

# Iowa Genealogical Society Newsletter

April 2009

## What's Inside

President's Message.....	2
New Web Site.....	2
Stitch Down the Debt.....	2
Secrets of a Successful Genealogical Society .....	2
Volunteer Help .....	3
Dick Eastman Free Newsletter .....	3
Quad City Conference.....	3
County Chapters.....	3
Regional Rep Reports .....	4
Catalog Corner .....	6
Raffle Winners .....	6
Genealogy Book Sale.....	6
German Conference.....	7
Ancestry Wall.....	7
IGS Heritage Quilt Show ..	7
Free Internet Sites.....	7
Korean War Veterans.....	7
Historic Cemetery Walk....	7
How Do You Want to Receive Newsletter .....	8
How Do You Want to Receive Hawkeye Heritage.....	8

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## Calendar of Events

- April 16 at 7:00 p.m. – “Beginning Internet” by Dennis Allen  
Free at IGS. Sign up or call IGS to register.
- April 18 at 8:50 to 3:45 - Quad Cities Genealogical Conference.  
Viking Club of Moline, Illinois. See article on page X for the details.
- April 25 at 10:00 a.m. – “Beginning Genealogy”  
Free at IGS. Sign up or call IGS to register.
- May 2 from 9 to 3 – Southwest Area Genealogical Conference  
United Methodist Church, Creston Iowa, \$15.00. Contact Sandra Leininger,  
[sandra.leininger@gmail.com](mailto:sandra.leininger@gmail.com) for more information.
- May 5 at 3:00 p.m. – “Beginning Genealogy”  
Free at Des Moines Public Library, Central, 1000 Grand Avenue.
- May 16 – Community Day at Merle Hay Mall  
IGS will have a display. Stop by if you live in the Des Moines area.
- June 6, 2009 – German Conference.  
To be held at the Botanical Center. Baerbel Johnson will be returning again  
this year. See Registration on page 7.
- June 13 and June 20 at 9 to 5 – Genealogy Book Sale  
At IGS West Wing. An estimated 600+ genealogy books will be available for  
sale to IGS members only. See article on page 6
- July 25 – Summer Slumber Party  
5 p.m. Saturday July 25 until 6 a.m. Sunday July 26. Cost is \$20 per person.  
Bring snacks to share. Pizza and pop provided for a late supper. A light breakfast will  
be served. Please pre-register at IGS or phone 515-276-0287.
- October 4 noon to 3:00 p.m. – Historical Cemetery Walk  
Woodland Cemetery, Des Moines, Iowa. See story on page 7.
- October 8 – 10 – Annual Conference in Des Moines area  
Details will be available in early May. Watch our website.
- October 30 – 31 at 9:00 to 5:00 – IGS Heritage Quilt Show  
At IGS West Wing. See page 7 for details.
- November 7 – Legacy Family Tree Software Training.  
By Geoff Rasmussen. Details will come later.

## From The President

Barbara Lane Hug  
Newton, Iowa

Dear Members,

Thank you so much for the support you are giving to IGS. The German Interest Group challenge resulted in us paying off the entire furniture lease.

As you read this newsletter, we will have only three lease payments of \$330 left for the reader/printer in the library. This plus the furniture lease will free up about \$700 per month – Whew!

Some people have asked to have their newsletter sent via e-mail and I will do so starting with this one.

The reason I sent via regular mail the last two times was that the e-mail notice was being sent a week or more after members had already received their newsletter in the mail. I have now resolved that problem.

Please let me know if you have suggestions for the society or if you have something for the newsletter.

I have daffodils blooming on my cold, windy hill overlooking the Skunk River. Silly things!

Have a great spring!  
Barb

## New Web Site

A student at the area community college is redesigning the IGS web site. It will be fun to see what we look like from a student's view point.

We are also trying to develop a "member only" section so members can access our data bases on line. If any of you understand that technology, we could certainly use your advice.

## Stitch down the Debt

If you are still interested in the quilt fabric family tree, please contact Shirley Munier at [sd.munier@earthlink.net](mailto:sd.munier@earthlink.net) or call IGS and leave a message for her. See last month's newsletter for ordering instructions.

