

NOVEMBER 2013

Iowa Genealogical Society



PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Yes, I am now your past President. I've been fighting health problems for some time and it became time to put my health before IGS. Besides I had to admit that I was no longer doing a good job as President. I could only pray that members would agree to take the Vice President positions as write-ins and provide a successor to the position I would be leaving open. Bless Theresa Liewer who stepped

up again to take the 1st VP knowing that at the end of the annual meeting, she would be President.

Marcia Guffey agreed to accept the write-in at 2nd VP with our two Denny's (Davies & Allen) acting as back up. Tom Newell is our new Treasurer. So after almost a year we have a full slate of officers. How? Richard Wolfe agreed to become 1st VP (appointed by Theresa at the end of the meeting). I'm hoping that with rest, less stress and a change in the medication mix I will be able to tackle projects at IGS dear to my heart.. Remember that lots of hands spread the workload of building and maintaining an outstanding state society which is a boon to its members and its chapters.

One other item. At the FGS conference Cindy Howell mentioned someone from Webster County chapter that was having difficulty setting up a website for their chapter. If you know who that is, ask them to contact the Denny's at IGS for assistance. Dennis Allen set up the Warren County Historical Site sometime ago and the Warren County Genealogical Society website this year complete with member only pages. He also trained their webmaster who now maintains and makes changes to the website.

--Regards, Nicoe



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IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

628 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50309-1924

Phone: (515) 276-0287

Email:
igs@iowagenealogy.org

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 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President
Theresa Liewer

1st Vice President
Richard Wolfe

2nd Vice President
Marcia Guffey

Secretary
Barbara Hammer

Treasurer
Tom Newell

IGS STAFF

Administrative Assistant
Debi Iseminger Chase

Assistant Librarians
Susan Claman
Judy McClain

IGS EDITORIAL STAFF

Hawkeye Heritage
Susan Claman

IGS Newsletter
Debi Iseminger Chase

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Theresa Liewer, IGS President



As I write this, it's only been a week since the annual meeting, where I was asked to accept the office of first vice president based on a write-in vote. Because Nicoe had announced her intention to resign as president, that would mean under the IGS by-laws I would automatically be "promoted" to president. There was some quick soul-searching before I agreed.

For many of you, as well as for me, this is a little bit of *déjà vu* all over again. I served as president from 2005 to 2008 in what was truly a financial crisis for IGS. I'm stepping in now under much different circumstances but there are still challenges to be faced. Last year there was a strategic plan developed that needs to be implemented. We need to expand our membership base by offering more benefits to members and by publicizing what those benefits are. The list of "we need to" seems to be endless. And, of course, there appears to be a leak in the West Wing. As I said, *déjà vu*.

I am very fortunate that Rich Wolfe, Marcia Guffey and Tom Newell have agreed to also serve as officers with Barb Hammer still on board as Secretary. This will be an exciting time with lots of potential. All we can ask is that you stay tuned.

Nicoe Hart deserves a heart-felt thank you from all of us for her service these past three years. She has assured me that we will continue to see her at the library and I know that I will be calling on her to help through this transition.

Keep on searching for those ancestors and let us know if there is more that we can do to help.

Theresa Liewer

LIBRARY NEWS: Cataloging Corner

By Diane Densmore, Library Acquisitions



We have added nearly 465 books to the shelves this year.

The new Iowa books are:

General: *Prairie Voices: Iowa's Pioneering Women;*

Iowa Inside Out;

Iowa Welcomes You to the Hospitality and Beauties of the "Hawkeye State"

Black Hawk: *History of Your [Black Hawk] County [Iowa] Parks*

Bremer: *Pioneer Days of Bremer County, Iowa*

Butler: *Foxfire History/Bicentennial 1975; Atlas of Butler County, Iowa, 1965;*

Atlas of Butler County, Iowa, 1976

Cedar: *Lost Cedar County, Vanished Towns of the Cedar Valley;*

Cedar County [Iowa] Historical Review, 2013

Clarke: *Historic Hopeville and Vicinity*

Jefferson: *Iowa Fairfield 'Ledger' Obituary Index, 2000-2012*

Marshall: *Green Mountain, Centennial Year, 1983; Marshall County, Iowa, Tax List, 1855*

Some names in the new family history books are: Byrn, Congdon, Donaldson, Duffield, Hummel, Margretz, Meckley, Metzger, Moxley, Ressler, Rus, Sewell, Thomas, Yost

Books from other states by the county:

Illinois: LaSalle

Ohio: Clermont, Hamilton

Other titles to look for: *You Can Write Your Family History* by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack, *The Hidden Half of the Family: A Sourcebook for Women's Genealogy* by Christina Kassabian Scafer: *Dressed for the Photographer: Ordinary Americans and Fashion, 1840-1900* by Joan Severa and *Fanning's Illustrated Gazetteer of the United States...from the Census of 1850;* and *Webster's Geographical Dictionary.*

Be sure to 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.

