

**MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

Saturday, November 13, 2004

The regular quarterly meeting of the Iowa Genealogical Society (“IGS”) Board of Directors was held Saturday, November 13, 2004, at the Iowa Genealogical Society Library in Des Moines. The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by President Darrell Easton.

Present: Darrell Easton, President; LuAnn Folkers, Executive Director; Joyce Brown, 1st Vice President; Bob Aubrey, 2nd Vice President; Chuck Prickett, Treasurer and Region 6; Ray Senior, Region 1; Peter Seaba, Region 2; Don and Toni Mulert, Region 5; Jane Briley, Region 10; Bill Lees, Region 11; Grace Hertz, Region 12; Stan Bastman, Region 13; Janice Danielson, Region 14; Margaret Foster, Historian; Allison Boll, Auditor; Ted Lessum, George Giesler, and several other society members. Bob Aubrey is substituting for recording secretary Carolyn Bauer.

Joyce Brown announced that Rod Powell has volunteered to do all our legal work *pro bono*, and Joyce introduced him to the board. The board expressed its gratitude with applause. No official action was taken at this time because of business still pending with Jonathan.

Agenda: The agenda was presented.

Minutes: Joyce Brown moved to waive reading of the minutes as they had been sent by e-mail. Seconded by Al Miller. Motion carried.

President's Report – No written report. Darrell said that this is his last regular meeting, that he enjoyed working with the board, that it had been a good learning process, and he thanked the board for their help and support during the previous year.

First Vice President's Report -- Written report presented by Joyce Brown. The feedback on Cyndi's presentation was almost universally positive. Only two negative criticisms. One person said that we shouldn't have so much material about computers. The second criticism was valid, about the fact that the room was over-crowded. Joyce had decided to go to round tables to up the capacity because of the great number of later registrations. There were 20+ people able to come who would not have been able to attend otherwise. We are still working with the hotel on the bill – there were some discrepancies that need to be worked out. The vendors were well pleased with the space and the business.

Second Vice President's Report – Written report presented by Bob Aubrey.

Treasurer's Report – Report is attached. Jane asked what may have put us behind budget. LuAnn said that the building fund donations (ancestor wall, donations and pledges) were significantly less than budgeted amounts. 13:30 There were questions about the property taxes, which are included in the “Occupancy” expenses. Occupancy includes real estate taxes, water and sewer, lawn mowing–snow removal, cleaning service, security, utilities, office maintenance and repairs. 41:10 There was a request to expand the report, showing the breakdown of all the line items, with the thought that it would be more understandable. 42:15 George made the suggestion that the expanded report could be placed on the website, password protected, for the board to be able to access it. 50:45 Jane raised a question about computer expense: LuAnn said that there had been a server crash and Darrell said that there was a major new software package necessitated.

1:06:50 George will build a hyperlink on the website for the expanded financial report. Any other board member wishing a hardcopy of the expanded report can request one from Chuck. 1:18:22 Joyce moved to accept the report, Al Miller seconded. Motion carried.

Executive Director's Report – Report attached. LuAnn Folkers. We are looking at various possibilities for grants. LuAnn said that in previous reports, she has mentioned that we need to do fund-raising, and that fund-raising is not in her job description. LuAnn included a copy of her job description in the report. The e-mail from Tuesday evening has already netted \$350. There has also been an encouraging response from the e-mail solicitation for on-line membership renewal.

Regional Representative Reports:

Region 1 – Ray Senior, report attached.

Region 2 – Peter Seaba, report attached. **Johnson County** – E-mailing newsletters is becoming popular, and it also includes a discount for membership. World War II project continues in it's seventh year, collecting and recording newspaper clippings. **Keokuk Mahaska** have very small attendance. **Iowa County** were given the basement in the local library. **Washington:** I have not gotten their newsletters or other information. **Poweshiek:** Combined historical and genealogical. They enjoy being a member, but don't need any help from the Society. Full report to be sent in.

Region 3 – Pat Border. Absent. No report provided.

Region 4 – Al Miller. Report to be provided.

Region 5 – Don and Toni Mulert, report attached.

Region 6 – Chuck Prickett, report attached.

Region 7 – Charlotte Marvin. Absent. No report provided.

Region 8 – Fred DeVries, Absent, report attached.

Region 9 – Evelyn Brightman, Absent. No report provided.

Region 10 – Jane Briley, report attached.

Region 11 – Bill Lees. Boone county is considering indexing the 1925 census – the biggest problem is making a commitment.

Region 12 – Grace Hertz, report attached.

Region 13 – Stan Bastman, report attached.

