

JANUARY 2012

# IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## A-HUNTING WE WILL GO

It's a new year and a new season of opportunities to hunt for the missing links in your family tree. The Iowa Genealogical Society is pleased to offer programs, classes and activities that will aid you in your search.

Plan a visit to the IGS Library in Des Moines; knowledgeable volunteers are here to assist you. Attend a class--instruction is offered in a wide range of topics and for every level of expertise. Mark your calendar for our annual conferences; the April 14th Spring Conference, "Picture This!", features workshops in photographic restoration and preservation.

Can't make a trip to Des Moines? The IGS bimonthly newsletter, eNews and website keeps you up-to-date with helpful news, information, research techniques and resources. Our premier journal, the *Hawkeye Heritage*, enriches your understanding of Iowa's history and the heritage of her people.

So what are we waiting for? A-hunting we will go!



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### IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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### LIBRARY HOURS

Monday, Wednesday,  
Friday & Saturday  
10 a.m.—4 p.m.

Tuesday & Thursday  
10 a.m.—9 p.m.

## IGS EXECUTIVE BOARD

### President

Nicoe Hart

### 1st Vice President

vacant

### 2nd Vice President

Mary Lohr

### Secretary

Shirley Woodruff

### Treasurer

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## IGS STAFF

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On the cover: Winter hunters,  
Mahaska County, Iowa, ca. 1940.  
Courtesy of Alice Hoyt Veen.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*By Nicoe Hart, IGS President*

Greetings IGS Members & Friends,

As I write this, the sun is out and the IGS building gleams a shiny, sleek, black enamel. That signifies that the exterior southern walls have been repaired and painted, allowing the glass face of the facility to begin rising as the glass panels are set in place. Thanks to those who have contributed to the "Saving Face" campaign, the actual end of this project can now be visualized.



The Two Rivers crew has finished placing all but two of the glass panels on the eastern 2/3 of the facility. They will install the glass panels on the West Wing next. Once the top cover goes on the frame near the roof, the royal blue parapet cover will be installed.

It has taken from April to December for the "Saving Face" construction to be completed—from the day the damage occurred, to raising the wall again—and that surely deserves celebration that it is done. Please join us at a celebration to be announced soon and have your picture taken in front of the glass wall as a contributor to its rising again.



### Capital Campaign Update

The "Saving Face" campaign is not yet complete; we are six thousand dollars short of meeting our obligation for 25% of construction costs. Why should you contribute? To make an investment for future generations to whom we will pass on the Society and its assets. The contractors are outpacing our fundraising campaign. Please consider helping IGS achieve its goal whether your gift is large or small.

Upon completion of the project, the buildings which compose the Society's home will be worth \$925,000; nearly a dollar-for-dollar return on the repairs. The location is ideal for researchers—the Iowa Historical Society Library and State Archives are located directly across the street. Park at IGS, check in at the librarian's desk, then treat yourself to research at both facilities.

Our location at the edge of the historical East Village enhances the future value of the Society's property. If everyone who has not contributed sent in \$10, we would meet our obligation and goal.

In an upcoming newsletter, the names of the contributors will be published and if that list is a majority of our members it will send a real message to our banker and future grantors that we as a Society are a good investment and worthy of their support.

--Regards, Nicoe

## IGS NEWS

### IGS Welcomes a New Publicity Chair

IGS is pleased to welcome a new volunteer and member who has stepped forward to work as Publicity Chairperson and on



the grant writing committee. With over twenty years experience in non-profit and service industries, **Kimberly Carr Irvin** brings enthusiasm, experience with publicity, grant writing, and contacts with grantors. Welcome to the team, Kim!

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### *Hawkeye Heritage* Publication Schedule

The *Hawkeye Heritage*, published quarterly, is IGS's premier source for Iowa-specific genealogy, history, methodology, and resources of enduring value.

Download and read current and past issues at the IGS website:

<http://www.iowagenealogy.org/library/collections/publications-2/#hawkeye>.

Back issues are also available in a print format.

Editor Shirley Woodruff encourages family historians to submit articles and research for inclusion in the *Hawkeye Heritage*.

2012 *Hawkeye Heritage* publication schedule:

**January - March issue:** Articles due 31 January to be printed by 15 February 2012.

**April - June issue:** Articles due 30 April to be printed by 15 May 2012.

**July - September issue:** Articles due 31 July to be printed by 15 August 2012.

**October - December issue:** Articles due 31 October to be printed by 15 November 2012.

Please submit articles to Shirley Woodruff: [shirley@yostonline.com](mailto:shirley@yostonline.com), or to the IGS office: 628 East Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50309-1924.

### **“Saving Face” Campaign** *How you can support IGS*

Individuals, IGS Chapters and IGS Special Interest Groups are encouraged to support the “Saving Face” capital campaign and help preserve Iowa’s premier family history library. Donations received to date total **\$23,000.00**.

