

MARCH 2012

IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

The IGS “face lift” construction project was completed in time for Christmas, with the last payment to a contractor and the mortgage refinancing happening the first week of January. 2012 will surely be a better year without lumber, metal framework and glass panels decorating the West Wing. Improvements include insulation in parts of the wall where there was none before, and a royal blue band at the top of the glass wall. The IGS sign also received attention and is working again. The only remaining repair needed is to replace the parking lot light (a cost of \$500 with labor being donated). IGS wishes a special “thank you” to all who donated to the “Saving Face” campaign.

With many of our building issues resolved, we are pleased to focus exclusively on genealogy-related projects and events in 2012. Opportunities abound as we gear up for an exciting year of classes, programs, events and special projects. The programs and events listed in this issue are just a sample of the many projects in need of volunteer participation.

How can you contribute to the success of IGS in 2012? Be part of the team! Together, we can make this a meaningful and memorable year for IGS.

For more information or to volunteer, contact: Nicoe Hart, nicoehart@gmail.com, or the IGS Library: 515-276-0287, igs@iowagenealogy.org.

--Regards, IGS President Nicoe Hart



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IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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Website:
www.iowagenealogy.org

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday, Wednesday,
Friday & Saturday
10 a.m.—4 p.m.

Tuesday & Thursday
10 a.m.—9 p.m.

IGS NEWS: VOLUNTEER IN 2012

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Cemetery projects

Volunteers are needed for mapping and digital pictures of gravestones in Polk County cemeteries. In the future, these new databases will be available on the IGS website.



1940 Census Indexing

IGS has agreed to participate in the *Family Search* 1940 Census Project by indexing the Iowa portion of the Federal Census to be released 2 April 2012. Volunteers are needed for this project.

The project will be headquartered at IGS but will spread across Iowa and include participation by out-of-state members. Our Group Administrator is Barbara Hammer.

Be part of making genealogical history! Contact Barbara Hammer c/o IGS: 515-276-0287; igs@iowagenealogy.org. Volunteer your time and talents to help bring the 1940 census to the world!

Camp Dodge Militia Enlistments

Volunteers are needed to enter database information from 3 x 5 cards: the only index to the Militia Enlistment forms at the State Archives. Records range from 1878 to as late as 1931. Many contain real gems of genealogy information—residence, birth date and place, age, occupation, next of kin, and physical description, in addition to enlistment date(s), units, and discharge dates.



Spring Technology Conference: *Picture This!*

April 14th is Eric Basir's photography workshops, including lunch by local caterer, "In the Bag." April is also the Silent Auction and Spring Garage Sale. All events will take place in the IGS Library's West Wing. Volunteers are needed to assist with these activities.

Limited space is available for Spring Conference vendors; get your request in early to reserve a place. *Conference details on page 14.*

IGS Board Member Needed

The Iowa Genealogical Society Executive Board has a vacancy for the position of **1st Vice President**. Responsibilities include:

- ◆ Assume the office of President if that office becomes vacant.
- ◆ Assume the duties of the President in the absence of the President or as provided in the Bylaws or the Parliamentary Authority.
- ◆ Chair the Education Committee.

The current term expires October 2012; next term runs through 2014. If you are willing to fill out the current term, and/or would like to run for the next term, please contact Pres. Nicoe Hart: nicoehart@gmail.com.

IGS NEWS: VOLUNTEER IN 2012

Silent Auction Planned

April 14th. IGS will hold a Silent Auction at the Spring Technology Conference. Do you have items you'd be willing to donate?

Suggestions: quilts, genealogy supplies, Longaberger baskets, crystal, gift certificates for hotels, restaurants, collectibles, anything new or used, (but, please, no "junk"). Items may be brought to IGS any time before the Spring Conference.

Spring Garage Sale

Thursday, April 26th and Friday, April 27th. Donation items needed (no clothing, please)! Bring your items to IGS any time. Questions? Contact IGS: igs@iowagenealogy.org or 515-276-0287.

Merle Hay Non-Profit Day

Saturday, May 12th, 8:15 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Merle Hay Mall, Des Moines. A coordinator and volunteers are needed to set-up and operate an information booth. Volunteers will be organized by two-hour shifts and are encouraged to bring their own research to share as examples of what family historians can learn.

Lives and Times

Phil Parks returns for four weekly lectures in June on Prohibition. If you missed his Scots-Irish lectures, don't miss these. They are scheduled for **Wednesday evenings in June at 7 p.m.** (See the IGS calendar on page 13). Volunteers are needed to help with set-up for these programs.

