



As I was signing thank you letters the past few months (with all the proper words so our donors would get their tax deductions), I was struck first by how generous our members are and then by the fact that while I recognized many names, many others I've not had the opportunity to meet. This was reinforced at the spring conference in April. Again there were many familiar faces but there were others that I had not seen before. The genealogical community is large and diverse and we are fortunate to be able to come together in so many ways to support each other. I want to take the occasion to let you know how much I appreciate all of you.

What I've been calling the Iowa Genealogy Road Show has been in full swing. Kevin Spire, Dennis Allen, Alice Hoyt Veen, Jennifer Ewing and I have all either been out to libraries across the state or are scheduled to be there soon. I've been to Council Bluffs and Guttenberg and all sorts of places in between. I am impressed by the quality of the public libraries in Iowa and as well as the eagerness of people to learn more about genealogy. We're hoping that attendees will continue to learn and become part of their local genealogy communities. There are classes being scheduled through the fall. If your library hasn't contacted us about a beginning class, talk to them. It's been a fun experience.

At the last meeting of the Ankeny Genealogical Chapter, our speaker was Linda Greethurst who talked about "Going to the Cemetery While You're Still Alive." She pulled out what seemed to be an endless supply from her carry-all bag of the things you should take with you on a cemetery trip. When a small shovel appeared, I realized what true genealogists are all about.

Theresa Liewer
President

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IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

628 E Grand Ave
Des Moines IA 50309-1924

Phone: (515) 276-0287

Email:
igs@iowagenealogy.org

Website:
www.iowagenealogy.org

Facebook:
<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

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Susan Claman

IGS Newsletter

[Jennifer Ewing](#)

Is It a Graveyard or Cemetery? Or Maybe a Burying Ground?

By Gerald Graves

It may not matter much but there is a difference and they are not interchangeable. In olden times a church sat on a plot or large lot of land which was often enclosed by a fence to keep loose livestock out. This was the churchyard. The part of the churchyard next to the church where people were buried was the graveyard. The graveyard belonged to the adjacent church which set rules on who could be buried there. Usually only members who were not criminals or suicides could be buried there. Grave comes from the root word dig.

Eventually more space was needed and a separate partial of land had to be set up away from the churchyard and this was a cemetery. So a graveyard is a cemetery, but a cemetery is not a graveyard. A cemetery may belong to a single church or denomination, to several churches of different denominations or a government body. Locally we are very familiar with private or family cemeteries on a pioneer settler's land. The word cemetery comes from a Greek word meaning sleeping place via the Normans (old French). Like graveyards, people are usually buried in family units. Each cemetery sets their own rules.

Burial ground or burying ground is usually found in genealogy with Quakers (Friends). Quakers tended to reject previous church terminology, so burying ground is used regardless of location to their building (Meeting House). All were welcome to be buried there including slaves and Indians. Members also could be buried in municipal cemeteries with no stigma attached. No headstones were permitted until the first quarter of the 1700s and then only very plain ones. Some locations buried people in order of death and others had family rows in order of death within the family. Current practice is in family units.

The Amana Society churches were the center of the village but their cemeteries are on the edges. They planted conifers around the cemeteries as a symbol of eternal life because they do not lose their leaves in winter. This also tends to hide them from passerby's. All stones are the same and face east. Until the 1930s, suicide victims were buried in a separate section and faced west. Children and non-Amana Church members are still buried in separate sections of the cemeteries. Church members are buried in chronological order of death with the belief that all are brothers and sisters in Christ and, therefore, the entire cemetery is a "family plot."

The Amish have their own cemeteries or may share with Mennonites. Headstones are simple, often identical, and flowers are not used even in the burial ceremony.

My most unique cemetery is a tiny family plot down a path back in the woods behind the RV campers at a popular county park in Indiana. We had to pay to get in to see my ancestors graves. My wife's most unique is a small plot of 4 or 5 graves literally in someone's back yard. The only access was walking the narrow driveway space between two houses. I think that tops driving through the big shopping mall to get to another of her cemeteries.

Dig Deep! Access Original Land Entry Files by Alice Hoyt Veen, CG

Paperwork, paperwork! We all know how much paperwork is involved any time we interact with our government. Our ancestors faced the same prospect if they applied to receive government lands. Whether their land grant was from a colony, state, or the federal government, the application process was similar:

1. Application to acquire land
2. Warrant (authorization) for survey
3. Survey— legal description, plat map, field notes
4. Land grant (patent)

Each step created paperwork. Grant applications, warrants, surveys and patents along with associated documents such as receipts for cash purchases and proof of eligibility were bundled together and stored as land entry files. These files are an important component of any research project. How can you know if your ancestor received government lands? Patents were recorded locally in courthouse offices or similar jurisdictions. A check of local indexes is a good first step.

| WARRANT FILED | | | | SAVVING | GRANTER | Instruments | When Recorded | Date of Settlement | DESCRIPTION OF REAL ESTATE | Ac. Cont. | Tract Area | Map | Sec. Cont. | |
|---------------|---|-----|------|---------------|------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|------------|-----|------------|-------|
| 1817 | 3 | 177 | 3 17 | United States | John W. Knight | Pat. | 1817 | 20 | 10 1770 | 3 1/2 of 36 1/2 | 13 | 17 | 2 1/2 | 8 1/2 |
| 1817 | 3 | 179 | 3 17 | | Richard C. C. C. | | 1817 | 10 | 1810 | 2 1/2 of 36 1/2 | 13 | 17 | 2 1/2 | 8 1/2 |
| 1817 | 3 | 179 | 3 17 | | John J. Blane | | 1817 | 10 | 1810 | 2 1/2 of 36 1/2 | 13 | 17 | 2 1/2 | 8 1/2 |
| 1817 | 3 | 179 | 3 17 | | George W. Hadden | | 1817 | 10 | 1810 | 2 1/2 of 36 1/2 | 13 | 17 | 2 1/2 | 8 1/2 |