***Every dollar raised is important and deeply appreciated.***

#### • **Take the Ankeny Challenge!**

The Ankeny Genealogical Society has made a generous donation of \$100 to the Iowa Genealogical Society. AGS challenges other Chapters and individuals to match their donation.

#### • **Meet the German Challenge!**

The German Interest Group has donated \$6,650 and challenges other interest groups, chapters and members to match their donation.

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### **Somewhere in Time: IGS Wedding Memories**

A committee is forming and volunteers are needed to organize an exhibition of members’ vintage wedding gowns and family memories in the West Wing of the IGS Library.



Members are invited to display their heirloom wedding dresses along with written wedding stories. For those who don’t have the original dress, display a wedding picture of the bride or couple with their special story. Gowns will be displayed by vintage era and prizes will be awarded in various categories.

This fundraiser is tentatively planned for 10 - 12 May 2012, and promises to be a unique, memorable event. Be part of fun! To volunteer **your time and talents, contact Nicoe Hart, [nicoehart@gmail.com](mailto:nicoehart@gmail.com).**

**NOTE: See page 7 for some exciting information and a new volunteer opportunity.**

## Salt Lake City Research Trip

3 - 10 June 2012

Trip coordinator: Diane Densmore

Join IGS for a special research trip to Salt Lake City, 3 - 10 June 2012. Accommodations are at the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel, conveniently located near the Family History Library.



Cost includes room, hotel van transportation to and from the airport, and tips to van drivers. A genealogy class is taught Monday evening at the hotel.

Transportation expenses to and from Salt Lake City and meals are NOT included.

Single room: \$700

Double occupancy: \$350 per person

Triple occupancy: \$250 per person

Quad occupancy: \$250 per person

A deposit of \$100 is due by **February 1st** to reserve your room. The balance is due by **March 15th**. No additional bookings will be added after March 15th. Rooms cannot be cancelled after April 3rd without penalty.

You arrange your own transportation. If you fly, Diane needs your flight information with your balance payment.

You are responsible for signing up for hotel van transportation to the airport for departure. It is suggested you do this early in the week. Allow at least two hours before your flight.

Make deposit checks payable to Diane Densmore. For more information, or to make reservations, contact:

Diane Densmore  
7167 Espanade St.  
Johnston, Iowa 50131  
Ph. 515-270-1974  
[ddindsm1@mchsi.com](mailto:ddindsm1@mchsi.com)

## 2012 IGS Education News

By Linda Greethurst, Education Committee

The Education Committee is busy planning a stellar year of classes for genealogists of all levels of expertise. Take advantage of these great presentations to enhance your own research. Watch the newsletter, eNews, website and the bulletin boards for further information regarding dates, times, or even bringing your meal. The classes are scheduled for various days and times.

The main Education bulletin board is in the hallway opposite the restrooms. Check it often to see what is coming up. The sign-up bulletin board is just as you enter the library, or contact IGS: 515-276-0287, [igs@iowagenealogy.org](mailto:igs@iowagenealogy.org) to reserve your place in class.

Most months have a “theme” or emphasis of research. This includes a lecture class of research awareness, processes to try, and analytical skills development. A second class the same month highlights a specific website, tips and hints for using that website, and demonstrations to find the information you need.

There will be some months, of course, that will deviate from the norm. But here is a teaser of what’s coming up:

**January’s theme** deals with getting started. In addition to a “**Beginning Genealogy Class**” on January 31st which introduces organization and using the census, the January 21st “**Maps**” class involves looking in the right place for your records. You won’t find any data on your ancestors if you are looking in the wrong township, county or state.



Knowing WHERE to look for records often breaks down those brick walls in your research. This class covers the many different kinds of maps created over the years, analyzes the information available on each type, and discusses terminology commonly found on historic maps. We’ll also take a look at the software program *Animap*.

-- continued on page 13

## LIBRARY NEWS: Cataloging Corner

By Diane Densmore, Library Acquisitions



We added sixty-two books to our shelves in September and October which brings our total to 339 for the year 2011.

New acquisitions for Iowa, by county, include:

**Keokuk:** *Webster, Reflections of the Past*

**Iowa:** *One-Room School Houses, Iowa County, Iowa, 1844-1966*

**Polk: Funeral home and church records:**

*Caldwell Funeral Home, Des Moines, 1947*

*Dahlstrom Funeral Home, Des Moines, 1935-1938*

*A Church for All Seasons, First United Methodist Church, Des Moines*

*History of the First United Methodist Church of Des Moines*

Some of the states and their counties added to our shelves:

**Connecticut:** Hartford

**Illinois:** Pope

**Missouri:** St. Louis

**New York:** Albany, Hudson Valley area, Mohawk River Valley area

**Virginia:** Surry, Sussex

Surnames for new family history books include **Angell, Beckner, Bogardus, Bradt, Carlson, Carr, Davidson, Garber, Hooghteeling, Rice, Speck, Westrum.**

Other books to note:

*The Great Migration, Immigrants to New England, 1634-1635, Volume VII, T-Y* (which completes this set).