Region 14 – Janice Danielson, report attached.

Region 15 – Loren Dake. Absent. No report provided.

Region 16 – Linda Abercrombie. No report provided. Linda has just recently resigned from the board.

Break at 12:00 Noon
Reconvene at 12:16 pm

Other Representatives and Committee Chairs:

FGS Representative: Joyce reported that the articles she has sent to them have not been published. Her goal was to have a booth at the meeting in Austin, which did not come off as expected. Next year FGS is in Salt Lake in August or early September. Anyone interested in helping and going to FGS, please contact her. Ray Senor reported that he went to the meeting in Austin and reported 73 speakers and over 100 vendors and had several DNA programs.

Historian: Margaret Foster said the historical notebook is coming along, bringing it up to date. They are working on the 40th anniversary for next year.

Revenue Sharing: Larry Benedict: 272 orders processed this year, 2 orders pending for \$1700. Forty-seven new publications so far this year, several pending. Much activity since the conference. Currently 2055 publications available for sale, publication sales catalog available at the Library for \$2, also available on the website for \$3. Wants to do advertising next year. July through Sept earnings \$1508.

Old Business: none

New Business:

Building: Joyce has asked Ted Lessum to coordinate the building issues.

Ted reported that the board has to make a decision about renting the west wing. Ted said that after January, we can list the wing for rent without losing tax exemption until we rent it. He presented a written proposal for listing the west wing for rental from Iowa Realty. Iowa Realty has a division that deals only with downtown rentals. We will discuss this at the February meeting.

Joyce requested more information on the question of protection from ice dams, which were a major problem last year.

George said that we have never offered the space to the state lobbyists, state officials, etc., and this may be an avenue offering it for a donation. He also stated that we have under-utilized it ourselves. There is a large quantity of office space locally that has been standing vacant.

2:21:45 Fund-raising: Joyce: we need to raise additional income for operations. There are some grants that are available for operations, most are available only for special services. Many local resources for donations have dried up because of the downturn in the economy. We have tried to hire fund-raisers in the past, and it has not been successful. Joyce asks the board to begin to address the problem. Joyce asks us to form a budget advisory group in addition to those named in the bylaws to assist us before the 2005 budget which is to be presented at the February meeting. Darrell said that we could enlarge the existing budget committee, rather than form a separate committee.

The board donated money for a Christmas party for the volunteers. We are going ahead with that, probably after the first of the year.

Joyce commended Linda Greethorst for her continuing work. The classes are often oversubscribed, especially the basic ones – they have been very successful.

The newsletter costs \$1100 an issue, and with the next newsletter, we will send printed copies on request. The rest will be sent electronically.

At the conference we took a collection of \$850 to help with the *Hawkeye Heritage*. **2:35:06** We could also consider going electronic on that as well.

LuAnn presented a visual

Janice Danielson: upset about the tax issue, and doesn't understand why it wasn't more obvious. Also concerned that the profit-sharing checks have been slow. LuAnn said the checks were sent out in July and have not yet cleared. George suggested that we send the checks with a delivery receipt. Stan Bastman moved that the checks be sent with delivery confirmation. Ray Senor seconded. Motion passed.

Janice raised a point of order that according to the bylaws, George should not have been on the nominating committee.

Janice moved that since article 9 section 9.1 was violated, that George should step aside as vice-

president. Grace seconded. Paper ballots. Margaret and LuAnn left to count the ballots. Ayes - 4; nays - 8. Motion defeated.

Janice moved that checks should be signed by two people. Bill Lees seconded. Peter Seaba offered a friendly amendment that it apply to figures over \$250. Janice and Bill agreed. Motion carried.

Janice moved that the money for the Lords and Ladies Tour to England be placed in a separate account. Al offered a friendly amendment to omit "Lords and Ladies" so that it would apply to any similar ventures. Janice agreed. Joyce seconded. Discussion followed. Ayes - 7; nays - 3. Motion carried.

Bill moved that Joyce, Chuck, Margaret, and LuAnn be signers on the account. Al seconded. Discussion followed. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Stan moved to adjourn, Al seconded. Motion carried. Adjournment at 1:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert J. Aubrey
Acting Secretary

MEETING DATES:

Executive Committee Meeting: Saturday, January 8, 2005

Board of Directors Meeting: Saturday, February 12, 2005

First Vice President's Report

Joyce Brown

The main task of the first vice president is to coordinate the Fall Conference. This was done. The Conference went relatively well. The speakers appeared and did their contracted duties admirably. Cyndi Howells proved not only a delightful person but a talented speaker. Most evaluations of her presentation were excellent.