IGS WEBSITE – CATALOG ANNOUNCEMENT

The card catalog on our website is now searchable! A big THANK YOU to Dennis Davies for making this possible. Click on the "Library" tab at the top of our homepage, then on "Card Catalog" on the dropdown menu. Find the category or state you want to search and click on it. When it loads, a search box will appear. Use general words, such as "Calhoun County" to find the books with those words in the title. You can also search for the author's name, if known.

FALL CONFERENCE FOLLOW-UP

Thanks to all who purchased books from the IGS book sale at the 2013 Fall Conference. Your free-will donations totaled \$82.00 towards the purchase of new books. I will soon order six books that were referenced by Beth Foulk in her lectures that we do not have at IGS.

Using FamilySearch

By Debi Iseminger Chase

For all of you that use FamilySearch all of those wonderful records come about because of the work of thousands of indexers all over the world. If you're not currently an indexer I suggest you try it. It's a lot of fun and genealogists all over the world will be grateful for all your work.

There are projects that are very easy and some that are much harder. You get to choose what to work on and if you try something that you think is beyond your skill level you can return for someone else to index. Believe me, been there done that.

Changes are in store for indexing there will be changes starting at the end of this year and through the next. One of the changes I'm looking forward to is that you will no longer have to download special software to do indexing. You will be able to use any computer with internet access. The following excerpt is from

The Future of Indexing

November 1, 2013 By [Scott Flinders](#)

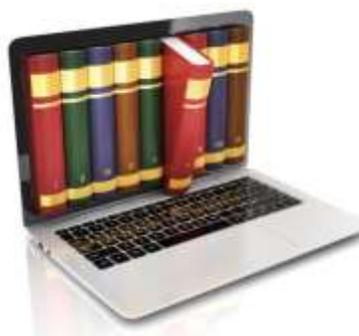
We are so grateful to the hundreds of thousands of dedicated volunteers who willingly give their time to help provide indexed records on FamilySearch.org. Your efforts are very much appreciated. We understand that you contribute while patiently working through limitations in the current FamilySearch indexing system. While the current system has done a wonderful job of supporting a growing workforce and allowing us to index hundreds of millions of records each year, it is due for some major renovations.

We are happy to report that we are moving ahead on a new indexing system—and what's even more exciting is that you will soon begin to see some of the results. A new indexing website will be launched later this year, followed by changes in the new indexing system in 2014. This new system will incorporate a long list of improvements, such as (1) enhanced project selection, (2) the ability to join multiple groups, (3) achievements and recognition, (4) Facebook integration, and (5) an improved beginner experience.

The whole blog entry can be found at <https://familysearch.org/blog/en/updates-family-history-library-catalog/>

New Updates to the Family History Library Catalog

October 31, 2013 By [Lynne L. VanWagenen](#)



The new, online Family History Library Catalog has several features that users have been waiting for. These changes should help make it easier to use the catalog and help searches be more productive.

Display Additional Places

In the old catalog, when you land on a place that does not have any titles, you are shown a list of similar places that do have titles. For example, if you search for New Amsterdam and find nothing, the old catalog suggests you look in New York instead.

The new catalog now has this same feature.

The new catalog also shows the place notes, the “also known as” place names, and the “part of” places and “places within,” as the old catalog does.

You can read the rest of the blog and see examples at <https://familysearch.org/blog/en/updates-family-history-library-catalog/>

NEW IGS BILLBOARD

Due to a generous donation from one of our members the Iowa Genealogical Society will have a billboard moving around Des Moines for the next year. The billboard has been seen on Fluor Dr. Send an e-mail to IGS if you spot it somewhere else around the city.

The people at  Clear Channel Outdoor worked with IGS to create the billboard that you see below. IGS

has always been the best kept secret in Des Moines. Hopefully this new billboard will help spread the news of all the wonderful things the Iowa Genealogical Society has to offer.



THE 10 MOST WANTED BOOKS

It has been suggested that we reactivate the “10 Most Wanted Books” list. This effort helps IGS obtain books that may be otherwise cost prohibitive. If you know of a book that we should have, please add it to the list by notifying us in person, by email or by snail-mail. Once a list of 10 is established, no more books may be added to the list, until one is bought. Donations of any amount are welcomed. Donations will be added to book #1, unless otherwise indicated.

We will start with the following:

1. *The Pension Roll of 1835* by U.S. Govt. (4 volumes) \$120.00
2. *18th Century White Slaves* by Meaders \$120.00
3. *History of Jackson County, Iowa 1910* (2 volumes) \$70.00

The first two books were referenced by Beth Foulk in her lectures at the 2013 Fall Conference. The third is a county history book for which we have the index, but not the books.