*Map Guide to German Parish Registers, Vol. 40.*

*The Pilgrim Migration: Immigrants to Plymouth Colony, 1620-1691.*

Check the "Recent Library Book Acquisitions" binder on top of the card catalog files when you're at IGS. The list of our new books is printed at the beginning of each month.

### Hidden Treasures

Did you know that the family newsletters have been pulled from the Vertical Files and are now in their own file cabinets? You can find these two cabinets next to the Vertical Files. Family newsletters hold a wealth of information.

The other treasure this month can be defined by two words: "Look up!" Oversized books are located on the top shelves throughout our library. Many are maps and atlases, but you will also find history and marriage record books. When you see "Q" on a card catalog Dewey number, such as 977.7/SHELBY/83/Q, "Q" indicates an oversized book.

### The Ten Most Wanted Report

Our current wanted list:

1. *A Topical History of Cedar County, Iowa* (We thought that it was paid off, but then learned that it would cost more than originally thought.)

2, 3, 4, 5, 6. *Family Map* books by Gregory Boyd for Decatur, Madison, Page, and Ringgold Counties, Iowa. These would complete the twenty-six books available for Iowa counties. Union County has been paid for, but will not be ordered until more can be combined to save on shipping costs.

7. *Strangers and Pilgrims, Travelers and Sojourners* (about the Pilgrims and their beginnings in England and Holland) published by The General Society of Mayflower Descendants.

8. *History of the Town of Palmer Massachusetts, 1716-1889.*

9. A book about Iowa Township, Dubuque County, Iowa, which contains old plat maps, pioneer obituaries and small town histories, among many other items.

If you know of a book you would like to have on our shelves, please consider adding it to the list for just \$10. After that, any amount may be donated towards the purchase of any book on the list.

## CHAPTER NEWS FROM ACROSS IOWA

Twice since 1978 when **Greene County Genealogical Society** was formed, members have walked every cemetery in the county, recording tombstone inscriptions. Every township except Hardin has at least one cemetery. There are twenty-nine cemeteries in the fifteen townships. Books of inscriptions for each township, with separate books for the larger cemeteries, have been published by the Society and are available to the public.



Several cemeteries are designated as "Pioneer Cemeteries." These plots have had fewer than five burials in the past fifty years. There are ten "Pioneer Cemeteries" in Greene County. A six-member Pioneer Cemetery Commission oversees these cemeteries. A certain amount of money is allocated to them each year by the County Board of Supervisors, if needed by the Commission. Broken stones have been replaced, small out-of-the-way cemeteries have been cleaned up and fenced, and in two cases large stones has been erected showing the names of people known to be buried there.

Tombstone inscriptions in the cemeteries have been recorded by members, then checked against death records, death notices in county newspapers, and records of burials kept by the township or city clerks. Between all these references, many names were added as "buried with no stone" in the pertinent cemetery books. Many cemeteries have several names -- perhaps the name of the person who gave the land for the initial cemetery, or the name of a family with many members buried in that cemetery, or the name of a nearby town, or the township.

For more information about the Greene County Genealogical Society, their programs, publications and activities, visit their website: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~iagcgs/> or contact Greene County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 133, Jefferson, Iowa 50129-0133.

*- Contributed by Jim Lawton, IGS Region 11 Representative*

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS NEWS

The Iowa Genealogical Society is home to a variety of special interest groups. Start your New Year with a resolution to learn more about your unique heritage!

**German Interest Group** meets on the **first Monday** of each month at 7 p.m. at the IGS library and offers the opportunity to share knowledge of German research.

**African American Interest Group** meets the **first Tuesday** of each month at 7 p.m. at the IGS Library. For more information, contact Judy McClain, c/o the IGS Library.

**Italian American Interest Group** meets on the **second Tuesday** of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the IGS Library. The group discusses how to research in Italy, helps others in their search for ancestors, shares information, websites, and resources. For more information, contact Kathy Foggia, c/o the IGS Library.

**Irish Interest Group** meets on the **third Tuesday** of each month at 7 p.m. in the IGS Library. Emphasis is placed on documenting the family in the United States to uncover their Irish county origins. Contact Theresa Liewer, c/o the IGS Library for more information.

**Norwegian Interest Group** meets on the **fourth Tuesday** of the month (except December) at 7 p.m. at the IGS Library to discuss techniques, resources and ideas for Norwegian research. For more information, contact Linda Greethurst, c/o the IGS Library.

