

**IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
REGULAR QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING  
February 9, 2008**

The regular meeting of the Iowa Genealogical Society (IGS) Board was held Saturday, February 9, 2008 at the IGS Library Conference Room in Des Moines, Iowa.

**Present:** Theresa Liewer, President; Denise Gripp, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Dennis Allen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Barbara Hug, Treasurer; Diane Densmore, Secretary; Pat Border, Region 3 Rep; Stan & Fran Jeffers, Region 5 Rep; Janice Danielson, Region 14 Rep; Adrian Brisee, Region 15 Rep. and Linda Abercrombie, Region 16 Rep.

**IGS Members Present:** Margaret Foster, Karen Hanley and Carl Nollen

1. **Call to order** at 10:08 a.m. by President Theresa Liewer.
2. **Appointment of minutes approval committee for current meeting:**  
Janice Danielson and Dennis Allen volunteered to fulfill this duty.
3. **President's Report:** Theresa Liewer reported that last Saturday's special Italian class had 28 attendees. She and Barbara Hug have worked hard on the proposed 2008 budget. Her primary concern is finding volunteers for the Board vacancies for this fall's election and an editor for the newsletter. The society is heavily relying on a small number of generous donors for money and we need to find a way to alleviate this.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** (See Attachment 1) Barbara Hug has developed a different format of presenting the financial statement. We received a \$1000 grant from US Bankcorp in January. The \$1765 fee for ancestry.com has been paid thanks to the generosity of the German Interest Group, a private donor and the \$1 per hour usage fees during the past year. Barbara has contacted MidAmerican Energy and we will begin budget billing this month for \$694 per month.
5. **First Vice President's Report:** (See Attachment 2, 2 pages) Denise Gripp continues to work on the fall conference plans. She would like more volunteers to teach classes and perhaps develop new classes. She has begun plans for a Member Appreciation Day on July 19. This would be a cooperative venture with the State Historical Library with classes and extended library hours.
6. **Second Vice President's Report:** (See Attachment 3, 2 pages) Dennis Allen presented a list of 38 new members who have joined IGS between November 20, 2007 and February 5, 2008. Janice Danielson made a motion to accept these new members. Seconded by Fran Jeffers. **Motion carried unanimously.**

## 7. Region Representative's Reports

- a. **Region 14:** (See Attachment 4, 2 pages) Janice Danielson reported that Buena Vista County now has a complete collection of Storm Lake and Alta newspapers in book form. They have applied for funds from both the city of Storm Lake and the Buena Vista county board of supervisors. This money would be used to purchase a microfilm reader/printer. Plymouth County has been busy with research requests and continue to clip obituaries and index newspapers. Woodbury County has moved their meeting place to First Presbyterian Church, 608 Nebraska Street in Sioux City. The Computer Genies of NW Iowa are working on a research directory for their 12 county area. Cherokee County is a smaller, but active group. They have an on-going obituary indexing project. There are conveniently located in the public library.
- b. **Region 3:** Pat Border reported that Scott County is indexing the 1925 Iowa State census. Jackson County has monthly board meetings and publish a newsletter. Muscatine County remains active.
- c. **Region 16:** Linda Abercrombie had no report. She has been unable to attend any of her county chapter meetings due to our bad winter weather.
- d. **Region 5:** (See Attachment 5) Stan Jeffers reported that the Decorah Genealogy Association (DGA) remains active and keeps their library staffed every working day of the week. They recently had a member die who bequeathed DGA \$31,500.
- d. **Region 15:** (See Attachment 6) Adrian Brisee stated that he had little to report for his region. Harrison County does not meet during the winter months. Crawford, Carroll and Monona Counties remain active.
- e. **Region 11:** (See Attachment 7, 2 pages) Judith Runestad was unable to attend today's meeting, but submitted her written report. Adair County Ancestor's currently have 68 members. They have enjoyed using the IGS video tapes for their programs. The Boone County chapter has 50-75 members and meet monthly with an educational/informative program. They moved to a new location within the past two years and are in the process of organizing their holdings. Since they are not staffed, prior arrangement must be made to use their facilities.
- f. **Region 4:** (See Attachment 8) Mike Magee was unable to attend today's meeting, but submitted a written report. He has encouraged the Northeast Iowa Genealogical Society to visit the IGS library in the future. The Waterloo Public Library is conducting a genealogy gala the last week of February. Mike plans to attend this and promote IGS.

- g. Region 12:** (See Attachment 9) Grace Hertz was unable to attend today's meeting, but submitted a written report. Laurens Genies continue to answer research requests and clip obituaries for the file at the Laurens Public Library. Pocahontas Genies are copying birth records at the courthouse. Palo Alto County is extracting information from the 1934 Old Age Assistance cards. Emmet County has changed their meeting date to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday evening of each month. Humboldt County will have a workshop in March and a booth at the Humboldt County Fair. Webster County has completed an index for the 1917 *Fort Dodge Messenger*. Calhoun County continues to record and compile the information for several small cemeteries. Kossuth County is the newest IGS chapter. Their first newsletter was published in November with the next issue due in March. The group is very busy indexing and answering research requests.
- h. Region 9:** (See Attachment 10) Betty Cross was unable to attend today's meeting, but submitted a written report. Appanoose County meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month. They have a 2 volume reprint of the 1913 Appanoose County History for sale. Davis County is planning a "Heritage Road Show" in early spring. Lucas County donated \$500 to IGS for the German Interest Group challenge to pay off leases. Lucas County now meets at the Lucas County Museum in Chariton on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month, except August. Monroe County has completed the 1910 census; they also have the 1930 census in print on the shelves.

