

October 2008

IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER



Thank you Theresa

A sincere THANK YOU goes to Theresa Liewer, IGS President for the past three years. She stepped in as president at time when all but one of the officers had resigned; she picked up the pieces of a disgruntled organization and has worked hard to put us back together. We will be ever grateful for Theresa's work, dedication and friendship.

Past President's Message



Left to right
Marcia Guffey
Cris Nagla
Dennis Allen
Theresa Liewer

I have been very fortunate to have worked with wonderful volunteers and staff over the past three years and this is my opportunity to thank everyone for their support and friendship. I am constantly amazed at how truly dedicated the members of IGS are. I am pleased to be able to turn over the presidency to Barbara Hug; we've talked about some of her plans and I am looking forward to seeing the results.

If you were not at the Fall Conference, I want to tell you that you missed a great speaker, Meldon Wolfgang III. As the conference was ending, people kept coming up to me and raving about Mel's presentations. IGS sponsors these each year so members have the opportunity to learn and if you are not attending, you are missing a marvelous chance to grow. Denise Gripp and Dennis Allen did a fantastic job of organizing this year's meeting. And Cris Nagla and Marcia Guffey deserve special thanks for preparing and serving wonderful lunches on both days. This is what I mean when I talk about wonderful volunteers.

I am sure that I will continue to see many of you at the library and at IGS events. Thank you for all your kind words. God bless you and keep you.



**IOWA GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY NEWSLETTER**

October 2008

Debi Chase, Editor

*The Newsletter is published
Bi-monthly by the
Iowa Genealogical Society
628 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50309-1924*

Members of the IGS receive the newsletter as part of their membership. Annual dues for 2008 are as follows:

**\$30 for a single membership
\$40 for a family membership**

Send dues in care of the Registrar at the address above.

Editorial staff invites members and the public to submit material for publication. The Iowa Genealogical Society assumes no responsibility for errors of fact or opinions expressed by the contributor. Material not used in the newsletter may be placed in the IGS library. If the contributor wishes the material returned, please enclose a S.A.S.E. and the proper postage. Send articles via email to

igs@iowagenealogy.org

or to the editor at the address listed above.

Claims for missing newsletters must be made within 6 months of date of issue.



From the President

by **Barbara Hug**

Election of officers was held in September and the results announced at the Annual Meeting on October 3rd. The Executive Board officers are President - Barbara Hug; 1st Vice President - Ricki King; 2nd Vice President - Kathy Gourley, Secretary - Diane Densmore. We are still looking for a person to serve as Treasurer. If you are interested, please contact me at bhug@prairieinet.net or 641-791-9426.

Nicoe Hart is the new region eight regional representative. Linda Abercrombie is the representative for region sixteen.

Please send me your ideas for IGS projects, communication and anything else IGS needs to address. My mailing address is on the web site and my e-mail and phone number are written above.

I'll write more about our goals for the coming year after our board meetings.

If you missed this year's annual conference, you missed a great opportunity to associate with fellow genealogists and learn a lot of new information, including obscure resources to help you locate elusive family members. Meldon Wolfgang III was informative, inspirational and just a fun guy to be around.

Many thanks go to Denise Gripp, 1st Vice President for planning the educational events and to Dennis Allen, 2nd Vice President for planning the vendors, facilities and food for the conference.

Assisting Denise and Dennis were many others including, Chris Nagla for cooking the lunches, Marcia Guffey for helping with the meals and all kinds of extra jobs like vacuuming the carpet at the end of the conference, Dennis Davies for hauling all the stuff from IGS, for handling the technical support and anything else that needed to be done, Diane Densmore for assisting whenever an extra hand was needed, Debi Chase and Billie Murano for taking care of IGS sales and I took care of the silent auction. Theresa Liewer moderated the conference for the 4th year in a row and did an excellent job as usual. Also thanks to everyone else who helped out whenever help was needed.

Thanks for your support. Barbara Hug

P.S. The Hawkeye Heritage will be mailed in November

Try some new sites

Washington State Digital Archives contain about 74 million records, all online. People can look up marriage licenses, birth and death certificates, census data, military service, election data, property deeds and even old pictures.

<http://www.digitalarchives.wa.gov/>

Digital Librarian

<http://www.digital-librarian.com/genealogy.html>

A librarian's choice of the best of the web, this is a list of genealogy sites maintained by Margaret Vail Anderson, a librarian in Cortland, New York. You can play on this site for months. Many sites that you may not be aware of.

Index of 1885 Civil War Union Veterans

<http://www.sdhistory.org/arc/civilwar/union.htm>

After the Civil War, veterans of both the Union and Confederate armies moved to Dakota Territory. This index consists of census record sheets for a special census of Civil War veterans living in Dakota Territory (South Dakota) in 1885.