**English-Welsh Interest Group** meets on the **fourth Thursday** of the month at 7 p.m. at the IGS Library to explore English and Welsh heritage. For more information, contact: Nicoe Hart, c/o the IGS Library.

**Scots/Scots-Irish Interest Group** meets the **second Thursday** of the month at 7 p.m. at IGS. For more information, contact Nicoe Hart, c/o the IGS Library.

**Legacy User Group** meets the **third Thursday** of the month at the IGS Library, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Learn the skills you need to make the most of your Legacy software. For more information, contact Carlita Beltz, c/o the IGS Library.

## NATIONAL AND REGIONAL NEWS

### *It's Coming! the 1940 Federal Census Free Online*

The National Archives has announced its selection of Inflection, parent company to family history web site *Archives.com*, to design and host a free web site for the **2 April 2012** launch of the 1940 U.S. Census. This is the first time that the National Archives has released a U.S. Census online.

On April 2nd, users will be able to search, browse, and download the 1940 Census schedules from their own computers or from the public computers at National Archives locations nationwide through the new 1940 Census web site, free of charge.

Please note, a name index will not exist when the information is first released in April. The National Archives has indexed the schedules by state, county, city, township or minor civil division, and enumeration district. Researchers can prepare for the launch by searching the 1940 Census maps and enumeration district descriptions in the National Archives' Online Public Access catalog: [www.archives.gov/research/search/](http://www.archives.gov/research/search/) then browse the 1940 Census population schedules for that enumeration district.

For the release of the 1940 Census online, the National Archives has digitized the entire census, creating more than 3.8 million digital images of census schedules, maps, and enumeration district descriptions.

Visit 1940 Census:

[www.archives.gov/research/census/1940/](http://www.archives.gov/research/census/1940/) for more information or e-mail: [1940Census@nara.gov](mailto:1940Census@nara.gov).

Questions on the 1940 Census include standard ones such as: name, age, gender, race, education, and place of birth. It also asks new questions, reflecting concerns of the Great Depression. The instructions ask the enumerator to enter an X after the name of the person furnishing the information about the family; to note whether the person worked for the CCC, WPA, or NYA the week of March 24-30, 1940; and to list where they lived on 1 April 1935.



The 1940 Census also has a supplemental schedule for preselected lines on each page. This schedule asks the place of birth of the person's father and mother, and the person's usual occupation, not just what they were doing the week of March 24-30, 1940. All women included in the supplemental form were asked if they had ever been married, how many times, and at what age did the first marriage take place.

***Read a local 1940 census story on page 12.***

### **Exciting Volunteer Opportunity for IGS**

IGS has agreed to participate in the *Family Search* 1940 Census Project by indexing the Iowa portion of the Federal Census to be released 2 April 2012. A **Group Administrator** and other volunteers are needed for this project.

The project will be headquartered at IGS but will be spread across Iowa with some members even indexing outside Iowa. Our Group Administrator will be a key organizer, manager and communicator to everyone involved.

Be part of making genealogical history!. Volunteer your time and talents to help bring the 1940 census to the world!

Contact IGS President Nicoe Hart: [nicoehart@gmail.com](mailto:nicoehart@gmail.com) or the IGS Library: 515-276-0287, [igs@iowagenealogy.org](http://igs@iowagenealogy.org) to volunteer!

## News From the Family History Library

By Shirley Woodruff, IGS Secretary

These websites are now available for researchers at the Family History Center:

*19th Century British Library Newspaper Digital Archive.* Search-able database of British Library's newspaper holdings. Forty-eight national and regional Victorian British newspapers from the 19th Century.

*Access Newspaper Archive.* World's largest online newspaper archive.

*Alexander Street Press/ Civil - The American Civil War: Research Database / Letters and Diaries/ Images, Photographs, Posters and Ephemera.* A vivid pictorial history of the Civil War.

*Ancestry.com.* Access to thousands of collections of records from around the world.

*Find My Past.* 1911 British Census; other census records, births, marriages, and deaths.

*Fold3.com* (Previously known as *Footnote.com*). Best online collection of military records and stories and other items for research.

*The Genealogist.* English Parish records, directories, census, civil registration, surname mapping and selected Army and Navy lists.

*Godfrey Memorial Library.* US and international resources, the Genealogical biographical Index, and much, much more!



*Heritage Quest Online.* Open to those centers who qualify. Des Moines Family History Center does.

*Historic Map Works Library Edition.* Cadastral maps illustrating the geographical and developmental history of the United States.

*Paper Trail.* 19th Century westward American migration documents.

*World Vital Records.* Vital records, Social Security Death Index, family trees, census records, immigration records; court, land and probate records and much more!

*FamilySearch.org* has restored the "Batch Number Search." Using this feature, you can search the entire data set for a range of years from a batch of records, such as Norwich Cathedral marriages or christenings. This is a great tool used to help you discover the names of additional family members, such as an ancestors' siblings, and to overcome problems in both surname and given name spelling variations.

