post 113

Wilson-ABTS Post

The auxiliary was started June 23, 1923.

There were 23 members. One charter member, Mrs. Clark (Elizabeth) Blizzard, is still a member. The first home of the auxiliary was in the Odd Fellows Hall. The second home was in the new auditorium which we moved into on May 14, 1941.

The third home was in the Son's of Herman Hall that the Legion purchased after cleaning it up. We had our first meeting on April 5, 1946, and stayed there until it was sold, for the Legion decided the keep was too high. Our

fourth home was back to the auditorium. Now we meet in member's homes.

In 1934, Lorraine (Wilson) Wattier was our first Girls' Stater. We have had one every year since, except two years during World War II. The last few years we have had help, moneywise, in sending them. A couple of times we weren't accepted because we were late and they had their quota filled.

Our membership is low, but a few of us are pegging along to keep our post and auxiliary alive. *Grace Gibson*

Cedar Camp No. 9317

Cedar Camp No. 9317, R.N.A., was chartered March 10, 1923, by District Deputy Blanche Roberge. On the 30th day of March, 1923, the organization was declared legally constituted.

The first regular meeting was on May 3, 1923, at the L.O.O.F. Hall. The following people presided at the ninth regular meeting on September 17, 1924: Oracle, Ida M. Hawe; Recorder, Laura Chambers; Receiver, Emma Farman. Minnie Lackas was one of the candidates. On October 14, 1924, Esther M. Glasscock and Esther Rosenbach were candidates.

On January 6, 1925, Esther M. Glasscock, became the Recorder of Cedar Camp No. 9317 and remained in that office until camp closed on February 1, 1985. She was recorder for 59 years. Juvenile's were chartered June 4, 1927. Today they are called "Junior Members."

Two meetings a month were held, a regular meeting and Kinsington (afternoon social) meeting. The afternoon meeting was discontinued in 1928 as many members had jobs.

Oracles who held office during the years in R.N.A. were Ida M. Hawe Bessie Boughn, Kathryn Boughn Armitte Phillips, Mabel Wintz, Effie Black, Ethel Clausen, Catherine Andersen, Anna Allen, Lillian Kimball, Gayle Miller, Edna Schutt, Charlotte Meier, Bess E. Robinson, Minnie M. Lackas, Eva May Plummer-Strathman and Mary Alice Vanderbilt.

Nellie Marie Roberts was the oldest member and Amber Petersen was the youngest member holding membership in Cedar Camp No. 9317, Randolph, Nebraska.

The last presiding Oracle, Bess E. Robinson, had three daughters-in-law: Donna, Virginia and Lois, all members of the R.N.A. She also had fourteen grandchildren, all members of Cedar Camp No. 9317.

Opal L. Dickes was the last Receiver who was active in the camp. The camp is inactive as of now.

Fifty-year members still living are Minnie M. Lackas, Bess E. Robinson and Esther M. Glasscock. Pins were issued to each member.

There had been the bitter with the sweet, the sorrows and the joys, the good times and the bad, the sadness and the gladness. It is with great regret that the books are closed on Cedar Camp No. 9317, R.N.A. *Esther M. Glasscock and Minnie M. Lackas*

*Through the gloom of sorrows' night,
Faith upholds a glowing light.
Twilight and evening bell,
Free from rebellion and unrest.
Lives may come and lives may go,
And 'mid the flowers of Paradise,
They live forever more.*

Girl Scouting

Brownie Troop 353 was organized in September of 1979. The organization began with leaders Mrs. Charlotte Kiefer and Mrs. Diane Dibbert and 20 girls. Junior Girl Scout Troop 354 was also organized at that time with eight girls by Mrs. Linda Keizer and Mrs. Susan Lee, all sponsored by the Randolph Womans Club, GFWC.

Today, the community of Randolph proudly supports girl scouting and boasts troops of 16 Brownies, seven Junior Girl Scouts, five Cadettes and five Senior Cadettes led by eight leaders, with continued sponsorship by the Randolph Womans Club, GFWC. *Cinda Jones*

Grand Squares Dance Club

Square dancing is still a popular form of recreation in the Randolph area. Many area residents are members of the Grand Squares Dance Club. Keith and Virginia Huwaldt promote square dancing, sponsored by the Randolph Community Club, during the Randolph Community Fair.