Data about veterans found in the census includes; first and last name, county, regiments and company, enrollment date, termination of service, rank, the month and year they arrived in Dakota Territory, and other remarks concerning their service.

Welcome to the Archives Records Information Access System (ARIAS)

<http://www.digitalarchives.state.pa.us/archive.asp>

A searchable military index sponsored by Pennsylvania state archives. This site is easy to use and worth looking at.

Introducing the New IGS Mailing List

A mailing list has been set up so IGS members can better communicate with each other and the leadership team. A mailing list is exactly what it implies - a listing of names that can send or receive e-mail messages to everyone on the mailing list.

Why this list?

We want to improve communications among the membership. The use of the list can be whatever we make it. Here are some ideas on how the list can be used.

County chapters share ideas on programs, fund raising, etc.

County chapters ask questions about how others have handled a specific problem.

Individuals ask research questions, e.g.: Does anyone know where Metz, Iowa is located? Is there a website that helps me translate German?

IGS reminds members of upcoming events.

Is this mailing listed moderated?

The president of IGS is the list administrator, but messages are not screened prior to being sent to the list. If an inappropriate message is sent, the administrator will immediately remove that person's ability to access the list.

Who can be on the mailing list?

The list is intended for members of IGS and the administrator will periodically check the membership status of the subscribers.

How do I get on this mailing list?.

- You subscribe to the list by sending an e-mail to: IGS-L-request@rootsweb.com with the word *subscribe* in both the subject line AND the body of the e-mail.
- You should receive an e-mail confirming you have subscribed to the mailing list.
- This action puts you on the list and you will receive e-mail messages that anyone sends to the list.

You can send a message to the list by sending an e-mail to IGS@rootsweb.com

IGS is Legacy Software Affiliate

IGS is now an affiliate for Legacy software. If you order the Legacy software program or Legacy products from the **Legacy link** on our website www.iowagenealogy.org/ we will receive a 15% commission. The cost to you does NOT change. Legacy is rated as one of the best genealogy software programs on the market, according to software reviewers.

Another successful conference

The 2008 Fall Conference has finally come and gone. As much as it is enjoyed, the staff always breathes a sigh of relief when it's over. While the conference is only 2 ½ days long, it takes most of the year to plan. The two weeks prior are really busy ones for volunteers and staff.

If you didn't get a chance to fill in your evaluation sheet you can still mail it to IGS or send an e-mail. It's impossible to please everyone but we try to do what we can.

We always get requests for more vendors. With the economy what it is, fewer and fewer vendors travel to small conferences like ours. But when you spend money they are more likely to return. I know our attendees like to purchase new books at the conference. It gives you something to read on those cold winter days and nights.

I thought you might enjoy some of the comments that we received this year. For some attendees this was their first conference, others have attended dozens. You can see why it is so much work to create a conference that everyone will enjoy.

Congrats for keeping costs down and still providing quality programs

Great food!

It was worth the gas to come

The food was great and the kitchen crew did a fantastic job!

Special thanks to all the officers and committee who planned the conference. Also the Board of Directors and IGS staff. Well done!

I loved my first conference! I can't wait for the next one!



From left to right the new IGS Executive Board
Diane Densmore
Kathy Gourley
Ricki King
Barbara Hug

Don't forget to help IGS

Use www.goodsearch.com for all your internet searches and IGS earns a Penny a Click.

On your personal computer (you need to do this only ONCE):

1. In the box "Who do you GoodSearch for?"
2. Type: Iowa Genealogical Society
3. Click the "Verify" box
4. It will now show: Iowa Genealogical Society, Des Moines, IA

Every search earns a penny for IGS!

And, now, Goodsearch has added Goodshop! Currently, there are 34 companies, including Ebay, Target, Wal-mart, Travelocity, Land's End, Best Buy, Sears and Old Navy, who will donate a percentage of everything you buy from their website to IGS. Just click on the Goodshop logo on Goodsearch.

So use Goodshop!



If you buy from Amazon.com please go there from the IGS homepage as IGS gets a donation from Amazon for those using our web site to visit Amazon.com. It doesn't cost you a cent. Please spread the word. Use this logo or the one at the bottom of the page in the yellow column. Thanks!

Just for fun

A grandmother was telling her grandchild what her own childhood was like. "We used to skate outside on the pond. I had a swing made from a tire. It hung in a tree in our yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods." The little girl was wide-eyed taking this all in and at last she said "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner."

Borrowed from the Adams County Genealogical Society Newsletter

Make sure you share you stories with your grandchildren this holiday season.



German Interest Group

Nov 3rd - Rabbi Aaron Schwartzbaum, Beth-El Jacob synagogue will be the main speaker talking about Jewish burial customs & Rhonda Steward will have a brief talk about the Children of Israel cemetery and synagogue.