## IOWA'S ETHNIC HERITAGE

February is Black History month, and a good time to reflect on Iowa's African-American heritage. Although Iowa's African American population has never exceeded three percent, African Americans have a long and significant history in our state.

From the era of the Underground Railroad to the coal camps of the early 1900s, through the decades of the civil rights struggle, the history of African Americans in Iowa is closely intertwined with the overall story of Iowa's people.

The concepts of freedom, equality and economic opportunity are universal, and the commitment to achieving those goals marks the history of Iowa's black population.

To quote author Tom Morain's introduction to *Outside In: A Book for All Iowans*,

"The story of African Americans in Iowa is the story of all Iowans."

The African American Interest Group at IGS shares this commitment to preserving and telling the stories of Iowa's



Courtesy of the African American Museum of Iowa

African Americans. Members are available to help family historians with the unique challenges associated with African American research.

For more information about AAIG services and activities, contact Judy McClain, c/o the IGS Library.

## HISTORIAN'S PERSPECTIVE: Keeper of the People's Memory

By Edith Munro, IGS newsletter co-editor

Many years ago, I read a suspense novel set in southern Africa. Its details are hazy now, but I remember vividly that in each village in the story there was a tribal member who served as the official "keeper of the people's memory."

I've always liked that concept. Historians will write about the Mayflower Compact, the Civil War, or the Great Depression, but they won't write a family's history. You need a "keeper of the people's memory" who can tell the stories – how great-grandma came to America from Ireland, where grandpa served in World War II, how Uncle George told the funniest stories, what you were doing when you heard the Apollo mission had landed on the moon.

You may hear people, even family members, question why this matters. Let me offer some evidence that it matters very greatly indeed.

Human beings have an innate need to make sense of their world, to answer basic questions like "Who am I?" or "How did we get here?"



Grandfather John Burka  
Courtesy of Edith Munro

Listen to people tell their family stories to hear some of the answers. I think, for example, of my friend Cheryl, whose grandmother was told to quit school and work to support yet another baby in her large, poor family. Only fourteen years old, she defied her father and emigrated from Russia to America. A story like that tells a lot about the family's tradition of strong-willed, independent women who take control of their own lives.



In my own family, there is the story of Grandpa Burka, who worked in the steel mills for fifty-one years without ever being late for work or missing a day for illness. The highest term of praise he knew was "good worker," and "good worker" continues to be a family compliment even to a generation that barely knew him.

At the opposite extreme, though they may love the people who raised them, many adopted people struggle over not knowing their family backgrounds. They are missing key stories about who they are.

Consider the success of NBC's *Who Do You Think You Are?* or Henry Louis Gates' PBS shows that traced the ancestry of noted African Americans--and think especially about how strongly the celebrities profiled on these programs responded to recapturing their families' history.

Even scraps of our ancestors' lives can answer questions or create ties – that is evident every winter as we celebrate the holidays with lutefisk or pizzelles, or some other dish we must have because "it wouldn't be Christmas without that."

In the end, you may be the unspoken "keeper of the people's memory" for your family. So keep up the research, capture the details (not just the genealogy), pass on the stories, and watch especially for those younger family members who listen with interest – they may be your family's next "keeper".

And never believe that your work doesn't matter.

## RESOURCE REVIEWS

### DISCOVERIES IN BOOKS

#### Resources for Source Citations

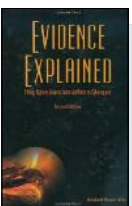
Historians format their citations based on the *Chicago Manual of Style*; genealogists take this format and give it a little twist to fit their special needs. It's good to have these resources on your book shelf.

*Chicago Manual of Style*. Sixteenth edition. Published by The University of Chicago Press, Chicago; 2010. 1026 pp. Hardcover. \$65.00.



*Evidence Explained*.

By Elizabeth Shown Mills. Published by the Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, Maryland, 2007. 885 pp. Hardcover. \$59.95. The definitive resource for genealogical citations.



*Evidence! Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian*.

By Elizabeth Shown Mills. Published by the Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, Maryland, 1997. Hardcover. \$15.95.



This older work by Mills is a good, basic resource for beginners. Her later works have updated and refined certain types of citations, but this is still worth having if you are just starting out.

Want quick, inexpensive help for citing online resources? Try these letter-sized, laminated sheets for basic citation formatting of websites, databases, and online images.

*Quicksheet: Citing Online Historical Resources, and Quicksheet Citing Ancestry.com Databases & Images*. Both created by Elizabeth Shown Mills. Published by the Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, Maryland, 2010. \$8.95 and \$7.95 respectively.



