

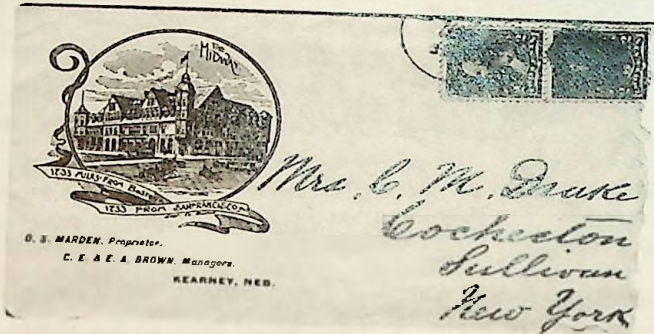
# Buffalo Tales

January/February 2017

## ***Letter from the Midway: Letter written by United States Marshal James C. Drake during his stay at the Midway Hotel (part I)***

Letter and biography donated to the BCHS by Joe DeFalco

\*Note: The following is my closest estimation of what the letter says. Some words ran together, were illegible, or misspelled. Any words that I estimated are marked with \* and any I could not decipher were filled in with (?).



Kearney Neb  
Mch 2 1890

My Dear Mother and Sister

This is Sunday evening. I am tired and weary from hard work, excitement, and heavy strain, every dollar that I can get here\* or command I am putting in one our\* of horses to ship to Tacoma. When one realizes that they are taking a chance that may ruin them finantionaly in off course\* moves and tells on them. Kearney Neb is a beautiful in land city of thirteen thousand inhabitants with as fine buildings as can be found in any city of its size and situation just half way between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts and as I stand here tonight not having met for the last three days a living face that I ever saw before my mind naturally turns to the loved ones on the peaceful shores of the Pacific coast when the grass is growing green, and the flowers, are blooming (?) (?) probably matching the reflections of the Moon on (next page)

Kearney Neb  
Mch 2 1890

*My Dear Mother and Sister*  
This is Sunday evening  
I am tired and weary from hard work, excitement, and heavy strain, every dollar that I can get here or command I am putting in one our of horse to ship to Tacoma. when you

On the calm and placid waters of Puget Sound, and wondering where Jim and Pa Pa is to night. And the loved ones in the Grand old Empire State in the loved old spot where we have all enjoyed life probably looking at the Moon and its reflections on the pure white snow and the waters of the old Delaware where I plaid in my boyhood days and where I worked with a milling <sup>hand</sup> and a hope full heart. Perhaps thinking of Jim to night. What a world this is <sup>comes to</sup> my mind more forecably the words of my Grand father "We never know what a day may

On the calm and placid waters of Puget Sound, and wondering where Jim and Pa Pa is to night. And the loved ones in the grand old Empire State in\* the loved\* old spot where we (?) all enjoyed life probably looking at the Moon and its reflections on the pure white snow and the waters of the old Delaware where I plaid\* in my boyhood days and where I worked with a milling hand awl a hopeful heart. They too are perhaps thinking of Jim tonight. What a world this is comes to my mind more forecably the words of my Grandfather "You never know what a day may

bring forth" "Life he often said was a struggle from the cradle to the grave" How true but how smart it is to us all. I can see my Grand parents in my mind as I left them and all of you and Fred the little rosey cheaked boy running a cross

may bring forth" "Life he often said was a struggle from the cradle to the grave" How true but how smart it is to us all. I can see my Grand parents in my mind as I left them and all of you and Fred the little rosey cheaked boy running a cross



## 2017 Calendar of Events

**February 29:** 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 WONT be happening and you absolutely will want to attend, but instead, you get to RSVP and then stay home and enjoy your family.

**Sunday, April 23 from 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!

**"150 Nails" Contest:** Enter your piece with the completed entry form to the Trails & Rails Museum office between the dates of May 30 and June 7 of 2017 during regular business hours. There will be a \$5 entry fee, which must be paid when the registration form and item are delivered to Trails & Rails Museum. Anyone is eligible to enter. Prizes are gratefully sponsored by an anonymous donor and by BD Construction. E-mail bchs.us@hotmail.com for more information.