It was not uncommon in days gone by, say in the so-called cowboy days, that a square dance would go all night until 5:00 in the morning. It was nice in those days that when riding in a buggy, if the driver fell asleep, the horses knew the way home.

Yes, square dancing has changed and it is still changing. I've heard it said that the most modern of all dances is the square dance. I can see why they say that, for new calls are being thought up, new ways are found to do old calls, and it goes on and on. Where they once used fiddle music, they now have complete bands playing the music. Where once "Turkey In The Straw" was considered square dance music, today any popular tune may be used by the caller. It is significant that during this period, when our nation is faced with so many problems, people are turning to the sociability and vigor of the square dance which carries with it so much of the character and spirit of our pioneers. *Virginia and Keith Huwaldt*

Kountry Klub

On July 19, 1933, fourteen neighborhood ladies gathered at the George Andrew home and started a Social Club that they named the Kountry Klub.

They soon tired of playing cards so they took turns furnishing other forms of entertainment such as quilting, fancywork for the hostess, and even mending contests and games of various sorts.

In September 1934, they became a Project Club receiving material from the county agent so each member in turn could present a lesson that she arranged from the

material. And!!! Would you believe it? The first lesson they received was entitled "How Taxes Might Be Lowered" with roll call to be answered by "Things I Appreciate Provided by Tax Money". So you see there were tax problems in 1934, too!

In 1937, Mrs. Bill Lea invited them to join the Pierce County Extension Clubs which they did. After a few meetings of "hem-hawing", they've belonged ever since and never regretted it.

For the lessons, at that time, a lady from Lincoln, came to Pierce and to the Randolph High School Home Ec. Room to present them. They took covered dishes for their noon meal, and the session lasted all day. A club would be assigned to be hostess.

The first time the Kountry Klub was hosted at Randolph, "Cooking with Soy Beans", was the lesson. The day before, they had to soak and bake or cook beans for covered dishes. The leader for the day had a bad heart so it scared everyone a little when she laid flat on the floor after eating her meal. Maybe it was the beans, they never knew for sure.

The dues of the club when it first started were one penny per meeting. These were used to pay for cards and postage for the sick members. Oh yes!!! In 1935 they sent a card to Vernon Rudebusch after his accident and the total cost was six cents for card and postage.

In 1936, they had a plant, bulb, or seed exchange by drawing numbers. They are still exchanging plants each year. They had a birthday and Christmas gift exchange and the price could not exceed ten cents. Later, they each gave ten cents or a gift to the member having a birthday. They finally settled for what they called Kountry Klub Pals, giving three gifts to the person whose name they drew from the hat. Cost of birthday, anniversary and Christmas gifts should total \$1.00. Now they just call it Heart Sisters, giving of gifts, one on Mother's Day and the other for Christmas. Each gift is to total \$2.50.

The club had an annual July Picnic, usually at the Bluffs. One year they went to Johnson's Park in Norfolk. One of the Meyer children fell into the small pool, so after that they went to the Randolph Park.

The club had stork showers, bridal showers and going-away showers until it got to be too much so they dropped them altogether. They collected and sold papers to finance some of their activities.

The first fair booth was in 1938. It received a blue ribbon, thanks to the committee, of Ella Kruger, Myrtle Rudebusch. and Dorothy McDonald. That blue ribbon must have set them off with a "bang" because ever since they've had a booth and even a couple at the State Fair.

Mrs. Theo Buckendahl visited the club twice in 1940, first to explain "Triple A", the next time to explain "Saving Our Soil". The members were excited to have a visitor speak to them.

In 1943 the club added Health, Reading, and Music leaders. Also the News Reporter was added to the list of officers. Now they've added Lamp-Family Life, Cultural

Arts, Constitution and Membership. More members have a special part of the program for the year.