## Secrets of a Successful Genealogy Society

If you've never seen the website at <http://genealogy.about.com>, you're missing out on a great educational web site. Sign up for the free

newsletter, written by Kimberly Powell, to receive weekly information about genealogy.

This week's issue was titled, "*Secrets of a Successful Genealogy Society.*" The points made are as follows:

- **Use your society Web site.** An online presence is essential for today's genealogical society, both as a tool to serve society members, and as a vehicle for attracting new members. Offering a variety of online databases, transcriptions and other content of a genealogical or historical nature that can't be found on other Web sites offers a one-of-a-kind benefit to society members, especially those who live outside your local area.
- **Expand your reach.** Many genealogical societies host booths at the national and regional genealogy conferences, but this rarely brings in a wealth of new members. Instead, think outside the box a bit and host a society table at local festivals, heritage events, military re-enactments, etc. This will help expand your society's reach beyond genealogists who probably already know about your group, to the general public who may just be the next generation of addicted genealogists.
- **Offer classes.** A lot of people are interested in their family history, but really have no idea where to start. Offer beginner classes at your society or in area libraries to introduce more people to the joys of genealogy and you may find yourself with many new members to boot!
- **Get more of your current members involved.** Many genealogical societies have members who faithfully pay their dues each year and may occasionally show up for a monthly meeting or seminar, but that's the extent of their involvement. Surprisingly, many of those members may have just the talents your society needs.  
  
The key is to set up specific projects with specific volunteer needs before putting out the call for volunteers. People are more likely to respond when they know exactly how they can help. Just remember, a society is the entire group of members - not just the Board, or the usual core group who show up for the monthly meetings. Get more members involved and everyone benefits!
- **Start an indexing project.** Building off of the previous suggestion, an online indexing project is a great way to get your far-flung members more involved in the society.

- **Consider taking your publications virtual.** This obviously won't work for all societies, but it is worth considering for most. The cost of sending out your monthly newsletter or even your quarterly journal by email rather than postal mail [can represent quite a cost savings to your society.](#)

### And speaking of Volunteering!

#### Volunteer Help Wanted

Volunteers are what make IGS strong.

If you have good computer skills, many of these jobs can be done from any place, not just central Iowa.

Unless otherwise stated, contact Barbara Hug at bhug@prairieinet.net or 641-791-9485 or leave a message at IGS to get more information and/or to volunteer.

**Publicity Chair** – Requirements: works with one or two other people to publicize IGS, events and activities; attend IGS board meetings quarterly if possible. Skills: interest in promoting IGS, access to e-mail for correspondence and sending out publicity.

**Events Chair and Co-chair** – Requirements: plan special events and fund raisers, recruit volunteers to chair or work on the special event; attend IGS board meetings quarterly if possible. Skills: organization, working with volunteers, probably needs to live in or near Central Iowa.

**Writing Grants** – Requirements: search out and write proposals for grants in cooperation with the President and/or Executive Committee. There will be assistance to provide you with the necessary information.

**Callers for Former Member Survey** – Requirements: time May 2<sup>nd</sup> through May 9<sup>th</sup> to make personal telephone call to former members and ask specific questions regarding IGS. Will need to use you own telephone or cell phone, record data and report to chair of the survey committee. You will be provided with a script from which to ask questions. Marcia Guffey will be chairing this project.

**IGS Heritage Quilt Show** – held at IGS on October 30 and 31 will feature linens made by ancestors of IGS members. See announcement elsewhere in this newsletter. We'll need assistance in setting up the display the week of October 26<sup>th</sup>, supervising during the show and in tearing down after the show.

**Civil War Sesquiential** – The sesquiential of the Civil War will start in 2011. I know it's early, but I want to have some well-planned events ready for IGS to

sponsor. There is a strong possibility of collaborating with the State Historical Society, other historical organizations and our county chapters if we start planning now. We need some people who are interested in the Civil War to begin planning these events.

From Dick Eastman's free on-line Newsletter . . .

“I just watched the pilot of a new genealogy television program: *Legend Seekers*. This show is good! If you are in Indianapolis or Champaign, Illinois or Macomb, Illinois or Bloomington, Indiana or most anywhere in Nebraska, you can see it too.