The main criticism of the Conference was the physical setting – mostly the crowding. Because we had reached our 200 person capacity over a week prior to the Conference, I made the decision to go with round tables so we could accommodate more people. That may or not have been a mistake, as more people had the opportunity to attend, but it resulted in a bit of a crush at times, and made seeing the screen a little difficult for some people. We will likely close subsequent conferences at the announced numbers.

We took in about \$21,400 including about \$850 from passing the hat for the Hawkeye. Our hotel expenses are about \$10,000, yet unpaid due to some discrepancies in the bill and our shortage of funds, plus \$500 paid to Leland Meitzler and \$1500 to Cyndi plus her travel expenses of about \$400. This leaves about \$8000 plus the \$850 for the Hawkeye. However, out of this are some office expenses, etc. not yet calculated. The computer system and the scanner and other items for the drawing and door prizes were donated.

As the president-elect, I participated in a Budget Committee meeting on Wednesday. More meetings will need to be held. For better or for worse, a budget for 2005 will be presented at the February board meeting.

Second Vice-President's Report

Robert J. Aubrey

The October 2004 convention is now history, and we had the biggest turnout ever. We had a spacious vendor area, with eight vendors, two of whom were here for half the convention. Although we had some problems getting electricity and telephone hookups set up for some of the vendors, the vendors were pleased with the setup and with their business. I want to thank LuAnn Folkers and Deb Chase for all the help they gave me with the vendors for this convention.

Executive Director's Report by LuAnn Folkers, Executive Director

The following items have been accomplished since the last meeting in August:

- A successful State Fair booth with the addition of approximately 100 new members and 800 names added to our non-member database. Name recognition from our presence there seems to have multiplied four-fold. Several requests for speaking engagements have occurred as well. Many thanks to the volunteers who staffed the booth.
- A much better turn out for the National Cattle Congress. With the organizational help of Mike Magee, volunteers from the Black Hawk and Bremer chapters assisted George Giesler in staffing the booth for the four days in September. A number of names were added to our database and the exposure for the chapters was invaluable.
- Speaking engagements included the Westkirk Presbyterian Church seniors group, Iowa Telecommunications Association, an extremely positive reconnection with the members of the Genealogical Society of Linn County, and presentation of my eBay program to chapter members in Union, Warren, Tama, and Guthrie counties.
- Three monthly Lunch & Learn sessions for State of Iowa employees. All were well attended and each netted additional members as well over \$150 in donations.
- The Lifestyles 50+ Seniors Expo display at Merle Hay Mall in September netted valuable exposure to both retirement centers for speaking engagement requests and to seniors themselves. Radio and magazine coverage prompted many to come just to see our display and talk with the members of the M&P Committee that staffed the display. A display at the Midwest Archivists Conference in October also brought interest in our collection from attendees from Ohio to Kansas and Wisconsin to Texas.
- The ISU College for Seniors class taught by George Giesler completed its 8 week course with a visit to IGS. Well over half the class of 68 students are now members.
- Additional publicity was received in an article about our Lords & Ladies Tour in the Ames newspaper as well as a mention in Des Moines Register columnist Kyle Munson's column. An additional mention will appear shortly regarding our participation in the East Village Holiday Promenade.
- Our Rolling Slumber Party to Kansas City earlier this month was a huge success with 45 travelers. Total net profit for the overnight event was \$1,200.00. Everyone pronounced that they had a great time whether they found what they were looking for or not. The Mid Continent Library staff was extremely helpful. My thanks to Debi Chase for her help in organizing the trip.
- A cost saving email renewal reminder was sent to more than half of those with unpaid memberships earlier this week. The response was overwhelmingly positive.
- Tuesday evening also launched the first email campaign for additional funds. By Wednesday morning, we received \$300 in credit card donations on the web followed by the first check donation of \$50 in Friday morning's mail. The only cost was the time to compose the email and send it... less than one hour.
- Low sales resulted in the removal of the snack machine but we now control all profits from the Coke machine. The donation of initial stock plus improved cost control will result in additional revenues for the Society. Options for a new snack machine are being explored.