During the 50 years, the club has sent boxes to servicemen from the neighborhood, given to War Dad Canteen in Norfolk, and sent clothing and cases of eggs to the Children's Home in Omaha. They have also contributed to Korean, Chinese and Russian drives, and helped a lady in Wales. They've made war service kits, and gave quarts of vegetables and fruit to a sick member. They've added to their list a shut-in to be remembered regularly. Naming a few shut-ins are: Larry Broer, Art Backer, Grandma Black, Jimmy Rohde and others. Now the club contributes to the Heart Fund, March of Dimes, Retarded and Diabetic Children, Pennies for Friendship, State Council Dues, 4-H Club Girl for State and many others.

They used to take a day for touring every summer, but now they only do it occasionally.

It's nice to have their husbands with them now and then so they try to have parties for that. Years ago, Halloween hunts, card parties and picnics were the big thing. They now have a spring card party and a supper and card party at Christmas time.

They have been lucky to have a good membership. Never has the number been less than 11 and many years they had 26. Present membership is 16. In 1953, Kountry Klub was one of four outstanding clubs in the county for which they received a gavel which they still use if they need to.

The May Tea was started in 1948, when Bess Robinson was county chairman. She remembers appointing the members of the Happy Hollow Club as the hostesses because it was being held in Pierce. The Kountry Klub did the bossing while the Happy Hollow did the work. What a day! She remembers it was so much fun. It must have been because the May Tea Day goes on year after year.

In 1957, the Kountry Klub had three county officers: Grace Huwaldt, County Chairman; Lucille Huwaldt, music leader and Bess Robinson, reporter. Over the years there have been four county chairmen from the club: Bess Robinson, Grace Huwaldt, Ella Kruger (Kalvelage) and LuEtta Wessel.

At one time each member put a penny for every year into the "kitty" the month of her birthday. We've stopped that. Age is a factor and it takes too many pennies.

During the life of the Kountry Klub, they have given blood, had dental checkups visited nursing homes, made floats for parades, had special entertainment, belonged to the county chorus, went on tours and attended state meetings. In fact, they are willing to try anything that will benefit someone.

On October 1, 1984, Mrs. Leonard (Bess) Robinson was named Pierce County's Outstanding Home Extension Club Member, at the annual Achievement Day. There's never a dull moment at a meeting, no bickering, everyone willing to do her part to be rewarded at 4:00 with the hostess's tasty lunch.

They have kept scrapbooks for many years of the clubs activities and achievements, and they enjoy looking back on some fond memories.

They hope to be going strong for another 50 years. *Mrs. Leonard (Bess) Robinson*

Logan Valley 4-H Club

The Logan Valley 4-H Club of Cedar County, Nebraska, was formed in 1979 with members Corene, Monica, Patti and Jim McCarthy. Leaders are Jack and Madonna McCarthy of Randolph.

Club members exhibited livestock at the Randolph Community Club Fair, The Cedar County Fair, the Livestock Exhibition at the Norfolk Livestock Sales Company and the District Dairy Show. Home Economics projects have been exhibited at the Randolph Community Club Fair, The Cedar County Fair and the Nebraska State Fair.

In 1981 member, Corene McCarthy, was named the Outstanding Cedar County 4-Her. In 1982 she was named the Cedar-Knox Dairy Princess and in 1983 Monica McCarthy was named District Dairy Queen at the District Dairy Show. Patti McCarthy has attended 4-H camp at the Nebraska Forest at Halsey, Nebraska, receiving scholarships to this camp. In 1979 Jim McCarthy received the Grand-champion ribbon award at the Cedar County Fair for a shorthorn beef breeding calf. He now exhibits dairy cattle at fairs, as does Patti. They both received top purple ribbon awards in dairy at the recent Randolph Community Club Fair. Younger sister Jackie plans to become a 4-H Club member when she reaches the age of eight.

Onward Rebekah Lodge #156

Onward Rebekah Lodge #156 of Randolph, Nebraska, was organized on February 7, 1902, with a charter membership of 31. Mary D. Livingston of Fremont, Nebraska, was the instituting officer. Officers were Metta Fisher, noble grand; Julie McCrary, vice-grand; Nettie Dunhaver, secretary, and Bertha Krause, treasurer.