*Legend Seekers* seeks to show the interesting stories in family trees of every-day Americans, not celebrities. If the pilot episode is any indication, these will be interesting stories.”

Sign up for this free daily newsletter at [http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans\\_online\\_genealogy/](http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/)

#### Quad Cities Genealogical Conference

Saturday, April 18, 2009

8:00 a.m. to 8:50 a.m. Registration

8:50 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Program

Viking Club of Moline, Illinois

Program Topics: Church Records, Government Documents, Research in Indiana, Getting More from the Internet.

Cost: \$25.00, includes handouts, lunch and coffee.

Registration received after April 8<sup>th</sup> will not include the luncheon.

Register: Send your name, address, zip code+4 and phone number with area code to:

Quad Cities Genealogical Conference

Attn: Deb Williams, Registrar

6128 Sheridan Street

Davenport, IA 52806-2105

#### County Chapters

**File Tax Return:** If you have non-profit status for your county chapter, don't forget that you need to file an e-postcard tax return. If you fail to file this tax form for three years (2007, 2008, 2009), you will lose your non-profit status.

This is the information you need to file:

- [Employer identification number](#) (EIN), also known as a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)).
- [Tax year](#)
- [Legal name and mailing address](#)
- [Any other names the organization uses](#)
- [Name and address of a principal officer](#)
- Web site address if the organization has one
- Confirmation that the organization's annual [gross receipts](#) are [normally \\$25,000 or less](#)
- If applicable, a statement that the organization has terminated or is terminating (going out of business)

Use this link to access the filing page:

<http://www.irs.gov/charities/article/0,,id=170550,00.html>

**Advertise Your Events:** The USGenWeb now has a site where you can advertise your events. This would especially be good for conferences or regional events you sponsor. The website is <http://genevents.genwebsite.org/>

## Reports from Regional Representatives

The following reports are from the Regional Representatives at the March IGS Board Meeting. We have several regions that are not being represented. Regions are defined at [http://www.iowagenealogy.org/county\\_chapters/county\\_regions.html](http://www.iowagenealogy.org/county_chapters/county_regions.html)

If you are interested in representing a region, please contact Barbara Hug, President.

Region 1: Position vacant

**Region 2:** Alan Neve

- Washington Co. -The city is building a new library and the Washington Co. Genealogical Society is anticipating a new location with more space.
- Poweshiek Co. -is making a bride index of the Poweshiek marriages. They are planning to participate in the Montezuma Business Expo in March.
- Iowa Co. - has moved to downtown North English. They have a display window that attracts people in to their library. They are rebuilding their website.
- Keo-Mah – recently received \$10,000 (\$5,000 from a member and a matching \$5,000 from Pella Windows) to help pay down the mortgage.

**Region 3:** Pat Border

- Scott Co. - is doing an abstract of newspaper births, divorces, marriage licenses, birthdays and wedding anniversaries.

- Jackson Co. – is getting used to their new location. They have ongoing projects and are adding information to their web site.
- Muscatine Co. – has ongoing projects and keep adding things to their web site.

**Region 4:** Mike Magee

- Northeast Iowa Genealogical Society [NEIGS] - met with the staff at the Grout Museum. The problems between that society and the museum have been resolved. NEIGS sets aside members use of the Waterloo Public Library computer training center room for individual genealogical research at various times.

Region 5: Position vacant

Region 6: Position vacant

**Region 7:** Eileen Johnson

- The chapters in this region cancelled most of their meetings this winter because of bad weather.
- Hamilton County met March 14th.

**Region 8:** Nicole Hart

- Story Co.-February meeting was a speaker from the ISU library who spoke on copyright laws.
- Warren Co.-is working with the Warren Co. Historical Society on a new web site. A 2009 project will be to begin to update the cemetery publications.
- Jasper Co. - teaches a beginning genealogy class at the public library. They take photos of cemetery tombstones and decorate a grave with a 4" potted plant for Memorial Day (fundraiser).

