

MAY 2014

Iowa Genealogical Society

WHY SHOULD I JOIN A GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY?

Every day visitors come through the door at IGS. Sometimes they are longtime members other times they are visitors who are curious to see what IGS has to offer. They may just be starting to search for their families or they may have been researching on Ancestry.com for a year or so.

A recent visitor told me he had his family tree back to the 1600's and it had **only** taken him a day. I've been looking for 37 years; I must be doing something wrong.

Does IGS have anything in your library that's not on Ancestry.com? In case you're wondering the answer is yes.

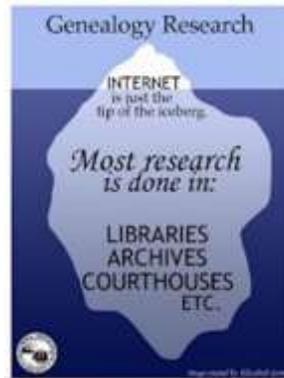
Only gray haired little old ladies do genealogy. These days at IGS we have more men researching and most aren't gray or old.

My name is _____ can you tell me where in the library my family info is?

Why do I need to belong to a genealogical society such as IGS or one of our chapters? Often we will know the answers to your questions. If we don't know we can offer other avenues to try or tell you who to contact. We already know the joy of family history and want to help others discover the excitement of learning about their own families.

If you've used any of the books in the Iowa section of the library you should be grateful to the various genealogical societies across the state. Most of the marriage indexes, cemetery records, census indexes and county history indexes have been done by members of genealogical societies; as well as many other projects. When state and county governments decide that records are no longer needed it's often the local genealogical societies that have them from being destroyed.

Yes a lot of wonderful information is available online. But that's only the tip of the iceberg. IGS and your local genealogical groups have records that may not be found anywhere else. They also know about the local records that are often hidden away in communities that only the locals know about. Your membership dollars and participation in IGS and other genealogical groups allow them to help preserve family history for generations to come.



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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

Executive Director
Jennifer Ewing

Administrative Assistant
Debi Iseminger Chase

Assistant Librarians
Susan Claman
Judy McClain

IGS EDITORIAL STAFF

Hawkeye Heritage
Susan Claman

IGS Newsletter
Debi Iseminger Chase

Cover Photo: Tip of the Iceberg
poster from the California
Genealogical Society and Library
Oakland, California

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Theresa Liewer, IGS President

As I write my comments for this newsletter, it appears that spring may actually be here to stay although I feel I may be tempting fate by saying it. I hope that you made genealogical progress over the winter – either in your research or in organization of your records or maybe even in getting that family history written. Now you can start thinking about road trips – to cemeteries, court houses, libraries, family reunions – wherever the road may take you.



We've had a busy two months since the last newsletter. Our new executive director, Jennifer Ewing, started with us on March 17th and you can read her comments elsewhere in the newsletter. We've had several very successful day-long conferences plus short classes, visits from the Boy Scouts and local high schools, a remote broadcast from a local radio station. Every day can bring a new adventure at the Iowa Genealogical Society.

In the last newsletter, I mentioned that we wanted to help local societies with programs if we could. And some of them have taken us up on the offer. I will be at Wright County at the end of April, Story County in May and Greene County in June. North Central Iowa Genealogical Society in Mason City has asked for a speaker in the fall. Dennis Allen, another IGS volunteer, will be on the speaker circuit as well. We also are working with local organizations on presentations. Several volunteers are doing an eight week series of genealogical classes through the Wellness program at EMC Insurance in Des Moines. Ron Gruber, an IGS regional representative, is planning a class with the Stuart public library and Linda Greethurst, a member of the Education Committee, is planning one with the Des Moines public library. One of my more challenging presentations earlier this year was on basic Jewish genealogical research for the Des Moines Jewish Historical Society at Caspe Terrace. So please, keep those requests coming.

I hope to see some of you on the bus trip to Kansas City in June. **The library there has no idea how much fun they're in for. In the meantime, you all take care and may you find that illusive great-great grandparent.**

Theresa Liewer

LIBRARY NEWS: Cataloging Corner

By Diane Densmore, Library Acquisitions



One hundred twenty three (123) books were added to our shelves in February and March.