The first dues were \$1.00 per year and initiation dues were also \$1.00. Meetings were held in the evening on the first and third Saturday of each month.

On July 18, 1903, 29 candidates were obligated as a body by the Grand Marshal and four candidates were given the obligations later. The treasurer was bonded for \$500.00, the secretary for \$260.00 and the trustees at \$100.00 each.

On June 8, 1903, the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs met and marched to the Randolph Cemetery to observe Memorial Day. The lodge first met in the Hill and Buol Hall over the former Andrew Time Center. Herman Broer purchased the hall and remodeled it into apartments.

The Rebekahs then moved to the Legion Hall and from there they moved to the Masonic Hall above what is now the Senior Citizens' Center. After the Masons purchased the former Presbyterian Church the Rebekahs met there

for a number of years. At present, they meet in the home of a member.

Two of the members, Mrs. Clarence (Ruth) Schager and Minnie M. Lackas, have been members of the lodge for over sixty years; Nellie Roberts of San Diego California, Amanda Albers and Mrs. Grace Roland have been members for more than fifty years.

District meetings were started in 1903. At present, Belden # 165, Hartington Cedar # 187 and Randolph Onward # 156 are holding yearly district meetings. The membership at this time is only twelve, but they are still observing their motto of "Friendship, Love and Truth."
Helen Delozier

Order of The Eastern Star

A meeting of petitioners for instituting a Chapter of O.E.S. was held in the Masonic Temple on April 4, 1896. At that meeting the name suggested for the new organization was "Silver Leaf Chapter, O.E.S." On April 17, 1896 the Chapter, under dispensation, met and the Chapter members were initiated. On September 23, 1896, at a special session, the Charter was delivered by the Grand Matron and the Chapter was declared legally constituted. The by-laws were drafted, presented for approval and accepted on November 23, 1896. Dues were \$1.00 per year and payable quarterly. More detailed information is contained in the Randolph Diamond Days book of 1961.

Silver Leaf Chapter # 110 celebrated their Golden Anniversary on October 11, 1946, at the Masonic Temple.

The Masonic Eastern Star Home for Children at Fremont and the Nebraska Masonic Home for the elderly at Plattsmouth are maintained by the Masons and O.E.S.

One of the most important projects of the O.E.S. is the ESTARL program which gives financial assistance to those who are interested in becoming workers in the field of religion. Silver Leaf Chapter # 110 consolidated with Mt. Vernon Chapter #84 of Plainview, Nebraska, on January 14, 1983. Mrs. Mildred (Harold) Brown was Worthy Matron and Keith Johnson was Worthy Patron at the time of consolidation.

Randolph Baseball Team

The Randolph Baseball Team won the Northeast Nebraska league championship in 1940.

The deciding game was played at Laurel.

Laurel was ahead by a score of 2-0 in the fifth inning and wanted to stop the game because of heavy rain. Randolph refused. Play resumed, and Randolph went on to win 4-2.

Randolph Lions Club

The Randolph Lions Club was chartered by the Laurel Lions Club with Lion Duane Purcell as the president in Laurel. The club was organized on November 9, 1969, by Leston W. Alexander. It was chartered with twenty-four

members including two former and two reinstates. Officers elected were Gordon Boatman President and Wesley Moench - Secretary/ Treasurer. The charter members were: Clyde Andrew, Robert Berner, Gordon Boatman, Barrie Braden, Richard Daws, Robert Eimers, Clifford Galvin, Wayne Hightree, Harrison Huwaldt, Roger Johnson, Warren Kint, Marlyn Kruse, Joe McNeil, Wesley Moench, Kenneth Rath, Sr., Kenneth Reineke, Robert Rodgers, Joseph Rogers, Patrick Rogers, Walter Rossbach, John Sauser, Gary Speer, Marvin Taylor, Paul Tunink, Vance Viergutz, Paul Wattier, Marvin Weyhrich and Marlin Wurdinger.

