



Your ancestors are waiting
for you to find them...

Iowa Genealogical Society

IowaGenealogy.org • 628 E. Grand Ave
Des Moines, IA • 515-276-0287

From the President

There are two items I want to talk with you about. First is the need for volunteers to serve as officers. My term as president is up in October and under the IGS by-laws, I cannot serve again. And this is totally as it should be. It's important for IGS that new people with new ideas and new skills come on the board. We've had 50 years of members stepping forward to guide the society to where it is now. So seriously consider volunteering to serve in one of the open positions. You will not be abandoned by your predecessors when you take office. There is a strong cadre of volunteers, including me, who will continue to help if called upon. So seriously consider serving – let Jennifer Ewing know if you're willing. And if you have questions about the duties, she can put you in touch with people who can tell you about them.

Secondly, you will soon be receiving in the mail a lovely fund-raising brochure for a capital campaign that is being launched this summer. A larger version is being used as we contact individuals outside the genealogical community to ask for their financial support. It is our hope that we can pay off the outstanding mortgage on the building. The board wants you to be aware of the campaign for several reasons. Obviously, your participation would be welcome. But also, if you know of any one in your community who has an interest in Iowa and the history of its people, including family history, we'd like to hear about them. We want to present them with the opportunity of helping IGS to continue to educate the public and preserve our family stories. So keep checking your mail boxes.

Theresa Liewer, President

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IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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Phone: (515) 276-0287

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igs@iowagenealogy.org

Website:

www.iowagenealogy.org

Facebook:

[https://
www.facebook.com/
IowaGenSoc/](https://www.facebook.com/IowaGenSoc/)

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

Kevin Spire

2nd Vice President

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IGS EDITORIAL STAFF

Hawkeye Heritage

Susan Claman

IGS Newsletter

[Jennifer Ewing](#)

Plagiarism & Copyright

By Jennifer Ewing, Executive Director

According to Dictionary.com, plagiarism is defined as: “an act or instance of using or closely imitating the language and thoughts of another author without authorization and the representation of that author's work as one's own, as by not crediting the original author.”

Any of you that follow Judy Russell, The Legal Genealogist, know that she talks a lot about plagiarism and copyright laws. She stated in a recent post that, “Most of the time, people who do this are doing it without malicious intent. They don't realize that they're actually stealing someone else's work and depriving the other person of credit for the work; most of the time they think they're just sharing.”

What does this mean for us?

When it comes to conference time, we can't allow you to record or videotape a speaker. Their presentations are theirs and cannot be copied. Now, in assisting someone else, we can take what we learned at a conference or a class and share it in action. But we can't copy the handouts and sell them. Not only is it unethical, it is a violation of copyright laws.

When you glean information from a published family history (informal or formally published), you need to cite the source of that information and not claim it as your own. Claiming it as your own work is a “big ethical no-no” according to Judy Russell.

Copyright laws are complicated. Generally, copyrights expire 70 years after the author's death. So if a publication is out of print, it may still have an existing copyright. Copyright laws pertain not only to publications but to pictures and digital content as well.

If you copy an entire book for your own use, not only is it expensive (25 cents per page), it can raise copyright questions. You should buy the book if you need the entire book. Even if it is out of print there are places (EBay, Amazon and AbeBooks) where you might find the book. If you don't want to purchase the book but need more time to read it and take notes, your local library may have it or be able to get it through Inter Library Loan.

Copying a few pages and citing the source in your work, is acceptable. But you must cite the source. If you copy the book, print copies and sell them, that is a copyright violation and therefore a big no-no. Transcribing parts of a book or publication must also have the source cited.

Most of all, CITE YOUR SOURCES!

Judy Russell, the Legal Genealogist will be our keynote speaker at our 2017 Fall Conference. For more information on Judy, go to <http://www.legalgenealogist.com/>

Private Land Sales by Alice Hoyt Veen, CG

American lands were first distributed to individuals and private parties by colonial, state or federal governments. But once land moved from government to private ownership, individuals could dispose of their property as they chose. Private land records often include more genealogical information than original land entry files and provide insights into a family's life experiences.

Private Land Records Terminology

Private property records include a variety of documents dealing with land sales, debts, estates, and taxes. Here is some basic terminology:

Real property is what we think of today as "real estate," meaning any amount of land.

The seller of land is called the **grantor**; the buyer is the **grantee**. Land records indexes are usually arranged alphabetically by one or the other, or both.

Colonial land sales may include two documents: **lease** and **release**, designed to circumvent English laws regarding disposal of colonial property.

An **indenture, deed, warranty deed, or deed of conveyance** transfers ownership from one private party to another. The document provides details of the transaction, including description of the property, price paid, and the terms or conditions of the sale.

A **quit claim deed** releases all title, interest or claim which an individual may possess in real property; it's often associated with settlement of an estate.