Potential Grants Identified

Grantor	Grant Range
Alliant Energy Foundation	\$5,000 - \$10,000
Amerus Group Charitable Foundation	\$250 - \$5,000
Archer Daniels Midland Foundation	\$2,000 - \$25,000
Eaton Charitable Fund	\$2,500 - \$25,000
Edwards Family Foundation	\$500 - \$50,000
Edwin T. Meredith Foundation	\$500 - \$550,000
Employers Mutual Charitable Foundation	\$500 - \$25,000
Fleming Family Foundation	\$500 - \$3,000
Fleming Family Foundation	\$500 - \$3,000
Garst Foundation	\$500 - \$1,000
Gartner Family Foundation	\$500 - \$3,500
General Mills Foundation	\$1,500 - \$25,000
Heerema Charitable Foundation	\$500 - \$100,000
Humanities Iowa	mini grants to \$2,000 major grants to \$20,000
Kinney-Lindstrom Foundation, Inc.	\$400 - \$25,000
Krudenier Charitable Foundation, Inc.	\$17,500 - \$35,000
Meredith Corporation Foundation	\$1,500 - \$25,000
Mid American Energy Foundation	up to \$30,000
Mid American Foundation	\$1,000 - \$25,000
Middleton Foundation	\$500 - \$52,000
National By-Products Foundation	\$500 - \$3,000
Petersen Family Foundation	\$1,000 - \$6,000
Principal Financial Group Foundation, Inc.	Up to \$1,000,000
R. D. McDonald Charitable Trust	\$10 - \$2,025
Robert T. Bates Foundation	\$500 - \$3,000
Rotary Foundation of Rotary International	source of matching funds
Sears-Roebuck Foundation	done locally – unknown
The Elwell Foundation	\$100 - \$73,000
The Greater Des Moines Community Foundation	\$1,000 - \$2,500
The IBP Foundation	\$3,000 - \$30,000
The Vredenburg Foundation	\$5,000 - \$20,000
Thompson Charitable Foundation	\$300 - \$3,000
U.S. Bancorp Foundation	\$300 - \$3,300
Wells Fargo Foundation	done locally – unknown

IGS Executive Director Duties as of November 11, 2003 Examples of work performed in the time required to accomplish them — usually 50+ hours per week:

Business Management — 45% :

- Carry out the directives of the Board and make them aware of major items requiring their attention.
- Responsible for the smooth and efficient daily operation of the organization and building including decision making to ensure the same.
- Instruct, oversee, and provide support to staff and volunteers performing clerical or other functions.
- Handle underlying details of conferences, State Fair booth, Skywalk Golf Tournament, and other special events.
- Point of contact for vendors, business associates, media, chapters, and other external contacts.
- Provide a hub of communication for officers, staff, committee members, project leaders, etc. by disseminating correct and appropriate information.
- Analyze procedures and methods to ensure efficient use of resources.

Accounting — 20% :

- Perform all accounting functions from deposits, check writing, and payroll to year-end reconciliations and adjusting entries using QuickBooks software.
- Prepare and submit all state and federal reports including sales tax, withholding, raffle, non-profit status, and annual 990 tax form. Other reports as requested by insurance companies, etc.
- Process credit card payments through bCentral website and resolve issues, if necessary.

"Key Operator" Functions -15%:

- Resolve operational issues with server, workstation computers, patron computers, printers, reader-printers, copiers, scanner, and cash register to avoid unnecessary service calls and minimize downtime.
- Act as on-site helpdesk for software including Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Outlook, FrontPage, bCentral web hosting, and Adobe Acrobat.
- Program security, keyless entry, and telephone systems as needed.

Media Design — 10% :

- Create brochures, flyers, handouts, and other promotional pieces used to educate the public or market the Society.
- Create electronic versions of the same in PowerPoint and Windows Media.
- Provide technical expertise in the production of the Newsletter, Hawkeye Heritage, and other publications of the Society.
- Provide Webmaster with appropriate media or information.

Purchasing Agent — 5% :

- Acquire supplies and services balancing value with cost.
- Maintain appropriate inventory of standard office supplies including toner, print cartridges, and paper for publications.

Clerical Functions — 5% :

- Processing of mail and email. Respond to questions requiring expertise or authority above the level of administrative assistant. Routine correspondence forwarded to assistant or to researchers.
- Perform database management and computer file maintenance.
- Filing and records management as needed.

Miscellaneous — PRN:

- Other duties as required for the continuing well being of the Society.

Paid vacation will accrue at the rate of 1 week after one year of service, two weeks after three years, and three weeks after seven years.

Region 1 Report

Ray Senior

Lee County, Keokuk

This chapter reports low attendance and corresponding lack of activity. They believe this to be occurring because of so many persons doing their individual research on the Internet. Their most recent program was on Buena Vista Cemetery, primarily its history and some of those buried there.

Van Buren County, Keosauqua

They continue to do gravestone restoration in older cemeteries, including pioneer cemeteries. Recently a new sign was erected by the society designating the Landess-Watkins cemetery on Highway 1 south of Keosauqua.