Look for the list and donation progress when you're at IGS.

SAVINGS AVAILABLE TO IGS MEMBERS

The Iowa Genealogical Society is a charter member of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) and our membership in FGS provides benefits in turn to our members. FGS has partnered with Dell to provide discounts to products sold through the Dell website to FGS member societies' members, their families, and their friends

The FGS member store can be found at www.dell.com/mpp/FGS or reached by telephone at 1-800-695-8133. You will need this ID code once you are ready to purchase:

SS131372490.

You'll find excellent discounts on more than just laptops, tablets, and desktop computers. You can shop for printers, cameras, projectors, smartphones, and even televisions with substantial savings. You'll find Dell brand products as well as Samsung, Nikon, Canon, Microsoft, and more. Just in time for Christmas shopping - have fun.

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER OOPS!

Gretchen Triplett was left out of the list of state fair volunteers in the last newsletter. Sorry Gretchen. IGS could not exist if not for all of the wonderful volunteers.

The Danish Immigrant Museum is now...



museum of
danish america

2212 WASHINGTON STREET
ELK HORN, IA 51531

PLEASE GIVE US YOUR CURRENT E-MAIL

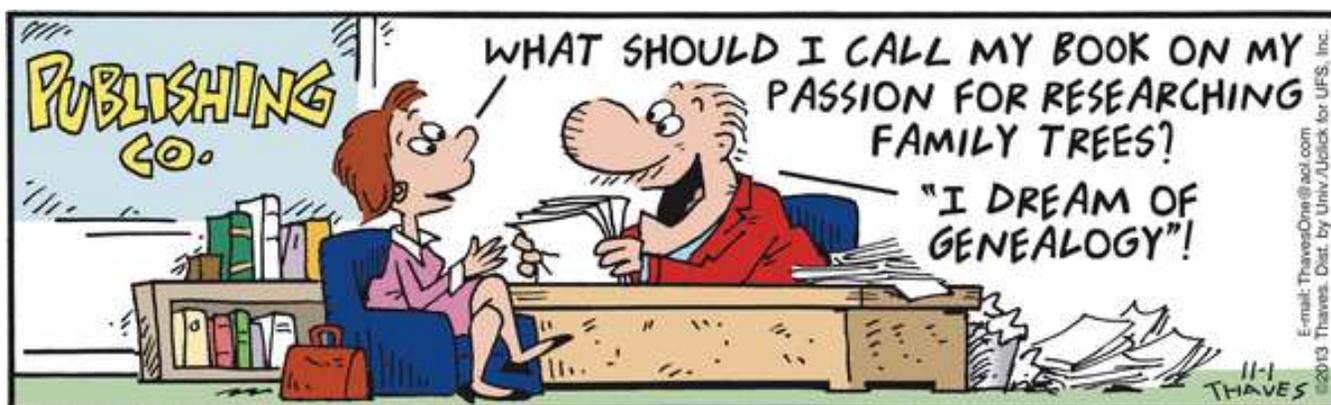
IGS has many member e-mails that are no longer active. Having your e-mail allows us to notify you quickly about special events or other happenings at IGS. It also ensures you get the e-news and newsletter as well as notification about the Hawkeye Heritage.

Please send an e-mail to IGS at igs@iowagenealogy.org to give us your current e-mail. Be sure and give us your name too so we know whose e-mail it is.

Postal rates will soon be going up and it takes a lot of work for our volunteers to send out a paper newsletter. If you don't have e-mail or just want a paper copy that's fine, you can still get it that way.

But if you don't really care which way you get it please send us your e-mail and a request to change to electronic newsletter.

Usually you will receive the electronic version a little earlier than the paper version, and it saves IGS a lot of money.



IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

IOWA VITAL RECORD PRICE CHANGE

Beginning January 1, 2014, the fee for a search and certified copy of birth, marriage and death certificates from the state or county registrar will go from \$15 to \$20. On or after July 1, 2019, the fee will revert to \$15. The announcement by the state says that "the additional moneys generated by this time-limited fee increase will be used to support the development and implementation of the Iowa Vital Events System. This includes the electronic registration and issuance of new events and the conversion of historical events into one system to manage the Civil Registry."

Remember that the State Archives has an index to death certificates by county online at www.iowahistory.org under the "Library and Special Collections" link. The indices cover the period for each county from the end of the microfilmed records through the 75 year privacy period, currently 1937. You may request a non-certified copy of a death certificate from the State Archives for 25 cents a page if you request the copy in person at the State Historical Library. If you cannot come to Des Moines, contact the researchers at IGS for help.

