

In today's world our children and grandchildren need encouragement and direction to achieve their full potential. They need experienced and trusted role models to guide them forward. This newsletter provides a story containing two of the ingredients necessary for success in any endeavor – *tenacity and hope*.

“Tenacity and the Field of Dreams,” is a short story about a young father’s battle with a weedy cornfield. Working two jobs and 18 hour days in the hot sun to support his family created a foundation to anchor his future dreams. These are the kind of stories our children and grandchildren need to help them through the hard times ahead. This true story has a happy ending.

This newsletter was created as a sample to encourage you to share stories with your children and relatives allowing them to learn from the experiences of others. Simple, short stories will create interest in family history. An experience of a grandpa, mom, dad or relative is more powerful and easier to identify with if you have met or seen pictures of the individual and environment.

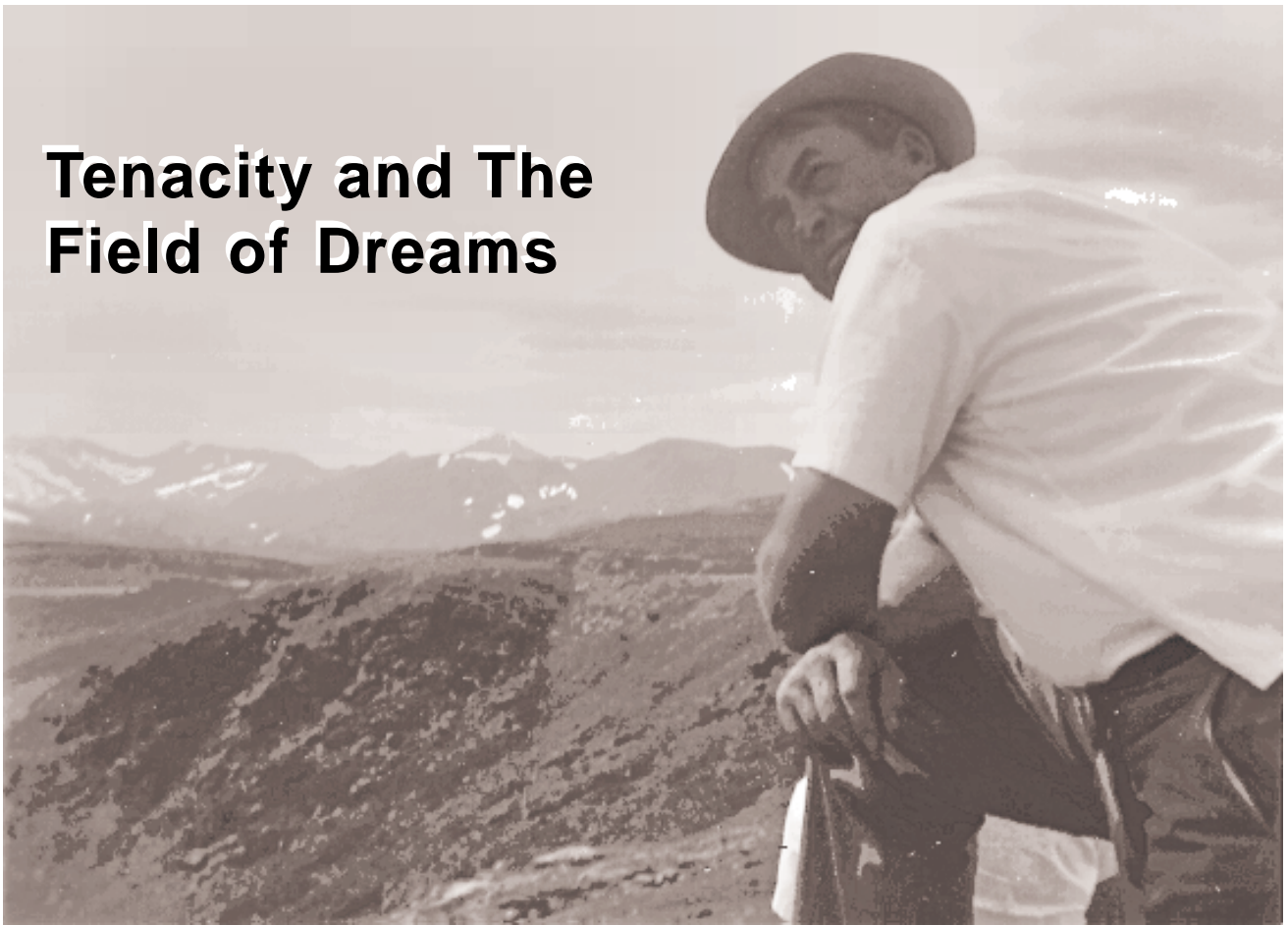
This story will show you how text combined with photos and GPS coordinates will make a story more believable since you can see the cornfield today from anywhere the world using Google Earth or NASA WorldWind.

Best Wishes With Your Storytelling Endeavors,

Marlo Schuldt



Tenacity and The Field of Dreams



In 1950, thirty-five year old Esbern Baadsgaard, his wife Mary Christensen and their four children were living at Lakeshore, Utah. Economic times were hard making it difficult for most men to provide for their family.

As a teenager, Es had struggled through the depression. He was a very intelligent young man but had to forego a college education to provide for his widowed mother and younger brother. During the Depression sometimes they were forced to survive by eating half rotten potatoes.

By the time Es married, the economy had improved but he still had to work two jobs. By day, he was a bricklayer enduring the 100 degree summer heat for 12 hours and then off to the farm working the fields until after dark. Es spent his limited leisure time studying with the hope that some day he'd attain his Realtor's license and a better livelihood.

Es had grown to be a big man of 6'4" and weighed 260 lbs. He was abnormally strong. To prove his strength, he bet his friends he could lift one end of a flatbed train car off of the tracks. To everyone's astonishment he won the bet.