If you've enjoyed the Lives and Times series in the past, consider volunteering as Coordinator and keep these fine programs coming to IGS.

Rolling Slumber Party

In 2004, IGS hosted a November "Rolling Slumber Party" to the Mid-Continent Library and Regional National Archives in Kansas City. Both entities have moved to new locations in the Kansas City area. Is there interest in having another such trip sometime this year or next? A volunteer is needed to put it together with costs to see if it is feasible.

Somewhere in Time: IGS Wedding Memories

Response to "Somewhere in Time" has been enthusiastic! In order to properly plan and carry out this unique fundraiser, the date has been temporarily postponed.

IGS will receive free project management assistance by partnering with the Project Management Institute, Central Iowa Chapter (PMI). This organization pairs professional project managers with non-profits to plan and implement fundraising events. Read more about their "Collaborate 2 Succeed" program on their website: <http://www.pmi-centraliowa.org/page/involved/c2s>.

Members will be invited to display their heirloom wedding dresses along with written wedding stories. For those who don't have the original dress, display a wedding picture of the bride or couple with their special story. Gowns will be displayed by vintage era and prizes will be awarded in various categories.

IGS volunteers are needed to help implement this memorable event. Get involved and be part of this unique fundraiser!

Fall Quilt Show

October 12 - 13, 19 - 20th.

Always a favorite event-- help make this year's exhibit a success!

Fall Conference

Friday - Saturday, October 12 - 13th.

Volunteers are needed for set-up, kitchen duty, clean-up, and more.



SAVING FACE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: Thank you, donors!

Iowa Donors

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James & Patricia McCaughey,
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Bernice McCaughey, Chester &
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James Dwinell, Des Moines
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Floyd Coe, Des Moines
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Honoring McCreath - Williams
Families

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LIBRARY NEWS: Cataloging Corner

By Diane Densmore, Cataloging Assistant

We added seventy-two books to our shelves in November and December which brought our total to 410 new books for 2011.

New acquisitions for Iowa counties include:

Calhoun: *Standard Atlas of Calhoun County, Iowa, 1911*

Carroll: *Beyond a Century, Templeton, Iowa, 1982-2007*

Through the Years, 1878-1952, with Sacred Heart Parish and the Town of Templeton, Iowa

Greene: *Atlas of Greene County, Iowa, 1921-1922 Edition*

Atlas of Greene County, Iowa, 1936 Edition

Jasper: *Class of 1933 Newton High School Fiftieth Reunion*

Polk: *African Americans of Des Moines and Polk County*

Webster: *Gone But Not Forgotten, Part IV: Vegors Township, Webster County, Iowa*

Some of the states and their counties added to our shelves:

Illinois: LaSalle

Indiana: Fountain

Kentucky: Gallatin, Henry, Jefferson, Jessamine, Livingston, Union

Ohio: Adams

Surnames for new family history books include

Blendermann, Brown, Kimmell, Oyler, Rex, and Shurtleff.

With many thanks, we acknowledge the Huguenot Society of Iowa's monetary donation to purchase new books for our collection. Thus far, we have acquired the following:

- 1) *History of New Paltz, New York, and Its Old Families from 1678 to 1820*
- 2) *Records of the Reformed Dutch Church in New Amsterdam & New York with Marriages from 11 Dec 1639 to 26 Aug 1801*
- 3) *Vital Records of Charlestown, Massachusetts to the Year 1850*
- 4) *Genealogical and Family History of the State of Vermont* (2 volume set)
- 5) The needed volumes to complete our set: *Maryland German Church Records.*

Check the "Recent Library Book Acquisitions" binder on top of the card catalog cabinet when you're at IGS. The list of our new books is printed at the beginning of each month.



Hidden Treasures

The first treasure this month is "W.P.A. Graves Registration Gravestone Records." The W.P.A. (Works Progress Administration) was a U.S. work program for the unemployed created in 1935 during the Great Depression. One of the W.P.A. projects sent workers out to the cemeteries to record the information on the tombstone. The information was then typed and alphabetized. This survey was done about 1935-1939. It is of great value today for genealogists because many old tombstones have disappeared or are unreadable.