You may also get non-certified copies of vital records directly from the county recorder's office. Check with them for pricing.

IGS HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

The Iowa Genealogical Society library will be closed November 28th and 29th for the Thanksgiving holiday.

The Iowa Genealogical Society library will close December 24th at 4 p.m. and reopen January 2nd 2014 at 10 a.m.



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

English/Welsh Interest group will not meet in November or December due to the holidays.

Legacy Users group will not meet in December.

Norwegian Interest group will not meet in December.

RootsMagic Users group will not meet in December.

German Interest Group Dec 2 - Will meet in the west wing of the library. **Social time at 6 pm, potluck at 6:30 pm, program at 7:30 pm.**



IGS 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.

Italian American Interest Group meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Irish Interest Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Norwegian Interest Group meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month (except December) at 7 p.m.

Scots/Scots-Irish Interest Group meets the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m.

English-Welsh Interest Group meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at 7 p.m.

Legacy User Group meets the third Thursday of the month, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

RootsMagic Interest Group meets the fourth Saturday of the month, from 10 a.m. to noon.

IGS CALENDAR

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

NOVEMBER 2013

Saturday, November 16

Using FamilySearch

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Debi Chase, instructor. Preregistration required.

Cost: \$5 IGS members/\$10 non-members.

This class will introduce you to the different parts of FamilySearch and show you how to get better results when searching this fantastic free web site.

Beginning Genealogy. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Linda Greethurst, instructor.

Preregistration required. Free.

Find out how easy it is to get started in this popular and fascinating pursuit. Your family has a story to tell.

DECEMBER 2013

Saturday, December 7

Tidbits, Odds & Ends 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Linda Greethurst & Team, instructor. Preregistration required.

Cost: \$5 IGS members/\$10 non-members.

This class will cover lots of things that every genealogist should know.

The Using FamilySearch class is already full. **Those of you who signed up don't forget to come.** For those of you that would like to take the class I can offer it again early next year. Please e-mail or call the library and I will put your name on the list. Who knew it would be so popular.

If you have a class you would like us to offer **please let us know.** The schedule hasn't been set for next year. If you would like to teach a class let us know that too. IGS is always looking for more people to teach classes.

ANOTHER FUN IGS FALL CONFERENCE

The reports are in. A good time was had by all at the 2013 IGS Fall Conference. We had 133 attendees, many of them first timers. The winner of the quilt was Sue Claman. She was a very happy winner. The quilt raised \$732 for IGS.

One of our speakers, Bob Haskins, unfortunately was ill **and unable to give his session on DNA.** Hopefully we'll be able to reschedule some time in the future. Beth Foulk did a great job and everyone enjoyed hearing Dr. David Gradwohl speak on Buxton, Iowa.

It was a learning experience for the staff too. Who knew that jewelry could keep the microphone from working?

Beth Foulk



Ricki King

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.

Iowa Genealogical Society Membership Application

Membership Benefits:

- Free access to IGS research library
- Bimonthly Newsletter
- Admission discounts to all IGS classes & events
- Discounted hourly research rate

Individual: \$35 Family: \$45

New membership Renewal

I would like to make a tax-deductible gift of \$_____.

My company has a matching gift program. Company name:

My gift is in Memory/Honor (circle one) of

My gift may be best utilized for:

Building Fund \$_____

General Fund \$_____

Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Day phone: _____

Email: _____

Check enclosed.

Please charge my credit card in the amount of
\$_____ (+ \$2.50 credit card handling fee)

Visa MasterCard Discover

Account No. _____

Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

Mail to: Iowa Genealogical Society,
628 E Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50309-1924



IOWA GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

November 2013

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

Individual members, member chapters, regional representatives and the public are invited to submit articles, reviews, chapter news and program information for publication.

Contact IGS for more information or to submit your article:

Iowa Genealogical Society
628 E Grand Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50309-1924
515-276-0287
igs@iowagenealogy.org

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

OUR DISPLAY CASE IS LONELY

This is how the IGS display case looked all through October. Not very interesting and certainly not very attractive. I have a cookbook collection going into the display for January. But not one person has volunteered for the rest of 2014. I know you all have stuff, after all you are genealogists. It's a given.

Give a call to the library or send an e-mail and volunteer to take a month. Think of an idea, set it up and a month later take it down. You can set up and take down any time the library is open. Get those thinking caps on and give me a call.



2014 IGS SPRING TECH CONFERENCE

The conference will be held on Saturday, April 12. Once again it will be held in the west wing of the IGS library at 628 E Grand Ave, Des Moines, IA.

Mark your calendars, you won't want to miss out.

More information will be coming soon.

PRESERVING THE PAST & ENRICHING THE FUTURE