A precise legal description of property uses the area's accepted survey system: rectangular survey (**township, range, section, aliquot part**) or "metes and bounds."

The release of a married woman's **dower rights** might be necessary to convey a clear, uncontested **fee simple** title.

Both husband and wife might be required to sign an **affidavit** or **deposition** indicating they understood the legal process and were not coerced into signing away their property.

Land-related Records

Other types of property-related records can add depth to land research:

A **lien** is a claim by one party upon the property of another as security for payment of debt.

A **mortgage** is a conditional transfer of legal title to real property as security for payment of debt.

A **deed of trust** places legal title of real property with one or more trustees as security for payment of debt.

You'll also want to locate **real property tax** records.

Access the Records

Private land transactions generate records at a local level. Most will be housed in county courthouses, or in New England, town offices. Large cities may retain their own records in addition to the county. In Iowa, the county recorder's office holds land records.

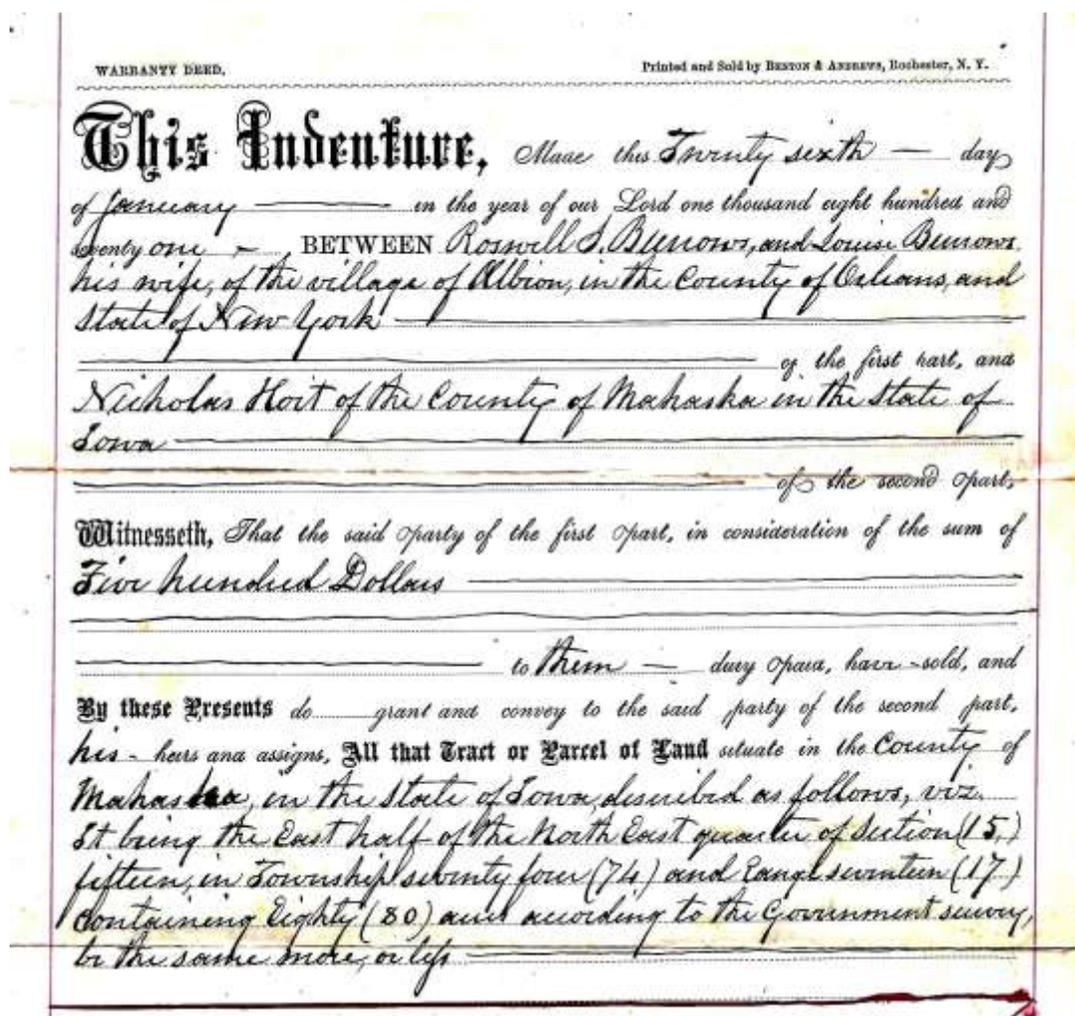
Start your search with the indexes. These are often comprehensive, listing all types of land transactions. You'll see many variations in indexing systems, depending on the time period and the location. You may also want to access assessor's office records for tract books, abstracts, and taxes. **Tract books** and **abstracts** are organized by land descriptions, then by ownership. Use indexes and tract books as finding aids to locate the complete recorded document.