**Region 9:** Betty Cross

- Appanoose Co.-plans to re-walk cemeteries and update cemetery books this summer.
- Davis Co. -The 1882 Davis Co. History with a full index is being reprinted and will sell for \$70.00.
- Lucas Co. - has new members join in February. February meeting was on records and benefits for servicemen and March was on DNA.
- Monroe Co. -has new members, family histories plus a book of WWI draft cards added to their library. Their officers did a radio program about the society.
- Wapello Co. -has a new desk top computer for use by members. They are reorganizing the vertical files on correspondence and family information.

**Region 10: Sandra Clem Leininger**

- Adams Co. - will hold meetings every other month. They continue to help with additions to the county <http://iagenweb.org/adams/> web site.
- Clarke Co. - meets 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month; they have some interesting programs planned for the summer.
- Decatur Co. - does not have an organized club, but add items to the <http://iagenweb.org/decaturo/web> site, including cemetery records and biographies.
- Ringgold Co. - does not have an organized club, but add to the <http://iagenweb.org/ringgold/>
- Taylor Co. -meets at the Taylor Co. Historical Museum in Bedford. Recently they added all of the 2008 deaths and burials from the area to the <http://iagenweb.org/taylor> web site.
- Union Co. -assigns a member to bring a “tid-bit” from their research to share at each meeting. They will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Southwest Iowa Genealogical Meeting in Creston on Saturday, April 28.

**Region 11: James Lawton**

- Greene Co. - is currently raising funds to pay for the Heritage Quest subscription for the Jefferson Library.
- Madison Co. -is an enthusiastic group in the middle of transcribing records at the courthouse.

**Region 12: Grace Hertz**

- Laurens Genies (Pocahontas Co.) - has donated about 1000 obituaries to their obit file and are working with the Pocahontas Genies to compile marriage records.
- Pocahontas Genies - are compiling birth records at the courthouse to be in print. They also answer research requests and have monthly meetings.
- Palo Alto Co. - is planning to print the book, “Personal War Sketches,” done by the Women’s Relief Corp in about 1903.
- Emmet Co. - several Estherville weekly, semi-weekly and daily newspapers dating from 1868 until the present are in digital form on the Estherville Public Library Internet page.
- Humboldt Co. - recent programs have been about methods of genealogical research and a demonstration on how to douse/with graves.

- Webster Co. - continues to extract information from probate records. They also take photographs of grave markers and they pay for part of the subscription to Heritage Quest at the Fort Dodge Public Library.
- Calhoun Co. -continues to record information from Calhoun Co. cemeteries including St. Mary’s Cemetery in Lake City. Plans are being made to compile the cemetery records of the Lake City town cemetery.
- Kossuth Co. - has a web site at <http://www.kossuthcountygenealogicalsociety.com/>. Back issues of their newsletter are accessible on the web site.

**Region 13: Position vacant****Region 14: Janice Danielson**

- Buena Vista Co. -County Board of Supervisors gave the group \$800 for the year which was applied to the purchase of area newspapers. They are indexing the newspapers for vital records.
- Plymouth Co. - handles a lot of requests for research help. They are taking photos of gravestones for the IAGenWeb Gravestone Photo Project at <http://iowagravestones.org/> .
- Computer Genies of NW Iowa-visited the Cherokee Mental Health Hospital and found out that if you have an ancestor in this mental health hospital or the one in Independence, that you can request their entire file.
- Cherokee Co. -holds regular “work days” for their group and continue to index many items in their library collection.
- Woodbury Co. -is updating their rural cemeteries and raising funds to purchase microfilms of area newspapers. More members are requesting the newsletter on-line.
- Ida Co. - no longer meets, but they do have a newsletter sent to members.
- Sac Co. - meets during the spring and summer since many go south for the winter.

**Region 15: Position Vacant****Region 16: Linda Abercrombie**

- Botna Valley - Their March meeting was “Ties that Bind” and they bought old aprons to show.
- Cass Co. - is working to get their news letter out to members.

- Fremont Co. - has some genealogy materials at the Tabor Library and at the Fremont Co. Historical Society in Sidney.

9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. both days  
West Wing, Iowa Genealogical Society,  
628 E. Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA

## From the Cataloging Corner

Due to inclement winter weather and the usual winter illnesses, 76 books have been added to the shelves thus far in 2009. But, that's *still* a lot of reading for you to do!



