

# Buffalo Tales

January/February 2016

## ***Trip Down the River: Canoe Trip*** ***Journal of George "Jack" Hart***

**Transcribed by Corene Phillips**

**August 25, 1914, Tuesday**

Billie Phillips and I going down the South Loup in a canoe, August 25, 1914. We are off at 2:30. Forgot our quilts. Had a nice trip to Poole. Arrived at 6:30. Went to see the deserted village. Couldn't buy what we wanted. Camped 2 miles east of the bridge, ate supper in the dark. Slept using the tent as quilts until 10 o'clock. Started to rain. Had to bunk under the canoe. Froze stiff.



George "Jack" Hart

**August 26, 1914 a.m.**

1:30 a.m. No sleep in sight, getting colder. One leg out in rain, soaked clear through. Br-r-r-r-r-r! Crawled from under canoe at 5:30 a.m. Wood all wet. We try to pull down a dead tree. No success. Our fire is not going. Getting thawed, and boiling slumgullion.

Ready for South Ravenna. Broke camp at 8 o'clock.

**August 26, 1914**

Went under South Ravenna bridge at 9:00 o'clock. Struck Ravenna at 12 o'clock. We were chased by dogs but saved by putting a fence between us. We go in town and do a little shopping. Stop for dinner 5 miles blow Ravenna at 2 o'clock. A little homesick at evenfall. Crawl in bed at 8 o'clock.



Bill Phillips

**August 27, 1914**

Slept fine got up at 6:30 and found breakfast ready (Bill must have made it.) Cloudy, raining and cold. Decided at first not to start but broke camp at 0 o'clock. Run out of Pleasanton water at Nantasket. Ate plums till there was something the matter with us. We called it nausea!! RAIN!! Struck Saint Michael at 12 o'clock. Took in the sights of the city and went back and ate dinner.

**August 27, 1914**

Saw Pleasanton train go by. Left St. Michael at 1 o'clock. Missed Boelus and was headed for Dannebrog. About 5 o'clock hit a sand bar where the South Loup flows into the Middle Loup. Camped 2 miles below South Loup. Slept on top of a haystack.



Their canoe on the bank of the Loup River

**August 28, 1914**

Got up at 6:30 a.m. Slept fine. Foggy and misty crossed rail road tracks, cooked breakfast. Motor went by at 8:00 a.m. Now start down river to Dannebrog. Arrived at 11 o'clock. We took in sights... a fine big town. Sent post cards. Ate dinner in city. Start for St. Paul at 2 o'clock. Nearly had an upset. But saved by head work. Arrived at St. Paul at 5 o'clock. First signs of traffic was a train crossing the bridge. Had supper then went to see the city. Went to a show. Slept in the U.P. (Union Pacific) coach that goes to Pleasanton.



Street scene in St. Paul, NE

**August 29, 1914**

Pulled out of the coach at 3 o'clock and spent rest of night in tent. Drizzly, misty... tried to find straw for bed but no success. Went to town and watched out train pulling for Pleasanton and wished it was our time to go. Came back and got dinner. Went to matinee, bummed around. We sad Mr. Bishop. Went back for supper and went to show.

**August 30, 1914**

Church bell woke me up. Jack never slept a wink. Had jiggers. Cold as blazes and foggy. Took canteen and camera to get water and pictures. Had dinner in town. Saw a special train pull for Rockville to a ballgame.



West Main St. Dannebrog, NE

Sat and slept around the depot till two girls came in and woke us up. Had a fine giggling match and talk. Motor came in. Then went to camp for supper.

**August 31, 1914**

Took pictures of train crossing the bridge. Slept till 4 o'clock. Went up town and got dinner. I took insights of city.

Got drayman to get canoe and take it to the depot. Went back to camp. Got supper. Then to show.



Bridge over the Loup River, canoe and either George or Bill taking a picture.

**September 1, 1914**

Got up at 5:30. Cold again. Got breakfast at 6 o'clock. Pulled tent down, walked down the track to the depot. Looked like a couple of bums. Stayed around depot till the motor came in. A freight pulled in from Ord. A motor came in from Loup City. Freight pulled in from Grand Island.

Our train switched and got ready to pull out. Stood around and watched them change freight and nearly froze. Our train starts up. We crawl aboard. We are off for home. Rode in the box car with our canoe. Pulled into our home town at 11:30 am. Here we are once more running the streets (of Pleasanton).

Bill Phillips and George "Jack" Hart

5th Annual Don't Come Event

Have you ever wanted the chance to see some of the best photographs by some of the best photographers in Buffalo County's history? This is not your opportunity!

Buffalo County Historical Society's Annual Don't Come Event is not a

photography show featuring some of the best pictures taken by local historical photographers: A.T. Anderson, Solomon Butcher, and Stryker.

There will not be three options to choose from:

- 1) The show (\$25)
- 2) The show plus no special VIP gathering with the photographers (\$50)
- 3) The VIP special not including a 5X7 print of your favorite photograph

Choose one option and send with payment to Buffalo County Historical Society, PO Box 523, Kearney, NE 68848 or drop it off at Trails & Rails Museum, 710 W 11th St, Kearney, NE 68845.