Des Moines County, Burlington

This chapter is continuing work on an on-going project of locating the records of all churches in the county. This project is approximately 85% complete and the results will be made available to researchers. Their last program was on the history of the Burlington fire department and the December meeting will be a Christmas meeting at Carthage Lake in Illinois. Their new president will be Phyllis Rothlauf, effective in January.

Louisa County, Wapello

This society has only about 8 active members and therefore their programs are put on by the members themselves rather than by outside speakers. Their October program consisted of a power point presentation of views of a trip to Alaska by car over the Alcan Highway. Their November meeting will be a soup supper with a program on an Amish community in Indiana. A representative of a book company from Marceline, Missouri will also be there to discuss the feasibility of publishing a pictorial history of the county.

Henry County, Mount Pleasant

This chapter is no longer active.

Old Fort Genealogical Society, Fort Madison

This society's next meeting will be a soup supper later this month; however they will not have a December meeting. They have walked many of the cemeteries in Lee County to update and correct their records and all of this information has been put on computer by Patricia Morrison and sent to librarians in the area. They also coordinate with the Lee County Pioneer Cemetery Association which just recently did extensive work in the Locust Grove-Jones Cemetery.

Jefferson County, Fairfield

This chapter is small, and they report decreasing numbers. They now have 10 - 12 active members. Verda Baird is no longer the corresponding secretary and they have not been able to replace her, so they currently do not have a corresponding secretary. They do not see any possibility of combining with Henry County.

Region 2 Report

Peter J. Seaba

Johnson County

The Iowa City Genealogical Society asked the person teaching a German Genealogy Course at Kirkwood Community College, Marguerite Miller, to give a talk. I was out of town at the time, so I was offered as an assistant and shared the presentation. The interest was great enough that a German Interest Group was formed and will meet every 2 months. I love it; all my ancestors came from Germany (actually the Kingdom of Hanover, Saarland, Bavaria). The web page at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~iajohnso/> was constructed and is maintained by Harvey Henry. It is one of the few GenWeb sites with close ties to the local genealogy society. There are rumors about a IGS tax debt. Yes, there is one. As you all know, in Iowa we are fortunate to pay our property taxes in arrears (I think that's how it is stated). Anyway we are paying taxes over a year behind. And at that time the property was owned by a for-profit group. I'll come back with the full story Sunday.

Keo-Mah.

Yes, it was certainly a shock to learn about Tom. I always liked Tom and he tried to do right by our society even having to battle the people at the Herald. After his retirement I thought I would get down to have coffee and a chat with him but never seemed to fit in my schedule regrettably. It looks like the previous owner should have paid all taxes up to date. Unless it was in the purchase agreement. Right now we have all we can handle for our fate. Our building has been sold as a unit to a doctor as was each unit in this building (4). I think they are wanting to make it all doctors and maybe form their own clinic. So we may have to move. I was upset with the landlady we were not offered to buy our unit. So we are looking around just in case. Have not even met our new landlady yet. We have been struggling with finances ourselves to keep the doors open. IGS will just have to bite the bullet and get rid of some waste they do not need. I think they may be paying too much in salaries. Can't they get the empty space rented? Did all the chapters commit to paying the pledges each year for three years? We scraped together ours for this year. If every chapter paid \$50 that's a lot of money right there. Mab

I have doubled checked and no check has ever been received yet this year 2004. I would need to go back into 2003 receipts to see when the last one was sent. Please see what you can find out and if they say they are not selling any of our books then we will pull all of them out of their hands and publish ourselves. We have ordered from them some of these the past year to sell in our library so we never received our commission from even these. Thanks.

Iowa County

Our society is having a Christmas Party the first Saturday night in December. We have a party for our December meeting each year. Officers and Board Members for 2005 are as follows: President: Ed Gleason; Vice President: Sherry Sinn; Recording Secretary: Larry McCallister; Corresponding Secretary; Evelyn Mangold; Treasurer: Shirley Steffen; Financial Secretary: Deloris Dietrich; Past President: Twila Gerard; Board of Directors: Monte Lemkuhl, Eva Schmidt, and Shirley Wade. As you probably know they are trying to raise money for an addition and renovation to the Marengo Library. We are trying to raise a little money to help with the room that they have penciled in for our group.

– Twila Gerard

Region 5 Don and Toni Mulert

Bremer Co.-Waverly

They just received a grant from the State Historical Society to microfilm the Plainfield newspapers, as they recently finished the Tripoli papers. In November they have a speaker and the December meeting will be a "show and tell" about personal research.