Dec 1st - The annual potluck and holiday program.

NEW LOCATION: Des Moines Community/Senior Citizens Center on Franklin, just west of the Franklin Library. Potluck - 6:30 p.m.; program -7:30 p.m.

East Village Holiday Promenade

Save the date! **East Village Holiday Promenade** will be Friday, Nov. 21 from 5-9 p.m. Shopping, open houses, free carriage rides, Santa, skating at Brenton Skating Plaza are part of the evening. The State Historical Building will host "Chili for Charity."

IGS will once again be participating. IGS will be having a bake sale and craft sale. If you have anything you would like to contribute please contact the library.

Volunteers are needed to help set up, take down, food/bake sale items and craft sale, Mrs. Claus' Attic, (good used Christmas items), refreshments, tours of the library, greeters, etc. If you are interested in helping please contact the IGS Library.



Veterans Group

The Iowa Veterans/Military Interest Group meets the third Saturday of the month at the Iowa Genealogical Library. The meetings start at 10 AM. Presentations in the past have included the Gold Star Museum at Johnston; the Sons of the American Revolution; Records available at IGS and Iowa Historical Society; Researching the Civil War; and the Battle at Alatoona. Also the group is working on a web site <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~iagsvg/igsvets.html> that will show the burial of all Iowa veterans across Iowa.

This month we will be discussing the researching of military records of World War I. These meetings are open to anyone interested in military records. You are invited to join us Saturday October 18 at 10 AM at the Iowa Genealogical Library 608 East Grand, across from the Iowa Historical Building.

Celebrate Family History Month with IGS

Trace Your Ancestral Line with IGS



Open House Saturday
October 11th & October 18
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Free tours of IGS all day. Bring your family information and let our volunteers help you get started in researching your family history.

Free Beginning Genealogy Class

Oct 11th - 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Free Interviewing Techniques
to preserve family stories class

Oct 18th - 10 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Spend some more time with IGS

IGS Member
3rd Annual Potluck

Sat. Nov. 8th
9 AM - 5 PM

Eat at noon

Bring your own table service

Coffee and decaf iced tea provided

Enjoy friends, food and fabulous research

Using the latest additions to the library, about
1,000 New books so far this year!



**2 PM coffee time plus
VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PROGRAM**

IGS Garage Sale Results are in

Thank you to all that donated items for the garage sale and that came in and purchased items.

Also, a big thank you to Betty Standley who stepped in at the last minute to take over the garage sale when Margaret had to step down. She did a terrific job.

Thank you also to Diane Densmore, Myrt Van Dyke, Tom McGarvey, Billie Murano, and the many others who helped with pricing, selling, set up and take down. Also, thank you to all those who came and shopped. IGS made \$ 1300 from the sale.

Some of the leftover items were taken to the Habitat for Humanity ReStore Store. Most of the other items went to the Salvation Army. A few things were kept for next year. Some of the nicer things were taken to the fall conference and used in the silent auction.



Volunteers IGS needs you!

IGS will be needing volunteers for the coming year. If you think you would like to volunteer please send an e-mail or call the library.

We need volunteers throughout the year in the library, for the garage sale, at the slumber parties, etc.

As well as tour guides for special events and special projects throughout the year.

Come meet new friends. Learn some new skills, and help IGS continue to grow.

Meet the new 2nd Vice-President

I am honored to have been elected to the position of Second Vice-President at the recent IGS Annual Session, and am anxious to begin working with the other members of the Board as we continue the important mission of the Iowa Genealogical Society. As Second Vice-President, one of my duties will be to coordinate the facilities, meals, and vendors for the annual conference. My predecessor, Dennis Allen, has set the bar high, as the 2008 conference meals and facilities were excellent! If you see Dennis, Cris Nagla, and the other members of this committee be sure to thank them for a job well done. They have promised to be available when I have questions!

The other major duty of the Second Vice-President is to promote the purposes of IGS to the members, to increase interest in and enthusiasm for the Society. I would love to hear your ideas about how IGS can improve the offerings provided to you, its members. Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have suggestions.

Kathy Gourley, Second Vice-President

From the Cataloging Corner

Another 153 books were added to our shelves in July and August bringing our total to 692 year to date. Have you looked at them all yet?