In the years between 1970 and 1979, many projects were held. They had ice cream socials made with real farm cream. Many hours were spent turning the old crank but eventually they got it done. Later on they had to discontinue because real cream was not available and ice was not convenient for them to get. They also put on many soup suppers. The proceeds always went for a good cause.

On September 8, 1979, the Lions held a Consignment Auction. Between September of 1979 and June of 1980 the Lions purchased lumber and other materials to build the shelter house for the Lions Park. The June 1980 meeting was the Family Picnic. Ten-year chevron pins were presented to Lion Cliff Galvin, Lion John Sauser, Lion Marvin Weyhrich and Lion Paul Tunink. A donation of \$50.00 was given towards the new restrooms at the City Park. In November of 1980 the Lions decided to hold a glaucoma clinic. Dr. Billerbeck approved and said that he would help if he was available. They contacted Dr. Wilcoxson of Yankton, South Dakota. The District Governor had attended the International Lion's Convention in Chicago and had reported that the Lion's Organization had donated \$5,000.00 to the Grand Island Lions to aid the tornado victims. Other projects sponsored by the organization included: 10,000 cornea transplants, eyeglass collection and purchasing of hearing aids for youths.

In January of 1981 word was received from Dr. Wilcoxson about the glaucoma clinic. He would help with it. The date set was Saturday, April 11. In February of 1981, Lion Russ Jensen reported they would have a Wrestling Tournament for ages 5-14 for the surrounding towns. The date set was March 28, 1981. The Lions Club bought a pair of glasses for a needy child. In May of 1981 a donation of \$37.70 was given to Miss Vickie Ping to be used for purchasing T-Shirts for the Summer Special Olympics. A donation was made to the Boy Scouts of America. Lion Russ Jensen was presented the lion of the Year award to show appreciation for his efforts in putting on the wrestling tournament. In June of 1981 the Lions put 25% of the profits from the wrestling tournament into a fund for the Randolph Wrestling Club in care of Russ Jensen; also a donation of \$225.00 was made to the Summer Baseball Program. Another donation was given to the BAHF project which is a project taken on by the

Nebraska Lions Club to finance a hearing detecting machine for mute babies. A new grill was installed in the Lions Park. The July 1981 meeting discussed the possibility of purchasing a decal for the Lion Shelter. In August of 1981 it was suggested that the Lions purchase or make a sign recognizing the State Girls Class C Champs in Basketball. In December of 1981 a donation of \$75.00 was given to Corrine Helsing for the Miss Nebraska Teenage Pageant.

In March of 1982 the Lions Club paid \$75.00 for a pair of eyeglasses for a young student of the Randolph Public Schools system. The Lions had the Wrestling Tournament again that year. The money that was made was being split 50/50 with the wrestling club. A donation of 20% from the tournament was given towards the new double tennis courts. Other places where some of the money that was made was spent were towards summer youth activities, the BAHF Project to buy eyeglasses for three needy youths and to sponsor a young lady to the Nebraska Junior Miss Pageant. In November of 1982 it was decided to have a Health Night. A speaker from Norfolk was going to talk about cancer; they were going to show slides from an eye bank and Dan Tunink would give a presentation on diabetes. At the December 1982 meeting it was decided to donate \$125.00 towards a new set of bleachers for the softball field. Sally Bloomquist gave a talk about kidney retrieval. Organ donor cards were passed out to the members.

In March of 1983 the Wrestling Tournament was held again. They donated \$35.00 for one student to go to the Special Olympics in Omaha. They received a letter from a local person who had an operation for glaucoma who needs some financial assistance. They donated \$35.00 to the juniors for a Post-Prom party. In June of 1983 plans were finalized to hold a Kiddie Tractor Pull at the fair that year. The kiddie tractor was purchased from Lion Cliff Galvin.

In April of 1984 a pancake supper was held along with a glaucoma clinic.

In March of 1985 a donation of \$50.00 was given to the Brian Meyer Fund. In August of 1985 a Donkey Ballgame was held.