### IOWA DISCOVERIES

#### African American Museum of Iowa

-- Contributed by Grant Stevens, Development Assistant,  
*African American Museum of Iowa*

The African American Museum of Iowa [AAMI] located at 55 12th Avenue, SE, Cedar Rapids, is dedicated to preserving and sharing African American heritage and culture in Iowa.



African American Museum of Iowa, Cedar Rapids.  
*Photo courtesy of AAMI*

The AAMI's permanent exhibit, "Endless Possibilities", covers African American history from pre-slavery Africa to present-day struggles and accomplishments in Iowa; the AAMI's 2012 temporary exhibit is called "The Only One" and focuses on the experience of being a minority in Iowa. Guided tours are available of both.

AAMI provides a wide range of programs across the state for all ages - preschoolers, students and adults; programming associated with "The Only One" is being created right now!

The AAMI offers traveling exhibits on topics such as "The Underground Railroad in Iowa," "The Military Service of African Americans" and "Against all Odds: The Life of George Washington Carver." The AAMI partners with a wide variety of organizations to deliver its programs - colleges and universities, libraries, and other museums just to name a few.

If you can't visit in person, the next best thing is the AAMI website: <http://www.blackiowa.org>, an excellent resource for African American studies. You'll find virtual tours of exhibits, a digitized photo collection, access to the AAMI's Oral Histories collection, a list of educational resources and a calendar of current and upcoming events. We look forward to seeing you in Cedar Rapids or at one of our statewide outreach events!

For more information, contact AAMI: 319-862-2105, [www.blackiowa.org/contact-us/](http://www.blackiowa.org/contact-us/).

## TIPS AND TECHNIQUES: Citing Sources -- Your "Research Roadmap"

By Alice Hoyt Veen, IGS newsletter editor

How often have you come home from a research trip with a fistful of photocopies, only to realize you have no recollection of the source you copied from? You can and you should record your sources, and it's not as complicated as you might think.

Your goal is to document your research effectively so others can retrace your steps, find the sources you used, and hopefully reach the same conclusions. Just remember a few simple steps, and you'll find you have created an effective "roadmap" for yourself and others to follow in the future.

Your sources should be cited not only in your software program and written work, but right on those photocopies you just made! What types of information needs a citation? Every fact or item of information that is not of "common knowledge" should be tied to its source.

Example: Iowa became a state in 1846. That is "common knowledge" and does not need a source citation. Willis Hoyt married Ella DeLong 17 October 1895: this is not common knowledge and requires a source citation.

Most genealogical software includes a tool to help record your sources, and if you know the basic elements to include, the process becomes much easier. Learn to think like a journalist and answer these simple questions for each item of information: **what, who, where, when, why, and how.**

Let's apply this idea to three commonly used sources, beginning with the marriage record of Willis Hoyt and Ella DeLong.



**Who** created my source? This marriage record was created by the **Mahaska County Clerk of Court, Oskaloosa, Mahaska County, Iowa.**

**Where** is the record located? It's in a bound volume titled **Marriage Records, Volume 2 (1889 – 1897), page 50.**

**What** is the information? This is marriage record **number 4744** for **Willis Hoyt and Ella DeLong.**



**When** did the event occur? They were married **17 October 1895.** The marriage was recorded at the courthouse on **30 November 1895.**

**Why** is this record important? In this case, it answers the basic genealogical question of when and where this couple were married.

**How** good is this source? Include notes about the quality of the source, its credibility, and any other relevant information you want to remember.

The final citation should look something like this:

Mahaska County, Iowa, Marriage Records, 2:150, no. 4744, Hoyt-DeLong, 1895; Clerk of District Court's Office, Oskaloosa.

Let's look at another example. Local histories are a commonly used resource, and I found a great story about George DeLong in a Mahaska County history:



**Who:** This history was compiled by **Manoah Hedge.** If there's no author, you can just omit that part of the citation, or use the word "Anonymous."

**What** is the source? *Past and Present of Mahaska County, Iowa.* Chapter 11, "Facts and Incidents About Mahaska Pioneers."

**Where** was this book published? **S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, Chicago, Illinois.**

**When** was it published? **1905.**

**Why** is the story relevant? On **page 41** it provides historical context for **George DeLong.**

**How** reliable is the information? The story was provided to the author by George DeLong during his lifetime.

The final citation:

Manoah Hedge, compiler, *Past and Present of Mahaska County, Iowa* (Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1905), 41. Information provided to author by George DeLong during his lifetime.

-- Continued on page 12

## TIPS & TECHNIQUES *continued from p. 10*



One final example: I want to cite the 1880 U.S. census image I found on *Ancestry.com* for Nicholas Hoit's family:

**What** is the source? It's a **population schedule** for **Enumeration District 181, Jefferson Township, Mahaska County, Iowa.**

**When** was it created? **1880.** Your notes might include the date cited on the image by the original enumerator.

**Who** created this source? The **United States census bureau.**

**Where** is this source? The original census records have been microfilmed by the **National Archives.** I accessed digital images on *Ancestry.com*. Because online URLs change frequently, it's important to include the URL and the date I located the image: 18 November 2010.