WPA records on our shelves include the counties of Adair, Allamakee (partial), Appanoose, Audubon, Black Hawk, Boone, Bremer, Buena Vista, Butler, Carroll, Cass, Cedar, Cerro Gordo, Chickasaw, Clarke, Clay, Clayton, Crawford, Davis, Decatur, Delaware, Dickinson, Emmet, Fayette, Floyd, Franklin, Fremont, Greene, Grundy, Guthrie, Hancock, Harrison, Henry, Howard, Jackson, Jones, Keokuk, Kossuth, Linn, Louisa, Madison, Mahaska, Marshall, Mills, Monroe, Montgomery, Muscatine, O'Brien, Page, Palo Alto, Plymouth, Pocahontas, Polk (incomplete), Poweshiek, Ringgold, Sac, Scott, Shelby, Story, Tama, Taylor, Van Buren, Wapello, Washington, Wayne, Webster, Winneshiek, Woodbury, Worth, Wright.

Another treasure is *Federal Land Series* by Clifford Neal Smith, a 5-volume set located at 333.16/SML. These contain a calendar of archival materials on the land patents issued by the U.S. government, with subject, tract and name indexes. Land patents are the first transfer of title from (mainly) federal government entities to private persons for lands in states other than the original thirteen. Much of this land was granted for military service in the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. These books cover 1788-1810, 1799-1835, and 1810-1814 as well as the Virginia Military District. You will find some very nice fold-out maps with tract numbers designated.

CHAPTER NEWS FROM ACROSS IOWA

Clayton County Genealogical Society's November meeting included a presentation by Betty Buchholz, president of the Carter House Museum in Elkader, who spoke about the museum's new Civil War display and Civil War history. The museum, operated by the Elkader Historical Society, houses a military section, with uniforms from the Civil War through WWII, and a great deal of memorabilia commemorating the military contributions of Clayton County's citizens.
-- Contributed by Myra Voss

Members of the **Northeast Iowa Genealogical Society** participated in the Cedar Falls Library's January genealogy and computer classes, "Commemoration of the Civil War Sesquicentennial."

Garel and Jeanine Johnson and their daughter, assisted by Ruth Tucker, constructed a Civil War and genealogy display for the library.



Allaire George, Duane Akeright, Steve Schell, Marilyn Gerholdt and Ruth Tucker presented various classes. Attendance exceeded our expectations with a high of sixty-one members at the first class to seventeen participants at the Independent Work Session. Class topics included:

- ◆ Introduction to Genealogy
- ◆ Introduction to Genealogy Software
- ◆ Managing a Genealogical Project, Organization, & Preservation
- ◆ Courthouse Research

NEIGS member Kim Van Deest, Network & Information Literacy Administrator of the Waterloo Public Library, presented classes on Ancestry.com, HeritageQuest.com, and NewspaperArchives.com. The last Independent Work Session allowed participants to use the library computers or their own laptops to access these websites.

The *Waterloo Courier* featured the classes on their "Living" page in the 6 January 2012 issue.

-- Contributed by Ruth Tucker, Region 4 Representative

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL NEWS

State Historical Society of Iowa News

1940 Census Release Prompts Library Program 19 March 2012

Genealogists and historical researchers are eagerly anticipating the release of the 1940 U.S. Census on 2 April 2012.



Statistics from a census can be invaluable for gaining a historical snapshot of life in the U.S. In addition to names, addresses and ages, census records also include jobs held, household data like property values and income, education and more.

The State Historical Society of Iowa Library, 600 East Locust, Des Moines, will host Archives Specialist Jessica Edgar of the National Archives at Kansas City on **Monday, 19 March 2012, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

Edgar will offer an introduction to the census, including information about how to access the records. She will also offer two additional programs: "Who We Are: A Genealogist's Introduction to the National Archives," and "Iowa, More to it than Cyclones and Hawkeyes: Exploring Federal Records Related to the State's People, Places and Events." Some of the Historical Society's own records related to census information will be on display in the library reading room and staff will be available for questions.

Jessica Edgar graduated from William Jewell College with degrees in Secondary Education and History. She started with the National Archives at Kansas City in January 2007. As an archives specialist, she answers reference requests, assists in marketing and public programming, and works with data management within the Archives record tracking systems.

Cost: \$15 includes lunch from Café Baratta's. Registration is required. Register at the SHSI Library in Des Moines or Iowa City or by contacting Carol Kirsch, (319) 335-3936, carol-kirsch@uiowa.edu. Attendance is limited to fifty participants.