Chickasaw Co.-New Hampton

They're currently trying to find a grant writer for a microfilming project. Their new president will be Jeanette Hendrix who has recently moved back to town.

Clayton Co.-Elkader

They continue to work on their projects. Their new president will be Helen Krieg Thomas.

Fayette Co.-West Union

They don't have a meeting in November, but have a potluck in December. Projects continue.

Oelwein Area-Oelwein

They're very happy because they're finally building a new public library in Oelwein which will start in the spring. The society has been saving money for a long time so they could have a room in the new library and now they will have it.

Decorah Area-Decorah

They are currently doing a history on country schools. They are almost ready to print 4 atlas and plat book from Winneshiek County. The December meeting will be at Spillville with the Czech group. On January 10th, they will have a workshop from Humanities Iowa about POW'S in WWII.

**Region 6 Report
Charles B. Prickett
Mason City, Iowa**

North Central Iowa Genealogical Society

Since our normal meeting date was during the Labor Day weekend no meeting was held; however, we did have our second annual bus trip to the IGS Library in Des Moines the following week. Although the participation this year was smaller, I did receive favorable reports from those attending.

I did not attend the October meeting due to the conflict with the IGS Fall Conference. The program was presented by the society president on the subject of research problems and possible solutions.

Our November meeting Art Fischbeck, a local historian, presented a Mason City time-line starting in 1879 which was very well received.

The Society is still attempting to compile the information from walking the cemeteries in Cerro Gordo County. This project should be completed soon.

Lime Creek Genealogy Society (Winnebago County)

Our August meeting was a tour of the Winnebago County Court House. We were very well received in each office with employees explaining their duties with emphasis on the genealogical records they maintained.

The September meeting was to have been a tour of the cemeteries in western Winnebago County; however, due to lack of attendance the tour was cancelled. The October meeting was also cancelled.

PafWays of North Iowa (a genealogy computer interest group)

Our monthly meetings were devoted to members presenting the particular genealogical software being used and other computer applications available to the genealogist. We continue to republish obituaries from area newspapers onto our website at <http://pafways.org/>. We are presently building monthly pages for 2005 and plan to convert the pages prepared prior to 2004 to the new template.

Hamilton's College recently relocated to western Mason City and offered us the use of one of their computer labs to hold our meetings. Some of the members were having trouble following the presentations at our present meeting site in the Community State Bank's Heritage Room, where we had a computer connected to a 36 inch TV monitor so we decided to accept the Hamilton offer on a trial basis. The Hamilton site has forty computers and eight hookups for laptops which are networked but can be individually connected to the internet. In addition, a projector connected to the instructor's computer projects onto a large ten-foot screen that can be seen by everyone in the room.

Region 8 Report

Fredrick D. DeVries

Ankeny Genealogical Society (Polk County):

On the 25th of last month, I attended their periodic meeting and was their program. They had a very good attendance, numbering 25 I believe. They even had 2 attend that were newcomers. They are currently working on Probate Records and Old Funeral Records. They had a discussion and decided to produce a new-member kit.

Central Iowa Genealogical Society (Marshall County):

This is a very active group, and their meeting of October 11th was no exception. The program was on use of digital cameras in genealogy, how digital cameras are becoming a way of life for genealogists. I attended their September meeting which was attended by 26 members and 10 guests. They always have a good turn-out, and I think it is partially due to the good programs. Their newsletter is always informative and educational, and usually has an article regarding IGS.

Jasper County Genealogical Society: No report.

Marion County Genealogical Society:

The good news for this chapter is that they now have a new newsletter editor. The one they had is now going south part of the year and is not able to do it. I attended their meeting in September and did feel a stronger interest in keeping the chapter going. They just need more participants. Their research room is located in the Knoxville Public Library. They had 33 visitors this past quarter.

Pioneer Sons & Daughters (Polk County):

I attended their meeting October 19th which met at Hamilton's Funeral Home. This meeting was originally scheduled for July 20th. The program was presented by Carlton Peterson regarding the early years of funeral home business in Polk County. A very very interesting program, many stayed afterwards to ask questions and to review their old records.

Story County Genealogical Society: No report.

Warren County Genealogical Society:

This chapter had another great year at their county fair booth. And another fine newsletter including articles on: a research trip to Akron, OH; Bits and pieces about...Indianola Schools 1904; rain could not stop Jefferson highway opening; a 1904 article in the Advocate-Tribune; research helps-ideas from our members; internet research and more; and paragraphs about several Warren County Fair Exhibits at their chapter booth.