**Why** is it important? I found the family of **Nicholas Hoit enumerated on sheet 449B, page 2B, dwelling 13, family 14.**

Here's the citation:

1880 U.S. census, Mahaska County, Iowa, population schedule, Jefferson Township, Enumeration District (ED) 181, sheet 449B, page 2-B, dwelling 13, family 14, Nicholas Hoit; digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 18 November 2010), citing National Archives microfilm publication T9, roll 354.

Elizabeth Shown Mills, author of several definitive citation resources, reminds us that "Citation is an art, not a science." That means you will come up against sources from time to time that don't fit any standard mold. As long as you include all relevant elements we've discussed, you'll be just fine.

Crafting your source citations takes a little extra time and thought, but in the long run, you'll be glad you created your personal "research roadmap."

*For information about source citation resources and helps, see Resource Reviews on page 10.*

## From an Iowa newspaper, 11 April 1940: "Census Takers Are Busy in County"

Census enumerators have been busy in the county and over the entire nation since April 2, compiling the statistics for the federal decennial census of the population, also housing and agricultural information.

Enumerators must complete the work in towns in two weeks, but are given a longer time to cover the rural districts.

Census takers are sworn to secrecy on the material which is revealed to them. The questions about which there has been controversy in Congress concern property, salaries and mortgages. However, if the salary during the year exceeded \$5,000, the only answer required is that it was in excess of that amount. The exact amount need not be given. Neither is it required that the amount of money received from sources other than salaries be given.

Besides revealing the increase in population, which is estimated to be 10% during the period since 1930, the census will provide figures on unemployment, low income groups and other social and economic problems. The data will be turned over to the various governmental departments and bureaus which are concerned.

-- Contributed by Diane Densmore

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## Find IGS publications online

The Iowa Genealogical Society newsletter arrives in member mailboxes every two months, but did you know it is also available online?



Visit the IGS website publications page: [www.iowagenealogy.org/library/collections/publications-2/](http://www.iowagenealogy.org/library/collections/publications-2/) to access the current issue of this newsletter in full color.

You'll also find current and past issues of the *Hawkeye Heritage* and information about many other fine IGS publications.

## Education News *continued from page 4*

February's topic is "Burial Records" with a February 18th lecture discussing church, funeral home, cemetery and monument company records. Church records are a necessity for researching pre-vital records or the "burned court house" situation. We'll take a look



at different types of church records and their importance in genealogy. We will also spend time studying the wealth of information that you can find in Funeral Home Books and what you can expect to find in actual cemetery and monument company records.

The website class on February 21st discusses how to maximize your online exploration of cemetery websites, including *FindAGrave*, *Usgenweb*, and *Billiongraves.com*. You will even learn how to submit your own tombstone pictures!

March's emphasis will be "Libraries" and what type of information you can find. The first class on March 8th discusses state historical libraries; the second class held March 31st explores public libraries. Public libraries hold genealogical treasure if you just know how to find it. This class demonstrates some of what's available and how to find more. When we're finished you will be able to seek out treasures of your own. You'll be amazed at what information you can get through these repositories.

April's Spring Conference includes classes exploring the many aspects of photography. Later in the month the website class explores *Ancestry.com*. There is so much to learn in both of these opportunities; you won't want to miss them.

If your research is 1) dragging, 2) you are stuck at brick walls, 3) you can't find any information, 4) you have too much conflicting information, 5) includes family lore to prove or correct, or 6) just need to get inspired – these classes are for you.

And this is just the first part of the year! WOW!

## IGS CALENDAR

All programs & activities take place at the IGS Library, 628 East Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa, unless otherwise noted.

### JANUARY 2012

#### Thursday, January 19

##### Genetic Genealogy: A Case Study. 7 p.m.

Presented by Robert Haskins.

Learn how this cutting-edge technology can enhance your family history. FREE.

#### Saturday, January 21

##### Maps – Knowing WHERE to Search.

10:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. Linda Greethurst, instructor. Preregistration required.

Cost: \$5 IGS members/ \$10 non-members.

#### Tuesday, January 31

##### Beginning Genealogy. 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Free.

### FEBRUARY 2012

#### Saturday, February 18

##### Church /Funeral Home /Cemetery Records. 10:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.

Linda Greethurst, instructor.

Preregistration required. Cost: \$5 IGS members/ \$10 non-members.

#### Tuesday, February 21

##### Looking for Grave Sites. 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Jan Myers, instructor. Feel free to bring your lunch and munch as we learn! Preregistration required. Cost: \$5 IGS members/ \$10 non-members.