**Sunday, June 11:** 10th Annual 1/2 Marathon/10K/5K: Buffalo County Stampede-registration is at 6 am-race begins at 7

**Saturday, June 17 from 10-1 pm:** 32nd Annual Wagons West Celebration-Live music, delicious food, exhibitors, demonstrators, archive researchers, kids' games, and contests. FREE admission/donations are appreciated. "150 Nails" Contest pieces will be unveiled and winners will be announced during this event!

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

**First two weekends in Dec. (Dec. 2/3 and Dec. 9/10) from 1-5 pm:** Open to the public: 30th Annual Christmas Tree Walk \*\*\*

Saturday, December 2 from 12-1pm: Members Only Preview of the 30th Annual Christmas Tree Walk.

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

\*Fabulous Fridays are held on the 2nd Friday monthly at 2 pm.

Locations vary, so check the web site.

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

\*Join the Trails & Rails Museum Blacksmiths (time/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 for two weeks at the end of April/beginning of May for Kearney Public Schools' "Pioneer Days". Actual dates are TBD.

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 or sending them to the post office box: BCHS, PO Box 523, Kearney, NE 68848.

**We appreciate your support!**

### Director's Report

-We came in 3rd place for the Kearney Area Community Foundation's Give Where You Live event for 2016, bringing in \$19,347. This means we will get a monetary bonus along with our check in a few weeks.

-The archive department has been incredibly busy both with incoming inquiries and preparing the items for the upcoming move.

-The BCHS volunteers are truly amazing and we couldn't make the Society move forward without all of their time, talent, and effort. A big thank you to each one of our volunteers!

**Be our friend on Facebook: "BuffaloCountyHistoricalSociety"**

### BCHS Gold Engineers

Harriet (Hasbrouck) Ames	Lance & Chris Hehner	Corene & Errol Phillips
Arram Family Foundation	Clark H. Hehner, MD	Phillips Insurance Agency-
Brad & Kay Bowman	Fred & Betty Kempf	Scott & Lisa Phillips
Ken & Kathy Carmann	Chandler & Susan Lynch	Dale & Janet Pohlmann
Jerome & Jeanette	Sharon & John Martin	Eileen & Tim Richter
Eckhout	Janice & Duncan McGreg-	Steinbrink Landscaping
Exchange Bank	or	David Weir, MD
Ft. Theatre Dentistry/Dr.	Midlands Contracting, Inc.	
Walter Martin	Wayne Olson	



### BCHS Silver Engineers

Ace Irrigation and Mfg. Co.	John & Mary Haase	S&B Heating and Air
Arby's & Motel 6 of	Mark Hadenfeldt	Conditioning/Brian
Kearney	Galen & Marilyn Hadley	Gutchewski
Pam Artman	Heartland Bank	Steve & Joan Sheen
George & Roxanne Bascom	Cris & Heidi Hehner	Scott & Lori Smith
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Batenhorst	Kearney Floral	Douglas & Emily State
Jim & Marlene Berglund	Sharon & Gary Mason	Todd & Althea Stover
Vicki Bissell	Nelson's Furniture	Stubblefield, Inc./Lenore
Lean Brandt	Tony & Dawna Ourada	Stubblefield
Wayne & Barb Brugger	Dick & Glenda Prascher	Valley Pharmacy
John Cochran	Kimbera & Ronny Roberts	Phil & Carlene Waldron
Roger & Cecelia Davis	Jan & Keith Rodehorst	Joe & Jean Widdowson
Dora Day	Eric & Debbie Rosenlof	Janice Wiebusch & Jack
Jan Eickmeier	Dr. Charles & Vickie	McSweeney
Dean & Lana Gosch	Schaepler	

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

(Contact Trails & Rails Museum for more information on becoming an Engineer)

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, 2017: Kelly Krier, Mary Beth Lowe, Mike Peak, Dr. Jinny Turman

Term expiring June 1, 2018: Pam Artman, Pat Neff, Corene Phillips, Robin Smith

Term expiring June 1, 2019: Dr. Roger Davis, Lance Hehner, Dale Pohlmann

Officers (1 year term)

President.....	Lance Hehner
Vice-President.....	Dr. Roger Davis
Secretary.....	Corene Phillips
Treasurer.....	Mary Beth Lowe



**Trails & Rails Museum**

**Buffalo County Historical Society  
710 West 11th St. P.O. Box 523  
Kearney, NE 68848-0523**

Visit us at

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

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