Private Land Sales by Alice Hoyt Veen, CG (cont.)

For out-of-state research, check the Family History Library (FHL) website and online catalog: www.familysearch.org. Some land records have been digitized; others are available on FHL microfilm. Many Iowa county land records are also on FHL microfilm. Check local libraries, genealogical societies, and the State Historical Society for access information.

What's Next?

Locating land documents is only the first step. In the next newsletter we'll deconstruct an actual deed, identify key information, and discuss how to understand and use what we find.



Alice Hoyt Veen, Certified Genealogist (SM), is the founder of [Prairie Roots Research](http://prairie-roots-research.com), providing professional genealogical and historical research services to clients who seek superior research solutions. She specializes in solving genealogical "brick walls."

Software User Groups

There has been a lot of change in genealogical software programs. IGS offers two software Interest Groups and an Ancestry.com group. Ancestry.com meets on the second Sunday of the month at 1:30 p.m. Legacy Family Tree Interest Group meets on the third Thursday of the month @ 1 p.m. and RootsMagic meets on the fourth Saturday of the month @ 10 a.m. If you are thinking of purchasing one of these programs, this is a great way to learn what each program offers.

The Iowa Genealogical Society is looking for a few good people to serve on the Board of Directors. The offices of the president, second vice president and secretary are open as well as regional representatives. Terms will begin in October and run for two years. Let Jennifer (execdir@iowagenealogy.org) know if you are interested.

Our 2016 Spring Conference sold out. So do not wait to register for our 2016 Fall Conference as seating is also limited. The conference will be Oct. 7th and 8th at Toad Valley Country Club in Pleasant Hill, Iowa. We are excited to have [D. Joshua Taylor](#) as our speaker. Joshua is host of the popular series Genealogy Roadshow (PBS) and he crisscrosses the United States – solving longstanding family history mysteries and uncovering genealogical treasures at every turn. Joshua also serves at the President of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society (NYG&B), America's second oldest genealogical organization, headquartered in New York City. See page 8 for details and registration form.

The IGS Open House will be Saturday, September 17th, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you are a part of a heritage, lineage or historical group and would like to exhibit, please contact Jennifer @ execdir@iowagenealogy.org.

This will be an opportunity to invite your friends to IGS so that they can see everything we have to offer in addition to the organizations that will be exhibiting.

A special thank you to all of our volunteers that helped with the Iowa Genealogical Road Trip this spring. Theresa Liewer, Kevin Spire, Alice Hoyt Veen (CG), Dennis Allen and Jennifer Ewing have been presenting Beginning Genealogy Classes all over the state of Iowa. If your community library in Iowa is interested in hosting a Beginning Genealogy class, contact igs@iowagenealogy.org.

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 Weekly Update 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.

If you don't have e-mail or just want a paper copy that's fine, you can still get it that way. But receiving it electronically helps us save our valuable resources—money, paper, ink and volunteer hours!



These free classes are available to IGS members only. If you are not a member and wish to attend, you can become a member of IGS before the class. All classes start at 6:30 p.m.

Monday, July 11, 2016. Gems in the Library. Join us for a round table discussion on your favorite thing in the IGS library and discover what other resources are available.

There will be no Members Only Class in August.

Are you receiving this newsletter via snail mail? Receiving it by e-mail saves IGS printing and postage. Please contact igs@iowagenealogy.org if we can send the newsletter to you via e-mail. If you are not getting our Weekly Updates via email, you can sign up on our home page: www.iowagenealogy.org.

Don't miss out on important communication from IGS.

If you are a member of IGS, FGS has partnered with Dell Computers to give IGS Member Societies and their members discounts on products sold through the Dell website. Contact FGS directly at info@fgs.org for more information.

You can also receive a discount to FindMyPast. Contact [IGS](http://www.igs.org) to receive the discount code for FindMyPast.



IGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

All groups meet at the IGS Library, 628 E Grand Ave, Des Moines:

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

Ancestry.com Interest Group meets the **second Sunday** of the month, from 1:30 p.m.

Would you like to volunteer for IGS? We have several opportunities for you to work from home doing data entry. Contact Jennifer at execdir@iowagenealogy.org.

IGS is an Family History Library Affiliate! You can order microfilm rolls from familysearch.org and have them delivered to IGS to view! We are open six days a week with extended hours on Tuesday and Thursday. That means just one trip to IGS to research and view microfilm.

IGS CLASS SCHEDULE

All programs & activities take place at the IGS Library, 628 E Grand Ave, Des Moines, IA, unless otherwise noted.