To family and friends, Es became a solid rock and the guy everyone depended on for support, encouragement and help. Es had a heart the size of his farm. This imposing hulk of a man also had a softer side and secretly helped many others causing him to work even harder to provide the necessities for his family.

One spring morning he decided he could make some much needed extra money by planting more corn. Somehow he scraped together the money to buy the seed. That was the easy part. Es then had to clear the field of weeds before he planted the corn, which was backbreaking work. Finally the field was ready for planting. A week later he decided to check the progress of his new crop. As he walked to the field he was probably dreaming about the things he'd be able to purchase after the harvest.

When he approached the field he could not believe his eyes. Could this be the same field he had worked so hard to clear and plant? There were so many weeds he could not see any

of the little corn seedlings. He decided to ask the advice of a wise old farmer. He told him to plow under the corn and weeds and let the field rest for three years. He faithfully plowed and harrowed the field for the next three years.

The fourth year finally arrived and Es was excited to replant the corn. Again he sacrificed to purchase the seed and worked even harder to prepare the field. He hoped his efforts would finally pay off. In ten days he returned to the special little cornfield. Instead of his field of dreams, Es found another field of weeds. This time the failure was too much. This big strong man who was the rock everyone leaned on sat down on the ditch bank, his head in his hands, and sobbed feeling totally defeated by the weeds.

Again, he confided his failure to the same old farmer who said, "Esbern, I think if you go furrow and harrow it again, you will be OK."

Es was an optimistic man and continued to work the field. As the growing season progressed, the corn stalks grew tall and produced an abundant harvest. The little cornfield had finally become his field of dreams. To this day that cornfield is still producing beautiful crops.



*Photo today of the beautiful little cornfield with NO weeds.
GPS - 40 7.752.-111 42.886*

After many years of self-motivated home study, Es passed the difficult tests to gain a Realtor's license which opened doors for other opportunities.

Es discovered another field of dreams. It had many similarities to the little cornfield. It was an abandoned drive-in movie theatre next to a highway. Es could see promise in the land so he purchased it. For many years Es struggled to find the money to pay the property tax. There were unfair zoning battles with the local city government. During one dark time the State condemned some land in front of the property blocking access to it and making the ground almost worthless as a commercial property. Es battled these "weeds" and literally stood his ground as he continued to develop his property.

Like the weedy little cornfield, he imagined a shopping center sprouting up in this other field. In 1994, the Albertson's food market chain purchased the property for a substantial amount. One more time the tenacity of Esbern paid off big time to fulfill his ultimate dream!



The little cornfield and the Albertson's mini mall can be seen as they appear today by entering the GPS coordinates into Google Earth or NASA WorldWind.

How the Story Was Created

1. The story was typed into Word and edited several times.
2. Photos were taken at the farm in Lakeshore, Utah and at the Albertson's store in Spanish Fork, Utah. Photos were taken on location of the Garmin Nuvi GPS to document and save the GPS coordinates for reference and entry into the collection later.
3. Photos, coordinates and the Word document were imported into a Heritage Collector collection called Es Baadsgaard.



4. A photo of weeds was imported into Photoshop. A title with a gradient was added to the image and saved. The new image was imported into Heritage Collector to be used in the collection as a title for a slide show and copied into the Word document.
6. Photos and images were copied from Heritage Collector into Word using the "Copy / Page" option.
7. The story was saved as a PDF and copied into the collection.

We Are Just Beginning

The Es Baadsgaard collection is becoming a real gold mine of information. It contains many photos of Es with captions and descriptions.

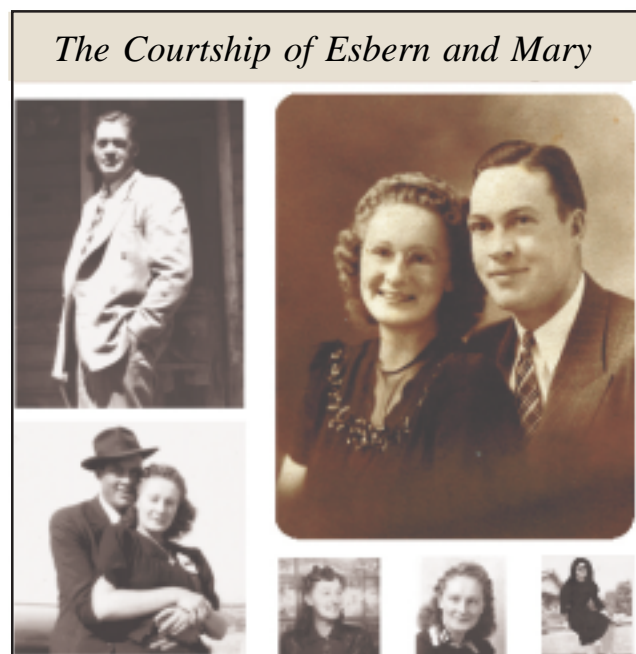
A slide show will be created from the collection to tell the story along with other interesting vignettes about Es Baadsgaard's history.

More audio files will be converted from old cassette tape recordings using Audacity. These recordings will be imported into Es' collection for future reference and will be used to narrate the slide show and hot spots.

We are planning to get a cousin who sounds like Es to read the story while we record it with a digital voice recorder. We will then convert this narrative into a sound track for a slide show or DVD presentation of the Tenacity and the Field of Dreams story.

A scrapbook page has been created telling the story of the courtship of Es and Mary. Talking hotspots have been added so the grandchildren can hear Grandpa Es and Grandma Mary talk about their first date and kiss.

The StoryBook module will make it easy to create other scrapbook pages to share other important and inspiring events in the life of Esbern Baadsgaard.



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