**8. Staff Reports:** No staff members were present; no report.

**9. Library Committee Report:** No report. They will meet next week.

**10. Nominating Committee Report:** Margaret Foster reported that this committee has begun their activities as of February 1. Other members of this committee are Dennis Davies, Nicoe Hart and Fran Jeffers. Denise Gripp had volunteered to be on this committee, but since she is on the Board, she is ineligible to be on the nominating committee and must be replaced.

## **11. Old Business**

**a. Endowment Fund:** No report.

**b. Hawkeye Heritage:** Theresa Liewer reported that a finished version of the *Hawkeye Heritage* had been given to IGS member Joan Hanlon to scan and reformat for printing. Theresa has been unsuccessful in contacting Joan. Barbara Hug and Carl Nollen volunteered to explore the possibility of co-editing an edition of *Hawkeye Heritage*. Members are encouraged to submit articles to Barbara and volunteer any other help.

- c. **NGS Conference - Kansas City:** Theresa Liewer reported that NW Iowa Transportation has put together a transportation/motel package for people wanting to attend the NGS conference in May. Cost is as follows: \$369/person twin or double occupancy, \$509/person single occupancy, or \$349/person triple or quadruple occupancy. Transportation only is \$114 per person. All participants are responsible for their own NGS registration.
- d. **Audit Report:** The 2006 Audit has been completed. Copies are available at IGS.
- e. **Budget 2008:** (See Attachment 11, 2 pages) Barbara Hug presented the proposed budget for 2008. IGS needs about \$12,000 per month to cover fixed monthly bills. \$60,000-\$70,000 per year is needed to sustain IGS operations. Janice Danielson made a motion to accept the budget as presented. Seconded by Pat Border. **Motion carried unanimously.**
- f. **Copier Lease:** Theresa Liewer presented a proposal of replacing our two copiers used in the workroom with one copier. At last month's Executive Committee meeting, a motion passed to pay off the current leases on our two copiers. However, these machines are becoming old and more prone to service calls. Theresa has received proposals from Imaging Technologies and Laser Resources; either would save us money in the long run. Barbara Hug made a motion that we rent a copier/scanner that can be obtained for a monthly maintenance agreement without a long term lease that can be found at the best competitive price. Seconded by Janice Danielson. **Motion carried unanimously.**

## 12. New Business

- a. **2008 State Fair Booth:** Theresa Liewer reported that the cost of having a booth at the State Fair has doubled from \$1000 to \$2000 this year. She suggested that our efforts for public exposure be directed in a different direction, such as the Farmer's Market.
- b. **Wind damage to building:** Theresa Liewer reported that a glass panel on the southeast corner of the building at the roofline fell off during a recent spell of severe cold weather and winds. She had obtained two estimates; the lesser is \$803 which we will have to pay because we have a \$1000 deductible on our insurance. This repair will probably be done this spring when the weather warms up.
- c. **Iowa City Chapter:** Theresa Liewer reported that the Iowa City Chapter has forgiven the 2007 Revenue Sharing owed to them. They would like to post information from their publications on their website. After discussion, the Board suggested that they post the index only, but if they wish to put the information online, they would have to re-type it and not scan the publication. The Board also suggested that they use the older publications first.

**d. Goals:** Theresa Liewer asked the Board members for suggestions for short term and long term goals for IGS. The list was as follows:

**i. Short term:**

- Money
- Hawkeye Heritage
- Roof leak
- Promoting research
- Promoting publications
- Promote events on usgenweb, rootsweb, genforum
- LDS indexing – 1895
- Blog/Columnist/Message board

**ii. Long Term:**

- Money
- Endowment fund
- Computer server/IT system
- Volunteer recognition
- Chapter relations/liaison
- Executive director
- Alternative schedules
- Online databases for members only
- LDS proprietary information
- Promote our volunteers
- Volunteer training
- Digital publications
- Chapter revenue sharing due

At this time, Theresa asked for volunteers to pursue some of these goals.

They were as follows:

- Hawkeye Heritage: Barbara Hug and Carl Nollen
- Roof leak: Theresa Liewer
- Chapter relations: Denise Gripp
- Tally volunteer hours: Diane Densmore
- LDS indexing 1895: Janice Danielson
- Online databases: Dennis Allen and Adrian Brisee
- Volunteer training: Margaret Foster

Theresa stated that this goal setting would be an on-going pursuit.

**13. Personnel Issues:** At 2:55 p.m., the Board adjourned to closed session for personnel issues.

**14. Calendar:** The next Board meeting will be May 10, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

**15. Adjournment:** Linda Abercrombie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Adrian Brisee. **Motion carried unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Diane Densmore, Secretary  
Iowa Genealogical Society

Minutes approved by Janice Danielson on February 12, 2008 and by Dennis Allen on March 3, 2008, both by email.  
(See Attachments 12 and 13.)