Saturday July 9, 2016

Beginning Genealogy

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm FREE

Instructor - Donna Anderson

Wednesday July 13, 2016

Using Heirlooms to Tell Your Family Story

Lunch & Learn

noon - 1:00 pm

Instructor - Jennifer Ewing

\$5 IGS members / \$10 non-members

Saturday July 30, 2016

Maps: Putting the Past in its Place

10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Instructor - Alice Hoyt Veen, CG

\$5 IGS members / \$10 non-members

Saturday July 30, 2016

The "Reasonably Exhaustive Search": When is Enough, Enough?

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Instructor - Alice Hoyt Veen, CG

\$5 IGS members / \$10 non-members

Saturday August 6, 2016

Beginning Genealogy

10:30 am - 12:30 pm FREE

Instructor - Donna Anderson

Wednesday August 10, 2016

Iowa Vital Records Lunch & Learn

noon - 1 pm

Instructor - Theresa Liewer

\$5 IGS members / \$10 non-members

Saturday August 20, 2016

Analysis & Correlation: Strategies for Success

10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Instructor - Alice Hoyt Veen, CG

\$5 IGS members / \$10 non-members

Resolving Conflict in Evidence: Making the Case

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Instructor - Alice Hoyt Veen, CG

\$5 IGS members / \$10 non-members

Wednesday September 14, 2016

Using Lulu to Self Publish Lunch & Learn

noon - 1:00 pm

Instructor -

\$5 IGS members / \$10 non-members

Monday September 19, 2016

Beginning Genealogy

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm FREE

Instructor - Jennifer Ewing

All of our classes are taught by volunteer instructors. We ask that you register for the class and give a valid phone number in case we need to reschedule a class.

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 Fall Conference 2016
Expanding Your Research Horizons
Featuring D. Joshua Taylor

Friday October 7

- 8:00 a.m. Registration
- 8:45 a.m. Welcome and Announcements
- 9:00 a.m. **New Tools and Ideas in Research** - Learn technological developments (including gadgets and gizmos); newly discovered resources for genealogical research, and more..
- 10:15 a.m. Break
- 10:45 a.m. **Bridging the Gap: Finding Ancestors in the United States Between 1780 & 1830** –Learn how to employ probate, land, census, tax, and other compiled records to help bridge
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. **Camp Dodge—History and Records** Michael Vogt , Director of the Iowa Gold Star Museum
- 2:15 p.m. Break
- 2:30 p.m. **Online Library Catalogs: A Genealogist’s Best Kept Secret**—Go inside the pathway to a library’s materials during this in-depth review of library catalogs.
- 3:45 p.m. Break
- 4:15 p.m. **Annual Meeting**

Saturday October 9

- 8:00 a.m. Registration
- 8:45 a.m. **The Modern Genealogist: Timesaving Tips for Every Researcher** - Learn time-saving techniques to make the most of every minute (or hour) you are researching.
- 10:00 a.m. Break
- 10:30 a.m. **Lawyers, Judges and Trials: Using the Law in Genealogy** - Learn how to find new records and information through a “legal approach” to genealogy.
- 11:45 a.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Land Records to the Rescue! - Alice Hoyt Veen, CG– Learn techniques for getting the most from land records research and see how they contribute to the breakthrough of a typical genealogical “brick wall.”
- 2:15 p.m. Break
- 2:45 p.m. **Essential Technology for Genealogists**-Come see the list of technology every genealogist should own.

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

IGS Fall Conference
628 E Grand Ave, Des Moines IA 50309-1924

Register online: http://www.shop.iowapioneers.com/Conventions-Events-Training_c6.htm

Cancellation Policy: By October 3rd Full Refund After October 3rd No Refund

For more information contact IGS: igs@iowagenealogy.org 515-276-0287

2016 IGS Fall Conference Registration

October 7 & 8 2016

Toad Valley Country Club, Pleasant Hill, IA

Conference fees includes lunch on both days.

I prefer a vegetarian lunch. _____

Full 2-day Early Registration (Before Oct 1)

IGS Member \$95 _____

Non-member \$115 _____

Single Day Registration

Circle one: Friday Saturday

IGS Member 1-day early registration x \$55 _____

Non-member 1-day early registration x \$65 _____

Total amount due: _____

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)

Visa MasterCard Discover
Card Number _____

Exp Date _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Conference Hotel: Holiday Inn Express
165 Adventureland Dr
Altoona IA 50009
515-967-1855

A block of rooms has been reserved under IGS for \$124 per night. **You must call the hotel directly to reserve a room at this price.**

Toad Valley Country Club is located at:

237 NE 80th St
Pleasant Hill IA 50327

They recommend not to use Google or MapQuest. They are located approximately 5 miles east of the State Fairgrounds on University Avenue in Des Moines, Iowa. Toad Valley is 1/2 mile south of Southeast Polk High School.

Driving directions:

http://iowagenealogy.org/?page_id=7701



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:

Mortgage 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 Ave

Des Moines IA 50309-1924



**IOWA GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY NEWSLETTER**

July 2016

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.**