Region 10 Report

Jane Briley

Union County

Transcriptions of the Graceland Cemetery Records in Creston are now complete and publication will begin. New members have joined the group so for the first time in several years we will have new blood as officers. They expressed gratitude to LuAnn for giving a presentation at a recent meeting.

Clarke County

Clarke County has had several interesting programs throughout the summer and fall months. Some of the topics have been pioneer churches in Clarke County, country schools in Clarke County, and funeral home records in Clarke County. They have bought 11 new microfilm rolls that will help complete the rolls they have had missing from their newspaper and census collection. They have roll call sharing every other month and an interesting topic recently discussed was where the members were born.

No report for **Adams County**

Ringgold and Taylor Counties do not have regular meetings.

Decatur County does not have a group.

Region 12 Report

Grace Hertz - gradon@ncn.net

Laurens (Pocahontas County) Genies

Microfilm of Pocahontas and Buena Vista County records (including records from churches, town offices, local libraries) has arrived (filming was done in conjunction with the Genealogical Society of Utah and the State Historical Society of Iowa). The microfilm has been deposited in the Laurens Public Library as well as other area repositories that have microfilm readers. Members of the group will be decorating a Christmas tree in the Laurens Festival of Trees; decorations will be done with a German theme.

Pocahontas County Genealogical Society (in Pocahontas)

The Index of the Palmer, Iowa 1900-2000 History Book has been sent to the IGS for publication as part of the Revenue Sharing Program. The members are working with the Pocahontas Public Library to expand their space for genealogical materials. I had a wonderful time judging the genealogy exhibits at the Pocahontas County Fair (exhibit was sponsored by the Pocahontas Genies.) The exhibits were more numerous than those in 2003. They expanded the lists of class separations so that competition would be more equitable within each class. They hope that in 2005 the 5th graders from the local schools will participate as part of their family history project.

Webster County Genealogical Society

Members of the society continue to photograph grave markers in cemeteries in Webster County. I have attended a number of their meetings recently and have presented programs at the same time. Attendance is lagging at the meetings; I have been encouraging them to plan their meetings well ahead of time; have programs/roll calls rather than just a business meeting; continue to publicize the meetings. I have sent a list of suggested programs/roll calls to them. The society will sponsor a Christmas tree at the Webster County Museum Christmas display.

I was the speaker at their annual meeting in September; I presented the program about "Daniel Webster - From Farm Boy to Senator"; Webster County is named after Daniel Webster.

Calhoun County Genealogical Society

During the summer, the members have been out walking and recording information in cemeteries in Calhoun County. This winter the members of the group plan to compare the notes from the cemetery walking of the Rockwell City Cemetery with the records at the City Clerk's office in Rockwell City. They are working to collect newspaper articles and other information for their planned book about "small cemeteries and stones" in Calhoun County. Cemeteries to be included are Bishop, Twin Lakes Township, Leith, Hope and Sherman. Most of these cemeteries no longer have burials; two of them have lost or buried cemetery books. They will have a Christmas tree for the Avenue of Trees at the Calhoun County Museum during the Thanksgiving Season.

Emmet County Genealogical Society

I continue to work with them to try to increase attendance and interest at their meetings. Members continue to answer queries. One of the members has been putting lists of Emmet County cemeteries and burials therein on the Emmet County GenWeb page. Members of the group have been filing original funeral obituaries in a notebook.

Humboldt County Genealogical Society

Their 2005 calendars "As It Was" are on sale for the price of \$5@; back editions are also available for sale. If you have any connections with Humboldt County, I would highly recommend that you purchase one of these calendars. Fascinating old photographs! They will also have a decorated Christmas tree at the annual Humboldt Christmas Tree Walk at Faith United Methodist Church in December.

Palo Alto County Genealogical Society

The society is working with the Emmetsburg Public Library to obtain a grant to have newspapers in

Palo Alto County microfilmed; the papers to be filmed will probably be the two Emmetsburg papers from the mid 1940's through the 1960's as well as the first newspaper volume dated 1874. They also hope to get some of the old Graettinger newspapers filmed. Members also keep busy answering queries and adding materials to their library collection.

Visitors to the Emmetsburg Library have made good use of information compiled on 3x5 cards by one of their older members, Ruth Hauenstein. The old Carnegie library was only a few blocks from her home so she went there and copied obituaries, death notices, personal information, etc; she also went to the courthouse and copied information from the birth, death, marriage and divorce volumes. She copied the still births, etc. before the clerk of court covered up that information. Society members will be adding 3x5 cards to the surname card file using her format. The cards are in an old wooden library card catalog in the Emmetsburg Library.