As of August 1985 they have 14 active members as follows: Jim Riedel- President, Tim Kint - Vice-President. *Paul Tunink - Secretary/Treasurer, Louis Dwyer, *Clifford Galvin, Russ Jensen, James Rasmussen, Louis Schmeits. Ray Schnell, Joedy Sellon, *Gary Speer, David Steffen, *Marvin Taylor and *Marvin Weyhrich. (*'indicates charter members.) *Randolph Lions*

Randolph Rural Fire Protection District

This district was first formed in 1968. At this time it was decided to form the district so a tax levy could be assessed against rural property to help finance the needs of the Randolph Fire Department. Before this, when the department needed equipment, they would ask for donations from the people of the Randolph trade area.

In August of 1968 five area farmers were asked to serve as directors for the district. Two were to be from Pierce County, two from Cedar County and one from Wayne County. These men were Art Rohde, LeRoy Eberhart, Cecil Leiting, Vince Schmit and Dick Thies.

Officers elected were Dick Thies, president; Cecil Leiting, vice president; Vince Schmit, secretary-treasurer. These directors and officers remained the same until 1984 when Cecil Leiting resigned. He was replaced in 1985. Also in 1985 Vince Schmit and LeRoy Eberhardt moved to Randolph and were replaced by Paul Schmit and Don Dendinger. The new officers are Dick Thies, president; Don Dendinger, vice president; and Paul Schmit, secretary-treasurer.

In 1974 the rural district purchased a new tanker, complete, for \$13,500.00. In a joint venture with the city, a new fire hall was built in 1976. This was much needed as more equipment was being added and there was not enough room in the old fire hall.

In 1977 a used tanker was purchased by the rural district. In 1978, in another joint venture with the city, a new ambulance was purchased.

In 1984, in yet another joint venture with the city, the city purchased a used pumper truck.

All of the equipment that the rural district and city own are used for both the rural and city needs.

In 1972 the directors decided that the rural patrons of the district would like to show some small token of appreciation to the volunteer firemen and ambulance crews. They asked the ladies of the three churches, Catholic, Methodist, and Lutheran if each would serve a meal, once every third year to show their appreciation. All of them said "Yes" without any hesitation.

The rural district pays for some of the meal and the social hour. The ladies furnish the rest of the meal and a lot of hard work. *Dick Thies*

Sew and So Club

The Sew and So Club was organized October 5, 1950, in the Ray Spahr home, southeast of Randolph.

The charter members were; Mrs. Ray (Ruth) Spahr, Mrs. Joe (Oliven) Hinkle, Mrs. Lloyd (Lois) Dunklau, Mrs. Emil (Elsie) Claussen, Mrs. Lars (Esther) Olson and Mrs. Ervin (Margaret) Wittler. The club first met every two weeks but later voted to meet once a month on the third Thursday.

Sewing was done, for the hostess, such as patching overalls, sewing carpet rags, embroidering dish towels, sewing aprons or tying quilts. Later this was discontinued and the afternoon was spent playing cards.

Each year an annual Christmas Party and picnic has been held. For several years the Christmas Party was held in the homes, but later they have been catered. The picnic has always been held in a park. The membership has been very consistent through the year's varying from 12 to 18 members with neighbors moving away and others coming in.

Three charter members are living. They are; Mrs. Ervin Wittler, Carroll; Mrs. Ruth Spahr, Chico, California; and Mrs. Lois (Dunklau) Schlins, Wakefield, Nebraska. Mrs. Lois Schlins is still a member of the club. At the present time there are 15 members

"Wareham Mementos"



In the year of 1904 the Great Northern Railroad started Wareham, located four miles east of where Randolph now stands. Land for Wareham was platted and surveyed for four blocks - 24 lots in all - measuring 32.5 acres. Lots were sold at an auction to early Wareham settlers.

McCall-Webster built the first grain elevator. A stockyards was built to pen livestock brought to Wareham to be shipped to markets in Sioux City and Omaha.

In 1905 a general store was built. A train rumbled through daily; Wareham having an official post office, a postman using a hook caught the mail bag thrown from the train.

