

# Vår Historia

## SMOKY VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

*Due to unforeseen circumstances the June issue, #3 was not written and published, nor will it be. We hope you enjoy this and all future issues though.*



**PUBLISHED  
BI-MONTHLY**

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### THE LIFE OF NETTIE MINTON

In today's society, it's somewhat normal for a twenty year old girl to travel across the country alone. It wasn't so much in 1882.

Nettie Minton did just that, from Ohio to Kansas to visit her brother Edwin. Edwin, or E.C. Minton as he went by, was Principal of Lindsborg school and had previously taught in McPherson.

Nettie was born March 14, 1862 in Muncie, Indiana to John III and Mary. John's I and II were prominent preachers of Methodist Episcopal churches, her father though, chose farming and missionary work. Nettie's mother was Mary A. Koch from Lancaster County Pennsylvania. The Kochs were a prominent family in the state. Nettie was also fifth in the line of eight children from the family.

Though Nettie spent time living in Pa. as a child, she graduated high school in Yellow Springs, Ohio at sixteen years old. July 26th, 1882 Nettie arrived in McPherson where her brother was living. At this time Lindsborg was building a two-story schoolhouse and the old wood building was being moved to Bethany Academy grounds.

Edwin convinced Nettie to move to Lindsborg and get her teaching certificate, which she did September 1st, 1882. Nettie was immediately hired as a first grade teacher.

Someone caught Nettie's attention once living in Lindsborg, Dr. J.B. Curtis. Nettie took an interest in medicine too, but with Dr. Curtis' marriage failing, it became more. Dr. Curtis' divorce was finalized August 24th, 1883, and Kansas had a law requiring couples to wait at least six months before they could remarry. November 28th, or three months later, Dr. Curtis and Nettie eloped to Kansas City, MO. and wed. Normally this wouldn't be regional news, but the newly divorced first wife, Minnie, tried to take her own life the day after the wedding, which is when she found out about it.

Nettie continued to grow as a teacher, and in August 1884 was hired as Lindsborg's Principal/teacher. In many ways following in her brother's footsteps, to this point anyway. E.C. went into politics, Nettie leaned toward medical.

September 1885 Nettie followed her husband and another Lindsborg doctor, J.D. England, to New York City.

LINDSBORG GRADED SCHOOL.			
Report of	Charlotte Erickson		
Pupil in	Grade, for the month ending		
	April 23 1884		
Days Absent	3	Scholarship	91
Times Tardy	2	Department	100
Arithmetic	90	Spelling	98
Grammar	98	Writing	98
Geography	92	Map Drawing	98
Reading	97	Book Keeping	98
Composition	98	Declamation	98
		Teacher.	
		Mrs. Curtis	
		Alvin Chat' rton, Principal.	
NOTE—Parents will aid the teacher much by visiting the school often.			



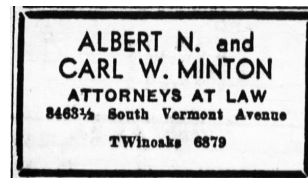


Nettie as featured  
in 1919  
Los Angeles  
Times



Signed by Nettie in  
1890, six years before  
becoming doctor.

Dr. J.B. Curtis—  
Nettie's 1st husband



Nettie's nephews and  
caretakers of her es-  
tate. Albert and Carl  
were Edmond's (E.C.)  
children.

## Upcoming SVHA Programs

Sept. 12th, 2023

### Saucers & Aliens

The Strange Collection of Dr. E.D. Janzen

*Jim Gray "The Cowboy"*



Nov. 14th, 2023

### "Little Poova" Remembers Doc Bill (Dr. William Holwerda)

*Betty Holwerda Nelson*



Jan. 9th, 2024

### History of Muse—the Stories Behind the Sculptures

*Susan Whitfield*



All programs  
start at:  
**7:30 pm**

#### Location:

**Messiah Lutheran Church—Fellowship Hall**  
402 N. 1st Street—Lindsborg, KS.

Please cut along the dotted line

**Smoky Valley Historical Association**  
**P.O. Box 255**  
**Lindsborg, KS. 67456**

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Memberships are renewed in the first quarter of each year



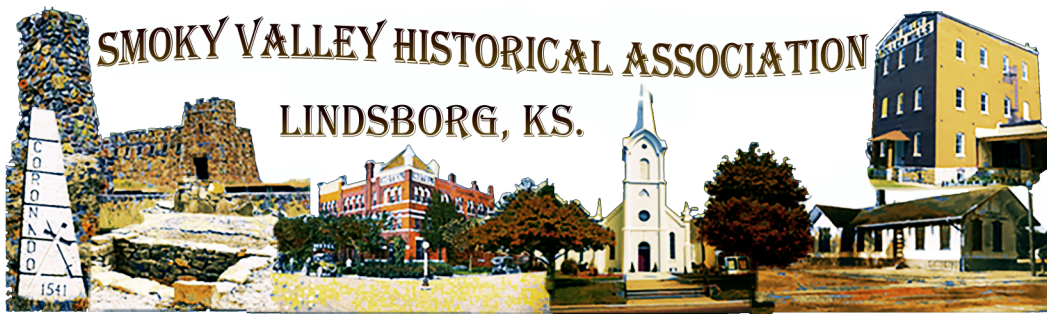
Smoky Valley Historical  
Association is a non-profit  
organization and is regis-  
tered under 501(c)3

All Membership Donations,  
Bequests, Trusts, and  
Legacy Donations are  
tax deductible.

Please mail to P.O. Box  
listed above.

**Thank You!**





## SMOKY VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### Smoky Valley Historical Mission

*The purpose of this association shall be to collect, arrange and preserve historical data, books, pamphlets and manuscripts pertaining to the early history and settlement of our community in general and the City of Lindsborg in particular; to preserve and beautify places of historical interest in our city, its vicinity, and properties entrusted to the association; and to promote the study of history of our settlement and its cultural growth by lectures and other available means.*

### Contact info:

email us at:

[info@lindsborghistory.org](mailto:info@lindsborghistory.org)

or mail to:

**SMOKY VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION**  
 PO BOX 255  
 LINDSBORG, KS 67456

**WWW.SMOKYVALLEYHISTORY.ORG**



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SMOKY VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION  
 LINDSBORG, KANSAS 67456

**Bumper Stickers**  
**Available at Old Mill!**

### Meetings/Programs

Smoky Valley Historical Association hosts bi-monthly meetings on the odd months, held on the second Tuesday. Programs start at 7:30 pm with topics of local historical interest. Location is listed on page three along with schedule.

**Come join us!**



### Funding

Membership contributions are the SVHA's major source of on-going funding. A free-will donation in any amount will secure your membership in the Association for the year. Memberships are renewed in the first quarter of each year.

Grants, such as those awarded by the Kansas Humanities Council, are also available from time-to-time to further the mission of the SVHA.

*Check our Facebook page for the most up to date information concerning the Smoky Valley Historical Association.*



*Thank you for your contributions, and supporting the historical preservation of Lindsborg and the Smoky Valley of Central Kansas.*

*Our pioneers left their legacy long after they were gone, so can you. Managing estates, bequests, and gifts through retirement plans can help keep our preservation ongoing and long-lasting.*

*All donations are tax exempt, we are a 501-(c)3 organization*