REGION #13 REPRESENTATIVE REPORT
Lyon Osceola Dickinson Sioux O'Brien Clay Counties of NW Iowa
By Stan Bastman

Iowa Lakes Genealogical Society- 21 AUG 2004

Met in the Spencer Public Library Round Room (9 people present)

Trip to the IGS library in Des Moines was discussed Help Day is September 1 2:00 - 4:30 PM.

Money making ideas were discussed: calendar and a sale of members' extra/unused books, A future program of antique valuations was also discussed

Computer Genies of NW Iowa — 4 SEP 2004

Met at the Primghar City Park shelter house in Primghar, IA (12 people present)

Annual potluck picnic at noon

Program by Scott & Mary Gibson on how they make the memorial markers for cemeteries, told of different stones and how to do stone rubbings plus other interesting bits of information interesting

We received a query and sold two Gedcom disks from Vancouver, Washington state. Nice day for a motorcycle ride.

Iowa Lakes Genealogical Society- 18 SEP 2004

Met in the Spencer Public Library Round Room (18 people present)

Now, you are not old enough to be that absent minded. In September (and I wasn't there) you had people present and for Fair week that isn't too bad. You had shown naturalization papers for your grandparents, etc. Discussion was about money making ideas and it was decided to get the notebook covers for the collection.

Greater Sioux County Genealogical Society - 25 SEP 2004

Meeting at the Temporary library the Sioux Center Community Center at Sioux Center, IA

The City of Sioux Center has decided to remodel the burned library building and has requested the genealogy club to determine the space needed for genealogy.

Frank Postma has started to write a grant to get the Rock Valley Bee 1892-1900 news paper microfilmed.

I passed out IGS brochures and presented the information about the up coming IGS Fall Conference. Note it is sold out.

Computer Genies of NW Iowa – 02 OCT 2004

Plymouth County Historical Society Museum

No meeting held — Officers went to the IGS Fall Conference.

Iowa Lakes Genealogical Society- 16 OCT 2004

Met in the Spencer Public Library Round Room, we didn't get to attend.

Marilyn and I attended the funeral of Louise Bastman, (my dad's cousin) in Worthington, MN, and the 40th wedding anniversary dinner of Merel and Janice Clark in Lake Park, IA

Computer Genies of NW Iowa – 06 NOV 2004

Met for lunch at the Family Table Restaurant in Cherokee, IA (15 people present)

We had election of officers. They are President; Darrell Easton, Vice President; Clay Nemmers, Secretary; Pat Behrens, Treasurer; Stan Bastman, Librarian; Linda Mohning. Incumbents were Darrel, Clay and Pat.

Region 14 Report

Janice Danielson, Storm Lake, Iowa

Buena Vista County

Our county has been receiving money each year from the Board of Supervisors. This year, however, we were cut way back on the amount we received. We are hoping this is a temporary setback, but probably won't be. We continue to extract births, marriages, and deaths from the Alta newspapers. We are indexing each year as we go. It will be a long while before we get this done. We had a very good crowd at our November meeting. We wish our membership dues could pay all the expenses, but they do not. We are still trying to come up with projects that might generate income for the group.

Plymouth County

They are still indexing newspapers, both old and new. The monthly meetings are well attended, numbering about 30. They have 70 members from all over the US; They do have a quarterly newsletter. This month they are asking members to bring heirloom quilts to tell about. They have had their election of officers for this year.

Woodbury County

This energetic group has "genealogy classes" not beginner classes! They are having about 12-14 people show up for the classes so far, and have gained 3 new members. They are updating rural cemeteries, which will be sent to IGS for revenue sharing. They are also working on naturalizations, which will also be submitted for revenue sharing.

Cherokee County

This group is small but mighty! When I was there last month they had about 8 people in attendance (and 2 of us were from Storm Lake). They are still indexing births, marriages, and deaths, and copying from old family scrapbooks. They are just now finishing the 1984 Cherokee Daily Times extraction.

Sac County

This is another very small group---they miss Sue McKnight! They meet infrequently, so not much to report from their group.

Ida County

This group meets only a few times during the year. Their President goes South in the winter, so they don't meet then. Last time I talked to them they were still working on updating their cemeteries.

Conclusion

This was not the most productive summer for me. I had 2 eye surgeries, and wasn't able to drive for several months. But I have kept in close touch with my groups. They have all been trying to keep busy, and to beef up their memberships. It is a hard battle, which I am sure is the same all over the state. In our rural areas it is even more so. I am going to be calling on the remaining groups in the next 2 months. I have been to most of the groups this year, some more than once.