New Iowa books:

Franklin: *Index to "Franklin County History, 1852-1970"*

Polk: *Polk County, Iowa, Lincoln Township Cemeteries, Unmarked Burials & Corrections for Some Gravemarkers*;

Fowler Funeral Home, Des Moines, Iowa, Book 1, 12 Jan 1930-21 Dec 1933;

Fowler Funeral Home, Des Moines, Iowa, Book 6, 7 Mar 1946-23 Dec 1952;

Gone But Not Forgotten, Part VII: Elkhart Cemetery, Elkhart Township, Polk County, Iowa

Sioux: *W.P.A. Grave Records*

New city directories:

Marshalltown: 1963, 1971, 1979, 1991

New Iowa county plat map books:

Boone: 1963 & 1999

Chickasaw: 1976

Other states and their counties:

Illinois: Fulton

Indiana: Warren, Wayne

Kentucky: Warren

Missouri: Greene

Irish books:

Ordnance Survey Memoirs of Ireland – a set of 40 books plus an index book, generously donated by the Irish Special Interest Group;

Researching Down ancestors, A Practical Guide for the Family and Local Historian;

Ulster Emigration to Colonial America, 1718-1775;

From Ulster to America, The Scotch-Irish Heritage of American English;

The Irish Family and Local History Handbook 2;

Tracing Your Irish Family History on the Internet;

How to Trace Family History in Northern Ireland

New family history books: Baker, Cox, Chingren, Danels/Daniels, Gregg, Johnson, McAfee, Zmolek

Other titles:

Whos' Who in America, 2004 (in 2 volumes)

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.

Did you know that if you're an AARP member, you can get a 30% discount on your Ancestry subscription? When you renew or sign up for a new membership, call Ancestry Member Services at 1-800-514-4645 and tell them that you would like the discount. Be prepared to give your AARP member number. If you've recently renewed or are just part way through the year, you might be able to apply the discount retroactively.

REPRINTED PUBLICATIONS

Recently, we learned that not all of our IGS publications of Iowa county information have copies on our shelves. An inventory is in progress and these omissions will be reprinted and cataloged. The following is a list by county that has been done so far: A complete list of our publications for sale may be found on our website; click on the “shop” tab.

Adams	Cemeteries (10 volumes)
Black Hawk	Census, 1850 Federal
Buchanan	1850 Federal Census
Calhoun	Early Marriages, 1856-1883
Cedar	Farm Directory, 1937
Cerro Gordo	1860 Census
Cerro Gordo	Marriages, 1855-1880
Clarke	Census, 1850 Federal
Jefferson	Birth Records July 1880-Dec 1899 (2 volumes)
Jefferson	Deaths, Jul 1880-Dec 1899
Jefferson	Death Records, Jan 1900 thru Jun 1919 (4 volumes + index)
Jefferson	Death Records, Jun 1921 thru Dec 1939 (2 volumes)
Jefferson	Deaths, Mortality Listings of Dr. J.M. Shaffer, 1852-1862
Jefferson	Newspaper Death Notices, 1847-1872
Jefferson	Probates, Will Index, Nov 1851-Dec 1927. . .
Marshall	1850 Federal Census
Mills	Marriages, 1880-1885
Mills	Marriages, 1880-1885, Men’s Names
Mills	Marriages, 1880-1885, Women’s Names
Page	Census, 1850 Federal

Scott	Davenport, City Cemetery (3 sections)
Warren	1895 Census, Master Index
Warren	1895 Census, Southeast Quadrant

Volunteer Recognition Potluck

May 17, 2014

4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

All IGS Members Welcome

Bring a dish to share and come for the fun

Come and meet all of the fantastic volunteers that work so hard to make IGS such a great research destination. Without the volunteers that assist patrons, maintain the building, do data entry, teach classes and so much more, the Iowa Genealogical Society could not exist. Come and have good food, great conversation and learn how much fun volunteering for IGS can be. And say thank you to all those who do so much.



IGS TEN MOST WANTED BOOKS

Since the last newsletter, we have purchased:

The History of Jackson County, Iowa, 1910 (2 volume set)
and

Trinity Lutheran Church Records, Lancaster Pennsylvania,
Volumes 4 & 5.