## 2016 Calendar of Events

**February 30: Don't Come Event**-This is the most amazing, fun event that you WILL miss. We send you an invitation about all the fabulous things that WON'T be happening and you absolutely will want to attend, but instead, you get to RSVP and stay home and enjoy your family time.

**Sunday, April 17 1-3 pm: BCHS Annual Meeting**-A great gathering of BCHS members to reflect back on the past year's accomplishments and enjoy an entertaining program while eating yummy food. The general public is welcome to join us for the program, too!

**Sunday, June 5: 9th Annual 1/2 Marathon, 10K, & 5K Buffalo County Stampede**-registration is at 6 am-race begins at 7.

**Saturday, June 18 10-1 pm: 31st Annual Wagons West Celebration**-Live music, delicious food, exhibitors, demonstrators, archive researchers, kids' games, and contests (including, back by popular demand ---the BEARD contest). FREE admission/donations are appreciated.

**Prairie Blacksmith Association's Fall Conference**-Date TBD

**Dec. 3-4 and Dec. 10-11 from 1-5 pm: Open to the public: 29th Annual Christmas Tree Walk** -check out dozens of trees decorated by area not-for-profits that tie their mission into this year's theme, Christmas Cinema. \*\*\*All of November: Decorating (during regular business hours plus open late on Thursday, Nov. 3 for decorating)\*\*\*

**Saturday, December 3 from 12-1pm: Members Only Preview of the 29th Annual Christmas Tree Walk\*\*\***

**Education notes (see website for additional details):**

\*Listen to **Mardi Anderson on KGFW 1340 AM** at 9 am on the last Friday of each month for fabulous stories about Buffalo County!

\*Join the **1733 Blacksmiths** (time and dates TBD) to learn about blacksmithing and/or possibly join in the fun!

\*The **Archive Department** will be open on Mondays from 1:30-4 year-round or by appointment.

\*Trails & Rails Museum will be **closed to the public** April 25 thru May 6 for Kearney Public Schools' "**Pioneer Days.**"

\***Fabulous Fridays** are held on the 2nd Friday monthly at 2 pm. Check the website for locations.

**January:** Flour Sack Quilts

**February:** The History of the WCTU

Mother Hull Home

**March:** The Sod Town Band and Hall

**April:** Bee Keeping

**May:** On the Road to Ravenna for a tour of the Historical Center of Ravenna

**June:** The Brick Yard in Kearney, NE

**July:** Washday in the Olden Days

**August:** Jelly Making of Long Ago with Choke Cherries, Grapes, and other available fruits

**September:** Chickens on the Farm

**October:** U.S. Postal Service through the Years in Buffalo County

**November:** Kearney Goes to War, 1941

**December:** Christmas Traditions

Volunteers, chairpersons, and sponsors are still needed. Please contact the office for more information on supporting your Buffalo County Historical Society!

PO Box 523, 710 W. 11th St., Kearney, NE 68848

(308) 234-3041 www.bchs.us bchs.us@hotmail.com

We hope you enjoy these stories about Buffalo County. We would love to have a stock pile of Buffalo Tales ready so they can go out in a more timely manner. Please submit your memories and stories to us by e-mailing them to [bchs.buffalotales@hotmail.com](mailto:bchs.buffalotales@hotmail.com) or sending them to the post office box: BCHS, PO Box 523, Kearney, NE 68848.

**We appreciate your support!**

### Director's Report

-“Kearney Goes To War” documentary was a HUGE success. Thank you for the support for this event. We had 112 folks in for the invite only showing and at least 232 for the second showing (I counted 232 while up on stage, but was blinded, so I couldn't see one corner to count folks there). Over \$500 was donated that evening.

-I was on a panel speaking to the Leadership Kearney classes (adult and youth) Wed. Feb. 10 in the morning at Merryman.

**Be our friend on Facebook: “BuffaloCountyHistoricalSociety”**

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## A Huge Thanks to our Silver and Gold Engineers for their support of the BCHS/Trails & Rails Museum

BUFFALO TALES is the official publication of the Buffalo County Historical Society, a non-profit organization, whose address is P.O. Box 523, Kearney, NE 68848-0523. Phone: 308.234.3041 Email: bchs.us@hotmail.com

Katherine Wielechowski, Editor

2016 Annual dues, payable January 1, are:

Student.....	\$10.00
Individual.....	\$35.00
Family.....	\$40.00
Institutional Membership.....	\$50.00
Supporting Membership.....	\$75.00

Directors

Term expiring June 1, 2016: Dr. Roger Davis, Lance Hehner, Matt O'Callaghan, Jan Rodehorst  
 Term expiring June 1, 2017: Kelly Krier, Mary Beth Lowe, Mike Peak, Dr. Jinny Turman  
 Term expiring June 1, 2018: Pam Artman, Pat Neff, Corene Phillips, Robin Smith

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**Trails & Rails Museum**

**Buffalo County Historical Society**

**710 West 11th St. P.O. Box 523**

**Kearney, NE 68848-0523**

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[www.bchs.us](http://www.bchs.us)

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