ETHNIC HERITAGE: From Slavery to Freedom

By Judy McClain, IGS African-American Interest Group Coordinator

Josiah Henson was born in 1789 to slave parents at Port Tobacco, Charles County, Maryland. His father was whipped and his ear cut off by a white overseer when the slave protested the molestation of his wife. He was sold to Alabama and never heard from again; his wife and Josiah were sold separately into slavery. Josiah nearly died of starvation and neglect until he was bought by his mother's new master.

At the age of twenty-two, Josiah married and became the overseer of a plantation owned by Isaac Riley. Henson later said Riley "was coarse and vulgar and utterly incapable of managing his affairs." Riley squandered money earned from plantation and the courts prepared to sell his slaves to pay his debts. In desperation, he begged Josiah to take the remaining twenty-one slaves, including Josiah's wife and two children, to a brother, Amos Riley, who had a farm in Davis County, Kentucky.

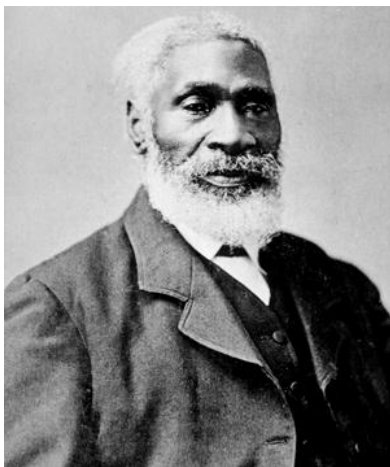
When they reached Kentucky, all the slaves but Josiah and his family were sold and he was sent back to Maryland to give the proceeds to Isaac Riley. On the way to Maryland, Henson met an itinerant preacher who helped him earn enough money to buy his freedom.

Using the funds he earned while in Maryland, Josiah attempted to buy that freedom, but Riley raised the price too high for Josiah to pay and sent Josiah back to Amos Riley in Kentucky. When he discovered that Amos Riley planned to send him South to be sold at the slave market, Josiah decided to take his family and flee to Canada.

Josiah Henson and his family fled the Riley plantation in Kentucky on foot in 1830, walking five miles to the Ohio River where a black farmer rowed them across to the Ohio side near Cincinnati. A captain on small sailing vessel loaded with grain offered Josiah a job; he helped load the grain and told the captain of his desire to reach Canada.

On the morning of 29 October 1830, Henson and his family, by now a wife and four children, arrived in Canada: "When my feet first touched the Canada shore, I threw myself on the ground, rolled in the sand, seized handfuls of it and kissed them and danced around, till, in the eyes of several who were present, I passed for a madman." [*Uncle Tom's Story of His Life: An Autobiography of the Rev. Josiah Henson from 1789 to 1876.*]

Finally a free man, Josiah did not forget the slaves of the South. With the aid of a family named Hathaway, he began an underground railroad through the Erie County region. A total of 113 slaves were rescued through Josiah and the Hathaways' efforts. He returned to Dresden, Ontario, where he established his family on a settlement and founded the first trade school in North America. The Dawn Institute, also known as the British American Institute, was for the advancement of fugitive slaves. Included were a rope factory, brickyard, saw mill, grain mill and a blacksmith shop. Slaves were urged to settle and benefit. Approximately 20,000 accepted the invitation. Meanwhile, Josiah continued to preach and act as a conductor on the Underground Railroad.



Josiah Henson
Photo courtesy of the Uncle Tom's Cabin
Historic Site

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ETHNIC HERITAGE *continued from page 7*

Josiah Henson traveled to England and Scotland and met with Queen Victoria to raise funds for his school. The school closed in the 1850s due to insufficient funds, but Josiah and his family remained on the land until his death. His autobiography, *The Life of Josiah Henson Formerly a Slave*, was published in 1849. Harriett Beecher Stowe, a little-known author, read the book and traveled to Dresden to interview Josiah. Her subsequent novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, was inspired by Josiah's life, and focused world attention on the brutality of slavery, perhaps helping to spur the beginning of the Civil War.

Josiah Henson died 7 May 1883 at the age of ninety-four years, leaving a family of eleven children, forty-four grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. He was the first person of African descent to be featured on a Canadian stamp. In 1999, the Government of Canada erected a plaque designating him as a Canadian of National Historical Significance.

Learn more:

Visit www.uncletomscabin.org/homepg.htm to read about the "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Canadian Historic Site.

Publication by Rev. Josiah Henson:

Uncle Tom's Story of His Life: An Autobiography of the Rev. Josiah Henson From 1789 to 1876. With a Preface by Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, and an Introductory Note by George Sturge London: Christian Age Office, 1876.