Farmers drove their livestock to the stockyards for shipment on the train.

In 1907 another elevator was built, "seventy-two feet tall"; it was the Atlas Elevator. The General Store was expanded into a blacksmith shop and implement shop.

The Wareham community expanded; houses were built; area farmers worked together, harvesting oats, and harvesting and shelling corn to be taken to the elevators in Wareham. Long lines, reaching in all directions from Wareham, found farmers with their horse-drawn grain wagons waiting to be unloaded at the elevators. The elevators had cups that traveled up and dumped grain into eight different spouts.

Dances were held at the Wareham Store with accordion playing, oyster suppers, and visiting for the whole community. The Wareham Store was a friendly place, remaining open until late hours to accommodate farmers at planting and harvesting times.

A Wareham ball team was formed; practice was held north of the elevator.

Many farmers regularly shipped five and eight-gallon cans of cream to Sioux City on the train.

Along the north side of the main track was a side track that serviced the stockyards, the two elevators, and a six-

bin coal shed. A windmill and well supplied water for the stockyards.

The Wareham Telephone Company, maintained by area farmers, was established in 1907, and continued until 1965.

On a December night in 1926, the Wareham Store was found to be on fire by the proprietor. He and his wife and two small children barely escaped the burning inferno, which had completely destroyed the landmark.

The store was located where U.S. Highway 20 now stands. The highway was built in 1929.

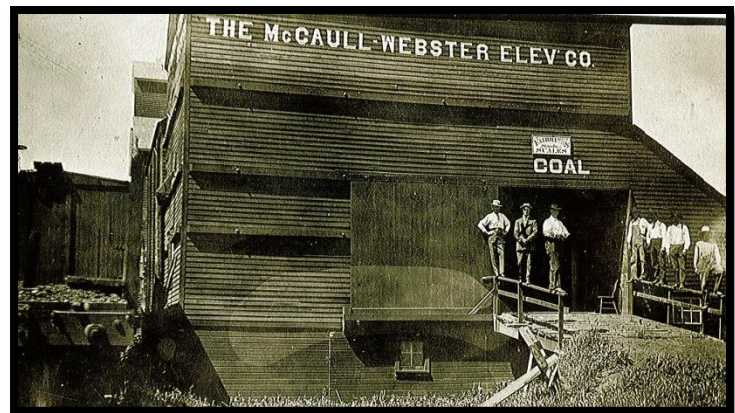
Farmers in the area sent their children to the Wareham School.

In 1935, the McCall-Webster Elevator was sold; the main part was taken down for salvage lumber, with the remainder attached to the Atlas Elevator for added grain storage.

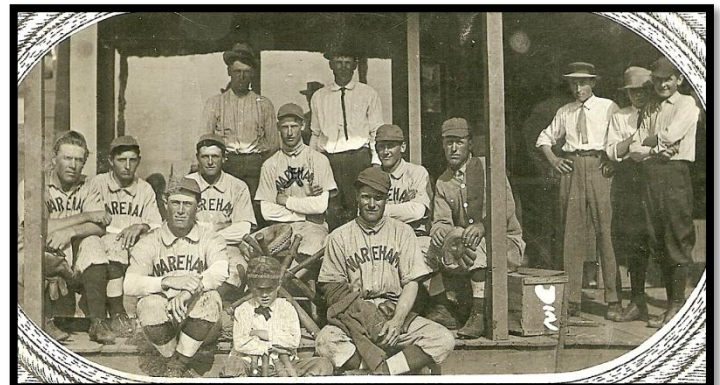
In August of 1951, the Atlas Elevator, the last remaining business in Wareham, was destroyed by fire; the entire elevator burned; the ashes smoldered for weeks.

Though the town is gone, memories remain for early Wareham settlers to tell about. A sense of pride has been instilled in the descendants of Wareham and will remain as the people of the Wareham area and of Randolph begin the next one hundred years.

Madonna McCarthy



The McCaull - Webster Elevator in Wareham



Wareham Baseball Team