Our new **Iowa books, by county**, include:

General: "Iowa Towns, Past & Present"

Jones: Births 1880 through early 1895

Polk: Caldwell Funeral Home records for 1969

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

Georgia: Cherokee

Pennsylvania: Adams, Cambria, Chester, Delaware, York

Virginia: Frederick, Loudoun, Rockbridge, Stafford

Some **family history** surnames: Arnold, Bakke, Carson, Freeman, Glasener, Hanson, Pruett, Toman, Wright

Be sure to read about our big book sale, elsewhere in this newsletter, coming in June for Iowa Genealogical Society members only! This is your chance to add to your home library collection and help IGS meet its financial needs at the same time.

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.

## Congratulations Raffle Winners!

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: \$100 Office Depot Gift Card - Margaret Foster of Des Moines.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: "Celebration of Generations" scrapbook - John Terry of West Des Moines.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: A one-year membership to the Iowa Genealogical Society - Marcia Quinn of Des Moines.

Thanks to all who purchased raffle tickets; we made more than \$400.

## Fundraising Genealogy Book Sale

For Iowa Genealogical Society Members only

Saturday, June 13 & Saturday, June 20, 2009.

An estimated 600+ genealogy books will be available for sale. These are "second copies", that is, extra copies of books IGS already owns. They cover a wide range of genealogy research topics. The following is only a partial list of states and counties. Many books are in near new condition. They are priced less than on the internet. The German Interest Group will also have a table of German research books for sale. All proceeds benefit the Iowa Genealogical Society.

**Family Histories** Adams, Allin, Banta, Benefiel, Borland, Brindle, Kimball, Levey, Lockhart, Gill, Miller, Pruett

**General Books** Connecticut, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Middle Colonies, How-To, Indiana, International, Internet, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, New England, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia + many more

**International** England, Germany, Ireland, Scotland

**Illinois** Knox, Mason

**Indiana** Hancock, Jackson, Jefferson, Madison, Putnam

**Iowa** Appanoose, Ringgold, Union, Webster

**Kentucky** Bath, Boone, Bracken, Clark, Daviess, Estill, Franklin, Gallatin, Garrard, Graves, Greenup, Henry, Jefferson, Letcher, Lewis, Mason, Mercer, Montgomery, Morgan, Nicholas, Ohio, Rockcastle, Scott, Shelby, Trigg, Woodford

**Missouri** Callaway, Cape Girardeau, Cass, Clay, Dade, Dallas, Dent, Franklin, Greene, Holt, Howard, Marion, McDonald, Monroe, Osage, Platte, Ralls, Scotland, St. Francois, Ste, Genevieve, Warren

**Ohio** Adams, Hamilton, Montgomery, Scioto

**Pennsylvania** Adams, Allegheny, Armstrong, Bedford, Berks, Bucks, Butler, Centre, Chester, Clinton, Cumberland, Dauphin, Fayette, Lancaster, Mercer, Philadelphia, Somerset, Venango, Washington, Westmoreland, York

**Virginia** Albemarle, Amherst, Augusta, Bath, Bedford, Berkeley, Botetourt, Culpeper, Fairfax, Fauquier, Fincastle, Franklin, Frederick, Grayson, Isle of Wight, Loudoun, Montgomery, Northampton, Northumberland, Orange, Pittsylvania, Rockbridge, Rockingham, Shenandoah Valley, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Westmoreland

**Supplies** Hanging file folders, 3-ring notebooks, etc.

Payment may be made by cash or check.  
No advance sales will be allowed.  
All sales are final.

## German Genealogical Conference

**Preconference Event:** Friday, June 5, 7 to 9 p.m. –  
*German Research on the Internet* given by Ms. Baerbel K. Johnson, A.G. Free to members and the public at IGS.

**Conference:** Saturday, June 6, 8:45 to 4:00 at the Des Moines Botanical Center, 909 Robert D. Ray Dr., Des Moines, Iowa.