The Life of Josiah Henson, Formerly a Slave, Now an Inhabitant of Canada as Narrated by Himself. Boston: A. D. Phelps, 1849.

Truth Stranger Than Fiction. Father Henson's Story of His Own Life. Boston: John P. Jewett, 1858.

IGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



The Iowa Genealogical Society is home to a variety of special interest groups. All groups meet at the IGS Library, 628 East Grand Avenue, Des Moines:

German Interest Group meets on the **first Monday** of each month at 7 p.m.

African American Interest Group meets the **first Tuesday** of each month at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Judy McClain, c/o the IGS Library.

Italian American Interest Group meets on the **second Tuesday** of the month at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Kathy Foggia, c/o the IGS Library.

Irish Interest Group meets on the **third Tuesday** of each month at 7 p.m.. Contact Theresa Liewer, c/o the IGS Library for more information.

Norwegian Interest Group meets on the **fourth Tuesday** of the month (except December) at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Linda Greethurst, c/o the IGS Library.

Scots/Scots-Irish Interest Group meets the **second Thursday** of the month at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Nicoe Hart, c/o the IGS Library.

English-Welsh Interest Group meets on the **fourth Thursday** of the month at 7 p.m. at the For more information, contact: Nicoe Hart, c/o the IGS Library.

Legacy User Group meets the **third Thursday** of the month, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, contact Carlita Beltz, c/o the IGS Library.



HISTORIAN'S PERSPECTIVE: 1846 – IT WAS A VERY GOOD YEAR...FOR IOWA

By Edith Munro, IGS newsletter co-editor

Some years stand out in history: 1492, 1776, 1941. Maybe 1846 should be added to that list, and not just because Iowa became a state on December 28th. The line-up of major events that year is remarkable.

The first great wave of wagon trains headed west on the Oregon Trail (and the Donner Party got trapped in the Sierra Nevadas), while Brigham Young and the Mormons began their pilgrimage to Salt Lake City.

It was a big year for inventions and discoveries. W.T. Morton, an American dentist, was the first to use ether as an anesthetic, Elias Howe patented the sewing machine (and revolutionized women's lives), and John Deere invented the steel moldboard plow – immortalized later as “the plow that broke the plains.”

For most of us with Irish ancestry, it was a year of tragedy: the beginning of the Irish potato famine, which ultimately claimed a million lives and forced another million people to emigrate to countries like the U.S.

On the other hand, 1846 brought a wonderful gift for those who love history and science: The Smithsonian Institution was founded in Washington, D.C.

Conflicts over slavery were already rumbling, but the big national news in 1846 was the Mexican War, which ultimately added Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and bits of Colorado and Wyoming to the U.S. Its battles also provided names for proud Iowa counties: Palo Alto, Buena Vista, Cerro Gordo.

I'm especially intrigued by the stories of the wagon trains, maybe because they are so different from their portrayal by Hollywood.



Americans in 1846 were even more passionately prone to debate than they are now, so wagon train leaders weren't typically veteran Westerners like Ward Bond on the old television series. They were elected after a lot of speechmaking – and elections often went to the man who promised the easiest trip and provided the most whisky.

If the trip didn't go well, a train would stop, hold another round of speeches, and pick a replacement who often had no more experience than the first leader.

Nor were the settlers simple but hardy frontier people who were crack shots like Daniel Boone. It was expensive to fit out a wagon for the trip, so those with wagons were often from a fairly comfortable, middle class background. If you couldn't afford your own wagon and supplies, your best bet was to hire on as a servant for somebody who was well-off.

And about all those rifles and pistols: Many of the Oregon-bound travelers could have benefited from some basic training in handling guns – then they might not have shot each other so frequently. Accidental shootings were one of the major causes of death on the 1846 and 1847 wagon trains.

At that early stage, the western Indian tribes didn't yet see settlers as a threat but as an easy source for horses and cattle, especially since inexperienced settlers were often too disorganized to set a guard over the livestock at night.

Even the Hollywood image of Papa striding west with his Kentucky rifle on his arm while Mama, the kids, and Granny rode in the wagon isn't quite right. There was so much gear to haul that there was rarely room in the wagon for anyone to ride (at least at the beginning of the trip).

If you're interested in knowing more about the world of 1846 and the lives your Iowa ancestors were living, check out *The Year of Decision 1846*, by Bernard DeVoto, available from Amazon or Barnes & Noble. It's an older history (1961) but still very solid. You can dip into the parts you want or read the whole thing if you're into details.