The latter completes our set on the shelf at 974.815/
SMI. The current list is as follows:

18th Century White Slaves by Meaders \$120.00

Virginia County Records, Vols. 1, 5 & 8 by Crozier
\$84.00

Bond's Genealogies and History of Watertown, Massachusetts
\$45.00

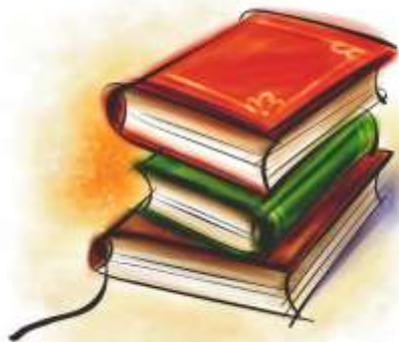
New York State Probate Records, A Genealogist's Guide
\$25.00

Note: #2 would complete that set of books on our
shelves.

Our current balance is about \$50.00.

This effort helps IGS obtain books that may be other-
wise cost prohibitive. You may add a book to the list,
without a donation. Just notify us in person, by phone,
by email or snail-mail. Once a list of 10 books is estab-
lished, no more books may be added to the list, until one
is purchased. Donations of any amount are welcomed.
Donations will be added to book #1, unless otherwise
indicated by the donor.

Look for the
poster and dona-
tion progress
when you're at
IGS.



SALT LAKE CITY RESEARCH TRIP SEPTEMBER 21 – 28, 2014

Once again, the Iowa Genealogical Society is sponsoring
a research trip to Salt Lake City. However, payment
changes have been made this year to make things simpler
for everyone involved.

A block of 10 rooms (4 have been booked) has been re-
served at the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel ([www.plaza-
hotel.com](http://www.plaza-hotel.com)) next door to the Family History Library for
the IGS group. If you go, you make your own hotel res-
ervation by calling the hotel (1-800-366-3684) and re-
questing one of the available rooms, using your personal
credit card for payment. You must make your reserva-
tion at least 30 days in advance to get the following group
discount rate:

Single or Double: \$85/night + taxes

Triple or Quad: \$92/night + taxes

A free genealogy class is taught Monday evening at the
hotel. If we do not have 12 people in our group, we will
likely join another genealogy group for their class.

There is a hotel courtesy van for transportation to and
from the airport. Also available this year, is the UTA
TRAX train between the airport and hotel.

Transportation arrangements and expenses to and from
Salt Lake City and all meals are your responsibility.

Any monies that are earned from the hotel for the num-
ber of rooms booked will be donated to the IGS book
fund.

If you reserve a room, please notify Diane Densmore
(for future instructions and coordination)
or for further information, please contact:

Diane Densmore
ddindsm1@mchsi.com

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

By Jennifer Ewing, IGS Director

It is so hard to believe that this is the beginning of my fifth week as Executive Director of IGS. I have met so many people and figured out that I have so much to learn. My son said to me last night, **“Must be nice to work with people that have a common interest with you and want to be there.” I don't think I could have said it better.**

I am so impressed with the amount of time and talent that our volunteers give to IGS. They are fun, knowledgeable and dedicated. Some of our volunteers have employers that provide grant money to IGS in conjunction with the hours that our volunteers contribute. If you are still working, a volunteer grant program is something that you might want to discuss with your employer.

We attended a volunteer fair at John Deere Financial and there was a blurb in the Des Moines Register for a volunteer that has generated some interest.

Our staff is so knowledgeable and a great resource for everyone. They have been so patient with all of my questions. And there have been a lot of questions.

One of the things that I have been working on is developing lists of organizations with similar interests so that we can communicate with them about our mission and events. The hope is that increased communication will generate interest **in our “hidden gem”**. We are also looking at ways to improve our communication to members. This may include a change in the way we send email so watch for that communication in the future.

All of us have been working to **“spiff” up the library**. There has been a lot of organizing and cleaning going on. Again, I am amazed at the dedication of our volunteers in this endeavor.

We will be announcing an **“all hands on deck”** work day before the Open House in June.

I am working with Simpson College to develop an unpaid internship position for this summer and next spring. We have a lot of projects that we would like to do and this is a mutually beneficial way to accomplish these projects while providing education and experience for a student.

I have been trying to at least visit every group and class. Every time I attend a class, I learn that there is so much I do not know. If we have not met yet, please stop in and introduce yourself. I am usually in the office Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. I look forward to your input and ideas to continue to make our Society one of the best.

