

## **HISTORY OF WELD COUNTY TOWNS**

## **ROGGEN - 1882**

Unincorporated Community and Populated Place in Current Weld County

A railroad station named Blair was built in 1882 on the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad (later the Chicago Burlington and Quincy) between Fort Morgan and Hudson. The name was changed due to the potential confusion with Blair, Nebraska, a station



1911 – Leisure Time Roggen residents with cat on hunting excursion, L-R: Mr. Good, Joseph, Socks, and Alice Shawnee. City of Greeley Museums Permanent Collection #1994.17.0001.8B

on the same railroad line, to Roggen in honor of Edward P. Roggen, the Nebraska secretary of state (1882–1887).

Roggen Post Office was established in 1883 and a community slowly developed supporting both ranch and railroad business with a hotel, church and a grocery.

Following the Great Blizzard of 1885 the spring round up revealed that Roggen ranchers only located two-percent of their herds alive. However, nearly all of Roggen's Painter Ranch cold-country bred stock survived.

Roggen's town plat was filed by the Last Springs Ranch Company on June 17, 1908 and within a two years surveys revealed that the area had potential for oil deposits.

Roggen was the site of a sugar beet dump between 1917 and 1975 and the town's landmark is the Roggen Grain elevator.

The above information is gleaned from the upcoming book, Weld County Towns: The First 150 Years, researched by the <u>City of Greeley Museums</u> staff, Nancy Lourine Lynch head writer.