SAVING FACE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DONORS *continued from page 4*

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*Additional donor listings will appear in
future newsletters.*

Hawkeye Heritage News

By Shirley Woodruff, IGS Secretary

The latest issue of the *Hawkeye Heritage*, published in February, includes a variety of interesting stories:

- ◆ An article about the second oldest person in the world and in the U.S.: Dina Manfredini.
- ◆ A section on "Where were you when President Kennedy was Shot?"
- ◆ Carl Nollen discusses all of the cemeteries in Mahaska County that he has personally visited.
- ◆ Sue Claman has an article about using directories in research.
- ◆ We also have a section for pictures with no homes, entitled "Who do you Think They Are?"

The *Hawkeye Heritage*, published quarterly, is IGS's premier source for Iowa-specific genealogy, history, methodology, and resources of enduring value. Submissions are welcome!

Please help IGS to better serve our members by responding to the following questions:

1. Do you read the *Hawkeye*?
2. If yes, what interests you most in the *Hawkeye*?

Submit articles and survey responses to Shirley Woodruff: shirley@yostonline.com, or to the IGS office: 628 East Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50309-1924.

2012 *Hawkeye Heritage* publication schedule:

April - June issue: Articles due 24 April to be printed by 15 May 2012.

Download and read current and past issues:

<http://www.iowagenealogy.org/library/collections/publications-2/#hawkeye>



TIPS AND TECHNIQUES: Federal Census Records-- Quarterback Strategies for Your Research

By Alice Hoyt Veen, IGS newsletter editor

With the release of the 1940 federal census in April, there's a renewed interest in census research and the treasure trove of information these records hold for family historians.

Every genealogist should explore the decennial federal census to trace their ancestors. Like any good football quarterback, you must have a thorough understanding of the game to develop an effective strategy. Here are a few tips to enhance your research.

Basics--Go Long

Locate your ancestor and all his family on every available census, beginning with the most recent and moving back through time. Don't overlook state census records-- they are great for filling in the "gaps," especially between 1880 and 1900; and non-population schedules, including agricultural, manufacturing and mortality.

It's helpful to create a chart that includes basic source citations and illustrates each census year for your ancestor. Compare and contrast the findings. Be sure to record every single bit of information on each schedule. Excel spreadsheets are a useful tool for this type of study. Your genealogy software may also provide a tool for comparative analysis.

Be sure to make a hard copy or digital image of each relevant census page. You'll find yourself returning to these later as new information develops from your research.



Photo courtesy of the U.S. Census Bureau

Details-- Go Deep

Questions and Instructions

Every census schedule asks different questions; it's important to know what those questions are and to understand the instructions the census takers received to guide them in their work. Copies of the written instructions and the questions asked are available at the U.S. Census Bureau website: <http://www.census.gov/history/>.



Handwriting. Get acquainted with the census taker named at the top of the page. Study their handwriting over a number of entries to learn their idiosyncrasies and to mitigate errors in deciphering their handwriting.

Page Numbers. Census schedule pages were originally numbered by the census taker, with extra copies made in some years. Later, when the census was bound, the pages were usually renumbered with a hand stamp. That's why you may see two or even more page numbers on any given sheet.

You will want to track down and compare any duplicate copies of the census--they may be housed at county courthouses, state archives or at the National Archives. That's when knowing those alternate page numbers will come in handy-- the stamped number may not exist on the duplicates.

Dates. Each census schedule contains two key dates. Knowledge of these dates will help you more accurately calculate ages and personal information:

Official census date. Each census had a specific "as of" date that the schedule was based on. No matter when the census taker arrived at house, all the information collected is "as of" that date.

Actual date of enumeration. Written by the census taker at the top of the page, this is the date the census taker actually began collecting the information recorded on that page. It might have taken him longer than a day to finish the page, but it's close to when the enumeration occurred.

--continued on page 12

TIPS & TECHNIQUES *continued from p. 11*

Example: The 1920 census “as of” date was 1 January 1920. If the census taker arrived at John and Mary Jones’s residence on 5 January 1920, and John had died 2 January, he was still enumerated because he was alive “as of” 1 January. Likewise, their child born on 3 January is not enumerated, because he was not alive on 1 January. Are you confused yet? Think how the census taker must have felt!

Community Context. Identify and extract information for all area individuals of the same surname. That means studying each page of entire neighborhoods; examining enumeration districts, wards and townships. Note who your ancestor’s neighbors were and where they originated--they may be related or have migrated with your family.