Jennifer Ewing

FindMyPast.com Special Offer

This Just In! IGS members can now receive a \$35 discount (the amount of your annual IGS dues) on an annual world subscription to FindMyPast.com. The normal world subscription rate would be \$199.56 which includes US, Irish, English, Scottish, Welsh, Australian and New Zealand records, some of which are not available elsewhere.

If you are interested in taking advantage of the discount, contact the IGS office at igs@iowagenealogy.org or call 515-276-0287, ext 0, to get the discount code . You can explore their website at www.findmypast.com to see what they offer.

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

RECOVERED BOOKS

Over the years, some books have, unfortunately, been taken out of the IGS library. It is always a happy day when those books find their way home to us. A list of recently returned books follows:

Chickasaw County, Iowa, Lawler Cemetery, Utica Township compiled by Marguerite Schneider. This is a combination of W.P.A. records and a canvassing of the cemetery done by Mrs. Schneider.

A Record of the Earlham, Iowa Friends Monthly Meeting (includes memberships, marriages and deaths from the first records through the year 1900)

1820 Federal Census of Illinois by Lowell M. Volkel and James V. Gill

Vermillion County, Indiana, Land and Marriage Records by Lowell M. Volkel

CEMETERY APPRECIATION MONTH

May has been named Cemetery Appreciation Month by Iowa Governor, Terry Branstad.

Few people appreciate cemeteries more than genealogists.

Say thank you to the volunteers who have walked your local cemetery, recorded the graves and published the information.



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.

British/Welsh and Scottish Interest Group meets the second 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.

MAY 2014

Saturday, May 3

Finding a Revolutionary War-Era Ancestor
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Barb Hammer instructor
Preregistration required.
Cost: \$5 IGS members/\$10 non-members.

Saturday, May 17

Newspapers in Genealogy Research
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Linda Greethurst instructor.
Preregistration required.
Cost: \$5 IGS members/\$10 non-members.

Wednesday, May 21

What About Me? L/L
How and what will your descendants know about you?
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Jan Myers instructor.
Preregistration required.
Cost: \$5 IGS members/\$10 non-members.

Saturday, May 24

Beginning Genealogy
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Preregistration required. Cost: Free

This class will introduce you to the wonderful world of genealogy and help you get started researching your own family.

JUNE 2014

Saturday, June 7

Beginning Genealogy
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. ***
Preregistration required. Cost: Free

This class will introduce you to the wonderful

world of genealogy and help you get started researching your own family.

Wednesday, June 11

Inter-Library Loan L/L
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Linda Greethurst instructor.
Preregistration required.
Cost: \$5 IGS members/\$10 non-members.

Wednesday, June 25

Iowa Vital Records L/L
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Theresa Liewer instructor.
Preregistration required.
Cost: \$5 IGS members/\$10 non-members.

IGS OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, June 21

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Invite your friends and family to explore all that IGS has to offer..

IGS LOCK IN

Saturday, June 28

Time: TBA
Location: IGS Library
Additional fee and preregistration required.

L/L - Bring your lunch and learn at the same time.

*** Time changed from previously advertised

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

May 2014

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.

I WANT TO HELP

Iowa Genealogical Society relies on volunteers and we are always welcoming new help. The commitment can be one-time for an event or as often as you like. Society needs include:

Everyday operations: ___ Library attendant (We'll train)

___ Tracking volunteer hours ___ Maintaining the membership database

___ Preparing New Member packets ___ Mailing crew

Records collection/Access:

___ Indexing (Can be done at home) ___ Website design

___ Selling extra books on E-Bay

Publications/Publicity: ___ Distributing publicity info to a list of websites

___ Delivering class & conference brochures to your library

___ Talking to civic and social groups (we'll supply a script)

___ Writing articles for the newsletter or Hawkeye Heritage

Facility maintenance:

___ Lawn mowing ___ Vacuuming and/or dusting ___ Perform minor maintenance

Finance and accounting : ___ Helping to write grants

Special Events: ___ Helping at conferences ___ Helping with garage sales

Teaching Genealogy Classes (We'll train) _____

Serving on a Committee (Finance, Library, Building, etc.) _____

If you have a special talent to share, please let us know.

YES! I WANT TO VOLUNTEER

Name: _____

Phone/Email: _____

I have another idea for a volunteer project. _____

PRESERVING THE PAST & ENRICHING THE FUTURE