The German Interest Group of the Iowa Genealogical Society is pleased to have returning as their speaker for a second year, Ms. Baerbel K. Johnson, A.G. Ms. Johnson is a professional genealogist working at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah as International Reference Consultant and has more than 20 years of experience in European family history research with emphasis on Germany.

**Post-conference Event:** Conference attendees may use the IGS library from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Publications will be available for purchase Friday and Saturday, cash or check only.

**Cost:** \$40 for IGS members if registration post marked by March 29th. Non-member registration is \$45. All registrations postmarked after May 29<sup>th</sup>, please add \$5.

Registration forms are available at IGS, on the Internet at <http://www.iowagenealogy.org> or by calling Linda Enghausen, Registrar, at 515-278-1982.

## Ancestry Wall

We have only 44 names left to get before we can do the third panel on our Ancestry Wall.

In exchange for a donation of \$175, your name, the name of a loved one or text up to 40 characters will be inscribed on the Ancestor Memorial Wall to be placed in the front entrance.

To place a name on the Ancestry Wall, go to <http://www.iowagenealogy.org>, click on the link "Explore the Ancestral Wall." The order forms are at the bottom of the page or contact IGS.

## IGS Heritage Quilt Show

IGS is holding a heritage quilt show this fall to coincide with the American Quilters Society National Quilt Show on October 30 and 31<sup>st</sup>.

To be able to prepare for the show we are asking that members complete an application and send to us.

The application is located on the IGS web site at <http://www.iowagenealogy.org>

## Free internet Sites

**Digital Maps:** [http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/cdm4/index\\_maps.php?CISOROOT=/maps](http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/cdm4/index_maps.php?CISOROOT=/maps)

**USGenWeb:** [www.usgenweb.org/](http://www.usgenweb.org/)

**Town/County:** <http://resources.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/townco.cgi>

**Citing Genealogical Sources:** <http://genealogy.about.com/library/lessons/blintro2g.htm>

**Missouri State Archives – Death Certificates 1910 – 1958: Missouri State Archives – Birth Certificates Pre-1910:** <http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/birthdeath/>

**Illinois State Archives Data Bases:** <http://www.sos.state.il.us/departments/archives/databases.html>

**Quebec, Canada:** <http://www.genealogysearch.org/canada/quebec.html>

## Korean War Missing in Action

Korean War Veterans are looking for the Polk County families of the following Korean War servicemen missing in Korea. If you know of these families, please contact Harold Davis at (910) 791-2333 or [hgDavis@bellsouth.net](mailto:hgDavis@bellsouth.net)

J. D. Jarnagin, MIA, born May 15 1927

Harold Bernard Olson, POW, born March 17, 1918

William Burrel Sample, MIA, born April 2, 1928

Richard Glenn Rider, MIA, born 1925

## Historic Cemetery Walk

IGS will cooperate with Woodland Cemetery to conduct a Historic Cemetery Walk on Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for volunteers to serve as actors and guides. Please contact Co-chairs, LaWanda Nepstad, (515) 252-0283, [snepstad@prodigy.net](mailto:snepstad@prodigy.net) or Kaye Sanchez, (515) 276-5396, [KKCS@aol.com](mailto:KKCS@aol.com)

Iowa Genealogical Society  
628 East Grand Avenue  
Des Moines IA 50309-1924



Mailing Address

## Newsletter and Hawkeye Heritage Delivery – Please Respond

The board is working very hard not to raise the dues to pay for the increases our regular expenses. The last dues increase was in 2002 and at that time postage has increased 19%.

The board wants to offer the newsletter and Hawkeye Heritage in alternative forms to avoid any increase in dues. Therefore we ask that you respond to both questions below:

### **How do you want to receive your newsletter?**

Regular mail  E-mail (link to web site)  Pick up at IGS Library  Don't want to receive the newsletter  
If E-mail, give working e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

### **How do you want to receive your Hawkeye Heritage?**

Regular mail  E-mail (link to web site)  Pick up at IGS Library  Don't want to receive the Hawkeye Heritage  
If E-mail, give working e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Respond via e-mail to [igs@iowagenealogy.org](mailto:igs@iowagenealogy.org), regular mail to IGS, 628 East Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA 50309, telephone at 515-276-0287 or FAX to 515-727-1824.