Where are original land entry files and how can they be accessed? Documents created by the colonial or state grant process are found in state libraries, archives or state land offices. Search state websites to determine how to request original files. Many colonial & early state records have been abstracted and published; these are good finding aids for original records and are often available through interlibrary loan or on Family History Library (FHL) microfilm. Iowa's state lands were distributed through offices of the Secretary of State; records are housed at the State Historical Society of Iowa (SHSI) in Des Moines. Find more information about Iowa land records at: <https://iowaculture.gov/history/research/collections/state-archives/rg-081-secretary-state>

Federal land files are preserved by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), <http://www.archives.gov>. Federal land offices created indexes, or **tract books**, for the lands they distributed. These have been microfilmed and digitized by the Family History Library: "United States Bureau of Land Management Tract Books, 1800-c. 1955," <http://www.familysearch.org>. Textual records for Iowa's twelve federal land offices are held by the regional National Archives in Kansas City: <http://www.archives.gov/kansas-city>. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) website, <http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov>, provides searchable information for federal-land states, including individual names, tract descriptions, patent numbers, and document images.

The information found in tracts books or databases should be used to request the complete land entry file or military bounty land file from the National Archives. Order online or by mail: <http://www.archives.gov/contact/inquire-form.html>. Document images are available as paper copies or on CD/DVD. *Research in the Land Entry Files of the General Land Office: Reference Information Paper 114*, <https://www.archives.gov/publications/ref-info-papers/rip114.pdf>, a NARA publication available for free online, provides more information about federal land records. (cont. page 4)

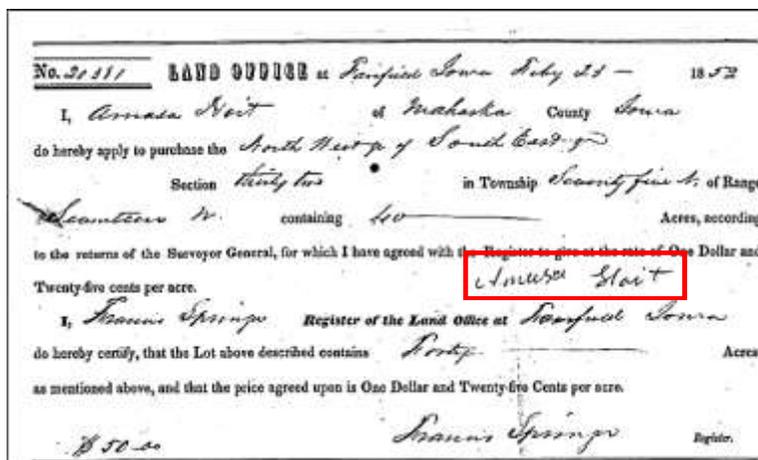
Dig Deep! Access Original Land Entry Files by Alice Hoyt Veen, CG (cont.)

What Might You Learn?

The amount of personal information in government land records varies depending on the transaction type. Military bounty lands and Homestead files may be quite extensive as applicants proved their eligibility. Information may include age, birthplace, citizenship, military service, and names of family members. Cash entry files are often brief. One of the greatest prizes may be your ancestor's original signature.

Dig Deep!

Land entry files provide insights into your ancestor's life experiences, economic status, and possible motivations for migration—all clues to determining next steps in your research plan. Dig deep—you'll discover buried treasure through land research!



Amasa Hoyt original signature
Federal cash entry file, certificate no. 20,381

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

Speaking of Alice Hoyt Veen, CG

The following announcement was written by the [Board for Certification of Genealogists](#):

“The BCG Education Fund Board of Trustees welcomes new trustee Alice Hoyt Veen, CG, of Bouton, Iowa. Alice is a sixth-generation Iowan and life-long genealogist who became Board-certified in 2014. She specializes in Midwestern and territorial records with an emphasis on military history and Midwestern connections to American colonial roots. “

Alice is a very active volunteer at IGS. She teaches classes and is a newsletter contributor.

Congratulations from all of us at IGS!

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.

IGS Lock In

The IGS Lock In will be Saturday, May 21 @ 4 p.m. The cost is \$15. We will order pizza and please bring a snack to share. This is a great time to do some serious researching and commune with fellow members. Sometimes, a second pair of eyes will help you break through that brick wall.

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, 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!

Library Attendant Training

Have you served as Library Attendant? Are you interested in additional training? Would you like to become a library attendant? We are offering a FREE training workshop on Saturday, May 21, 2016 at the IGS Library. We will cover how best to serve our patrons with traditional and online resources, what patrons expect from library attendants, the facility, computers, phone and cash register. Email execdir@iowagenealogy.org to register.

Have you recently visited a local repository or library? We would love to have your thoughts. Please submit a short description of your visit and things that we would need to know before traveling to the area, to Jennifer, execdir@iowagenealogy.org.



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, June 13, 2016 Do-Overs—How to start again—the correct way! We will use Thomas MacEntee’s system as the basis for our discussion.

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 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. to 3:30 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.

Wednesday June 22, 2016

Cemetery Records - Lunch & Learn

noon - 1:00 pm

Instructor - Dennis Allen

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

Saturday June 25, 2016

Canadian Records

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Instructor - Theresa Liewer

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

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 pm - 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

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. **ICamp 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, Iowa 50309-1924

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

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

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

2015 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**

May 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.**