### MARCH 2012

#### Thursday, March 8

##### A Library is a Library--Unless It's a SPECIAL Library. 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Shari Snelling, SHSI, instructor. Learn more about State Historical libraries and how differ from the public and academic libraries you may be familiar with. Preregistration required. Cost: \$5 IGS members/\$10 non-members.

#### Saturday, March 31

##### Digging for Treasure Online at Public Libraries. 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Debi Chase, instructor. Preregistration required.

Cost: IGS members \$5/ non-members \$10.

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For more information about IGS programs and activities, or to register for classes, contact IGS: 515-276-2087; [igs@iowagenealogy.org](mailto:igs@iowagenealogy.org), or visit the IGS website: [www.iowagenealogy.org](http://www.iowagenealogy.org).

## SPRING CONFERENCE: *PICTURE THIS!*

Saturday, 14 April 2012  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
West Wing IGS Library,  
628 East Grand Avenue,  
Des Moines, Iowa 50309



### Special Guest: Eric Basir

Eric Basir owns a photo retouching studio in Evanston, Illinois. He serves the genealogical community as a teacher and author of two books and “Ask the Retoucher,” a video blog and column for genealogical publications. He recently published a full photo restoration course.

### Schedule of Activities:

8 a.m. - 9 a.m. Registration and vendor browsing.

### 9:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Photo Restoration from Start to Finish

Learn to scan, restore and print a photo like the pros from beginning to end. Audience members are encouraged to bring photos. Eric will select an audience photo for demonstration. Includes scanning and restoration.



### 10:45 - noon. Dating Photos and Photo/Document Software for Genealogists

You don't need to “pirate” a copy of Photoshop or spend money to work on your pictures. Eric will review the best free and for-pay photo editing programs available. Are you curious about the date of a photo? Learn some simple, but important tips to help you identify that photo.

### Noon – 1:30 p.m. Lunch.

Included with your conference registration!

### 1:30 – 2:45 p.m. Photo/Document Preservation

The best thing you can do for family photographs and documents is to avoid restoring them! Eric shares tips to maintain the quality condition of your photos. Bring your questions and originals.

### 3:30 – 4:45 p.m. Fixing Color Photos with Adobe Photoshop

Family collections are full of fading color photographs. This workshop provides useful techniques for restoring lost color, including colorization of black and white photos. Audience photos will be used for demonstrations.

Cost for this exceptional full-day conference: \$65 IGS members/\$75 non-members. Register before March 14th and receive an early bird discount of \$5! Conference fee includes lunch.

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### *IGS Chapters and Regional Representatives-send us your news!*

The bimonthly IGS newsletter is pleased to publish Chapter news, profiles, upcoming programs, and more.

Email your submissions to the IGS newsletter editor, Alice Hoyt Veen: [ahoytveen@iowatelecom.net](mailto:ahoytveen@iowatelecom.net), or to the IGS office: [igs@iowagenealogy.org](mailto:igs@iowagenealogy.org); or see the last page of this newsletter for postal mail addresses.

## SPRING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Conference fee includes lunch.

### Early Registration (Before March 14)

\_\_\_\_\_ IGS Member x \$60 = \_\_\_\_\_  
=

\_\_\_\_\_ Non-member x \$70 \_\_\_\_\_

### Late Registration (after March 14)

\_\_\_\_\_ IGS Member x \$65 = \_\_\_\_\_  
=

\_\_\_\_\_ Non-member x \$75 \_\_\_\_\_

### IGS MEMBERSHIP

I want to join IGS, which entitles me to the 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

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete this form and mail it with your credit card information or check payable to:**

Iowa Genealogical Society, Spring Conference  
628 E Grand Ave  
Des Moines, IA 50309-1924

Register online: [www.iowagenealogy.org](http://www.iowagenealogy.org) . For more information contact IGS:  
515-276-0287; [igs@iowagenealogy.org](mailto:igs@iowagenealogy.org) .



### IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

January 2012

The Iowa Genealogical Society Newsletter is a publication of the Iowa Genealogical Society. Members receive the newsletter as part of their membership.

The editor invites individual members, member chapters, regional representatives and the public to submit articles, reviews, chapter news and program information for publication.

Material may be emailed to the newsletter editor:

[ahoytveen@iowatelecom.net](mailto:ahoytveen@iowatelecom.net)

or mailed:

**Alice Hoyt Veen**  
14998 Odessa Place  
Bouton, Iowa 50039

To have your mailed submission returned, please enclosed a postage-paid SASE.

The deadline for submissions to be included in the March newsletter is 31 January 2012.

**NOTE:** Please check the mailing label for your membership expiration date.



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Located in the East Village section of the downtown area, two blocks west of the State Capitol Building and directly across the street from the Iowa State Historical Building.

**PRESERVING THE PAST & ENRICHING THE FUTURE**