Our new Iowa books include:

Adams: 1925 Iowa Census Index

Calhoun: St. Mary's Cemetery (Pomeroy)

Polk County: Caldwell Funeral Home records for 1965 and 1966

Union: Blue Grass Palaces; Union County Cemeteries - Volumes 1, 2 & 3

Wayne: Wayne County 1850 Census

Woodbury: Anthon, Iowa 1888-1988

Some of the states and their counties included in our newest books:

Illinois: Knox

Indiana: Clay, Harrison

Kentucky: Boone, Clark, Greenup, Morgan, Russell, Scott, Shelby + more

Maine: History of Bristol & Bremen; History of Ancient Sheepscot & Newcastle

Massachusetts: Norfolk

Missouri: Andrew, Boone, Callaway, Clay, Greene, Platte, Scotland + more

Pennsylvania: Chester, Cumberland, Dauphin, Jefferson, Snyder, York

Virginia: Albemarle, Augusta, Loudoun, Northampton, Shenandoah

International books included:

Germany: Map Guide to German Parish Registers, Volume 21

Ireland: The Diocese of Limerick from 1691 to the Present Time

Nova Scotia: 1818 Pictou District Census, 1827 Nova Scotia Census,
1871 Pictou County Census, History of Pictou County

Remember to check the "Recent Library Book Acquisitions" binder on top of the card catalog files when you're at IGS. A listing of our new books is printed at the beginning of each month.



Conference Fun



Just off the presses....



All the genealogy software, reviewed and rated by you.

<http://www.gensoftreviews.com/>

I get a lot of questions about genealogy software. While I can tell you about my personal favorite PAF, I can also tell you what I hear from other genealogists but I'm not an expert.

Now there is a new web site that allow you to see what other researchers think of the different genealogy software. There currently are 367 programs on the site. It also allows you to give your rating of the different software.

The next time you're thinking of making a software purchase, or are just curious to see what is out there, this is the place to go.

Board Members & Calendar of Events

2008 IGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- ◆ Barbara Hug, President
- ◆ Ricki King, 1st Vice President
- ◆ Kathy Gourley, 2nd Vice President
- ◆ Diane Densmore, Secretary
- ◆ Vacant, Treasurer
- ◆ Vacant, Executive Director
- ◆ Vacant, Region 1
- ◆ Alan Neve, Region 2
- ◆ Pat Border, Region 3
- ◆ Michael Magee, Region 4
- ◆ Vacant, Region 5
- ◆ Vacant, Region 6
- ◆ Eileen Johnson, Region 7
- ◆ Nicoe Hart, Region 8
- ◆ Betty M Cross, Region 9
- ◆ Sandra Leininger, Region 10
- ◆ Judith Runestad, Region 11
- ◆ Grace Hertz, Region 12
- ◆ Vacant, Region 13
- ◆ Janice Danielson, Region 14
- ◆ Adrian Brisee, Region 15
- ◆ Linda Abercrombie, Region 16

IGS will be opening
at 11 a.m. on
October 25 due to
race activity in the
early morning.

October 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

October:

- 6th - German Interest Group 7 p.m.
- 7th - African-American Interest Group 7 p.m.
- 11th - IGS Open House 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- 11th - Beginning Genealogy Class 3 p.m - 4:30 p.m.
- 16th - Genealogy 101 10 a.m. - noon
- 18th - IGS Open House 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- 18th - Preserving Stories class 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
- 21st - Irish Interest Group 7 p.m.
- 28th - Norwegian Interest Group 7 p.m.

November:

- 3rd - German Interest Group 7 p.m.
- 4th - African-American Interest Group 7 p.m.
- 8th - Board Meeting 10 a.m.
- 8th - IGS Member Pot Luck noon
- 18th - Irish Interest Group 7 p.m.
- 21st - East Village Promenade 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.
- 22nd - Internet Genealogy 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

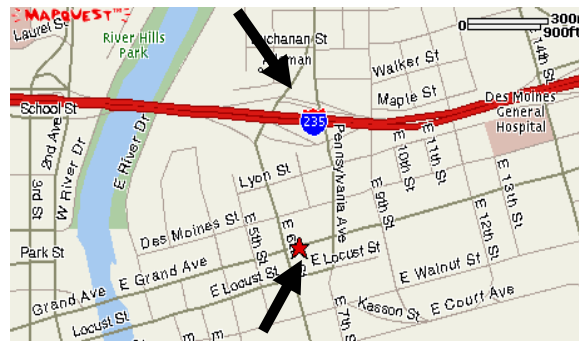


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Come visit us soon



How to Get Here...

From I-235, take the East 6th Street exit. Go south to the first stoplight at Grand Avenue. Turn left and we're in the center of the block on the north side of the street. Look for the signs, you can't miss us!

Special Interest Groups

All Groups Meet at the IGS Library, 628 East Grand Avenue

German Group - 7 p.m., 1st Monday of Every Month

Irish Group - 7 p.m., 3rd Tuesday of Every Month

African-American Group - 7 p.m., 1st Tuesday of Every Month

Norwegian Interest Group - 7 p.m., 4th Tuesday of Every Month

Library Hours at a Glance

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.