Who are the community’s professionals? Doctors, lawyers, ministers--as your ancestor interacted with his community, records were created that may still exist.

Locate your ancestor’s residence on a local map --were they close to a city ward, township, county or state dividing line? Did those boundaries change over time? Your research will need to cross those lines to be complete.

Finally, learn to identify and work through the three main types of errors found in census records:

Omissions--of individuals, households, and sometimes entire communities.

Duplications--sometimes you’re blessed with double enumerations. If your ancestor was not living at his home address, he may have been unintentionally counted twice. Record and compare both.

Factual errors--age, ethnicity, race, birthplace, etc. There’s no way to know who answered the questions, if they were answered truthfully or if they were recorded properly. That’s why taking the long view is so important to the success of your research.

Remember, “go long, go deep” and you’ll go far with your census research.

Census Resources in Print

Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 2000.

Thorndale, William and William Dollarhide. *Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790 - 1920.* Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1987.

Szucs, Loretto Dennis and Sandra Hargreaves Luecking. *The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy.* Provo, Utah: Ancestry Publishing, 2006. See Chapter 5: “Census Records.”

Census Resources Online

U.S. Census Bureau: www.census.gov/history/ Census history by decades, enumerator instructions and questionnaires, even historical photographs make this a wonderful resource.

National Archives

<http://www.archives.gov/research/census/>
Learn more about the census and census resources available on microfilm.

State Data Center of Iowa

<http://www.iowadatecenter.org>
Modern and historical statistical information about Iowans and the census.

FamilySearch.org

<http://www.familysearch.org> Indexes and images for many census years, including the 1890 Veterans Schedule. Best of all, it’s FREE!

HeritageQuest.com

<http://www.heritagequestonline.com>
Search indexes and digital images by subscription only; many public libraries provide free access via your library card.

Ancestry.com

<http://www.ancestry.com/charts/census.aspx>
Download free blank census forms for every decennial census year, including forms for the 1850 and 1860 Slave Schedules, and the 1890 Veterans Schedule. Census images by subscription.

USGenWeb Project

<http://usgwarchives.net/census/>
Census Archives are categorized by state, and they are hit-and-miss, depending on whether or not a volunteer has posted your particular county and state. Some are just indexed; some have actual page images, all for free.

IGS CALENDAR

All programs & activities take place at the IGS Library, 628 East Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa, unless otherwise noted.

MARCH 2012

Thursday, March 8

A Library is a Library--Unless It's a SPECIAL Library. 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Shari Snelling, SHSI, instructor. Learn more about State Historical libraries and how they differ from the public and academic libraries you may be familiar with. Preregistration required. Cost: \$5 IGS members/\$10 non-members.

Saturday- Sunday, March 17 - 18 Luck of the Irish Research Weekend!

March 17: Beginning Genealogy

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Theresa Liewer, instructor.
Learn the basics to begin your family history project.
Pre-registration suggested. Free.



March 17: Irish Online Resources

1:30 – 3:30 p.m. Theresa Liewer, instructor.
Will you be “Wearin’ the Green” on St. Patrick’s Day? We’ve got a class to help you learn more about your Irish ancestors online—resources that ten years ago we could only dream about. Pre-registration required.
Cost: \$5 IGS members/ \$10 non-members.

March 17 – 18: Luck of the Irish Research Slumber Party

4 p.m. Saturday through 6 a.m. Sunday. Space is limited; pre-registration is required.
Cost: \$25 per person includes a light supper.

Saturday, March 31

Digging for Treasure Online at Public Libraries. 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Debi Chase, instructor. The public libraries hold genealogical treasure if you just know how to find it. This class will show you some of the things available and how to find more. When we’re finished you will be able to seek out treasures of your own. You’ll be surprised at what you can find. Preregistration required.
Cost: IGS members \$5/ non-members \$10.

APRIL 2012

Saturday, April 14

Spring Conference: *Picture This!*

Silent Auction

West Wing IGS Library

8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Details on page 14.

Thursday, April 26 - Friday, April 27

Garage Sale Fundraiser

West Wing IGS Library

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily. Donation items needed!

LOOKING AHEAD

Lives & Times returns in **June** with Phil Parks, who will present a series of four lectures on Prohibition. All programs at 7 p.m. Free; donations appreciated.

June 6: "Drinks for Everyone"

June 13: "I Do Not Think I'll Ever Drink"

June 20: "Let's Sing It Into The Constitution"

June 27: "Where's the Nearest Speakeasy?"

News from the Family History Library

Due to the increase in the price of raw microfilm stock, the decreasing availability of this product on the market, and higher costs to ship microfilm, it has become necessary for Family Search to increase the price of film loans in family history centers. As of 15 February 2012 the following prices will be in effect for film loans in the United States and Canada:

- ◆ Short-term film loan \$7.50
- ◆ Short-term film loan extension \$7.50
- ◆ Extended film loan \$18.75
- ◆ Microfiche loan \$4.75

There are no labor costs for doing the films. The films are created by volunteers, packaged by volunteers and sent to Family History Centers via USPS or FedEx.

For more information about IGS programs and activities, or to register for classes, contact IGS: 515-276-0287; igs@iowagenealogy.org, or visit the IGS website: www.iowagenealogy.org.

SPRING CONFERENCE: *PICTURE THIS!*

Saturday, 14 April 2012
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
West Wing IGS Library,
628 East Grand Avenue,
Des Moines, Iowa 50309



Special Guest: Eric Basir

Eric Basir owns a photo retouching studio in Evanston, Illinois. He serves the genealogical community as a teacher and author of two books and “Ask the Retoucher,” a video blog and column for genealogical publications. He recently published a full photo restoration course.

Schedule of Activities:

8 a.m. - 9 a.m. Registration and vendor browsing.

9:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Photo Restoration from Start to Finish

Learn to scan, restore and print a photo like the pros from beginning to end. Audience members are encouraged to bring photos. Eric will select an audience photo for demonstration. Includes scanning and restoration.



10:45 - noon. Dating Photos and Photo/Document Software for Genealogists

You don't need to “pirate” a copy of Photoshop or spend money to work on your pictures. Eric will review the best free and for-pay photo editing programs available. Are you curious about the date of a photo? Learn some simple, but important tips to help you identify that photo.

Noon – 1:30 p.m. Lunch.

Included with your conference registration!

1:30 – 2:45 p.m. Photo/Document Preservation

The best thing you can do for family photographs and documents is to avoid restoring them! Eric shares tips to maintain the quality condition of your photos. Bring your questions and originals.

3:30 – 4:45 p.m. Fixing Color Photos with Adobe Photoshop

Family collections are full of fading color photographs. This workshop provides useful techniques for restoring lost color, including colorization of black and white photos. Audience photos will be used for demonstrations.

Cost for this exceptional full-day conference: \$65 IGS members/\$75 non-members. Register before March 14th and receive an early bird discount of \$5! Conference fee includes lunch.

Find IGS publications online

The Iowa Genealogical Society newsletter arrives in member mailboxes every two months, but did you know it is also available online?



Visit the IGS website publications page: www.iowagenealogy.org/library/collections/publications-2/ to access the current issue of this newsletter in full color.

You'll also find current and past issues of the *Hawkeye Heritage* and information about many other fine IGS publications.

SPRING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Conference fee includes lunch.

Early Registration (Before March 14)

_____ IGS Member x \$60 = _____
= _____
_____ Non-member x \$70 = _____

Late Registration (after March 14)

_____ IGS Member x \$65 = _____
= _____
_____ Non-member x \$75 = _____

IGS MEMBERSHIP

I want to join IGS, which entitles me to the above member registration rate:

Individual \$35 = _____ Family \$45 = _____

Check enclosed.

Please charge my credit card in the amount of \$ _____

(we add \$2.50 for credit card handling fee)

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E-mail: _____

Complete this form and mail it with your credit card information or check payable to:

Iowa Genealogical Society, Spring Conference
628 E Grand Ave
Des Moines, IA 50309-1924

Register online: www.iowagenealogy.org . For more information contact IGS:
515-276-0287; igs@iowagenealogy.org .



IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

March 2012

The Iowa Genealogical Society Newsletter is a publication of the Iowa Genealogical Society. Members receive the newsletter as part of their membership.

The editor invites individual members, member chapters, regional representatives and the public to submit articles, reviews, chapter news and program information for publication.

Material may be emailed to the newsletter editor:

ahoytveen@iowatelecom.net

or mailed:

Alice Hoyt Veen
c/o IGS Library
628 East Grand Ave.
Des Moines, Iowa
50309-1924

To have your mailed submission returned, please enclosed a postage-paid SASE.

The deadline for submissions to be included in the May newsletter is 31 March 2012.

NOTE: Please check the mailing label for your membership expiration date.



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