

# Warren County Genealogical Society

Indianola, Iowa

Volume 28, Number 5

September-October 2001

## Center Stage: Ruth Henry

by *Ev Brightman*

Ruth Henry became acquainted with genealogy while teaching school at Hawthorne Elementary with Kate Kauzlarich. Kate invited Ruth to attend a meeting. Ruth agreed and has been a member of Warren County Genealogical Society since the 1980s. Ruth has served for secretary for two years, worked with obituaries four years and has entered items in the Warren County Fair. Ruth states that she has enjoyed the programs and association with WCGS. She especially enjoyed the mini-classes offered by President Marieta Grissom at the fair this year.

Ruth's mother, Ethel Irene McAdoo, was raised in Warren County: west of Indianola to the four mile corner, then north. Maternal grandparents, Cora Tice and Frank P. McAdoo, were raised in the Pella area where they met and married. The couple moved to farm in Warren County. Ancestors came from Holland. The grandmother moved to Indianola with her four daughters so they could attend high school. Mr. McAdoo continued to farm. Ruth's mother began teaching school after graduation, riding the train to Summerset, where she taught for one term. Irene then moved and taught school in Northboro, Iowa. There she met and married Wesley Supplee Richards in 1915. Irene continued to teach school and Wesley worked as a Watkins salesman. He traveled his territory in a covered wagon, staying in the homes of customers along the way.

Wesley's parents, Charles Richards and Mary Anzolette Safford, farmed near Northboro. Northboro is located south of Shenandoah, Iowa. Wesley stated that the family's origin was French Huguenot. Ruth has not been able to substantiate this through her research.

Surnames researched are: Richards, McAdoo, Tice, Henry, Brown and Fantz (German).

Ruth was the fourth of seven children. She attended the Northboro elementary and high schools, graduating in 1944. She attended college at Northwest State Teacher's College at Marysville, MO. Ruth also taught school as her mother had done. She rode a saddle horse to the school where her brother assisted in building the fires in the school house stove. Ruth completed her teaching degree in 1950. She then moved to Des Moines, teaching at Monroe and Park Avenue schools.

*continued on page 17*

## Calendar:

- October 15 REGULAR MEETING, 7:00 p.m.  
Program: Carol Kubik "Family Research/ Book Project"  
Roll Call: Something you remember about a special event when young
- October 27 IGS Annual Meeting  
"Computers, Technology, and Family Research"
- November 3 Beginning Genealogy Class  
Place: Warren County Historical Building  
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
Cost: \$10.00, must pre-register
- November 13 Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- November 19 REGULAR MEETING, 7:00 p.m.  
Program: Marieta Grissom "Where did I find that?"  
Roll Call: Thing you most wish you had known about doing genealogy when you first started

WCGS regular meetings are held at the Indianola Public Library on the third Monday of the month (September through May, except no meeting in December). Special meetings may be planned for the summer.

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## Marieta's rambling comments:

So much has happened since the last newsletter. Here I will list the highlights. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find details for several of the activities.

**County Fair**—another successful event. (The County Fair page gives more details.) The mini-classes were a great addition to our fair agenda and I have agreed to give them again next year.

**Tour and Research Day at the State Historical Library and Archives.** We were a small group (only 4) but received a wealth of information during our tour of the Archives lead by Archivist Sharon Avery. We spent the remainder of the day using the resources of the archives and library. It was very interesting to order items from the archives to review after seeing examples of what is available. Mom and I found several items of interest to us. I have since learned that Ruth Bartels, longtime librarian, has resigned her position and moved to the Commission for the Blind. She will be greatly missed.

Later in August Dave and I spent a fabulous week doing **genealogical research.** (On pages 10-11 you will find our story.) Also in August I began in earnest trying to get my genealogy area at home organized.

In September I attended the **FGS Conference** in Davenport. (Story is on page 12.) And, I am continuing to work on getting my genealogy area organized—this is definitely not a simple task. In a future newsletter I'll write an article on what I've done. For now, suffice it to say, 70+ feet of shelf space and 2 4-drawer files are not enough. Dave is building more shelves.

On Saturday, September 22 I spent an enjoyable 2 hours presenting a **Genealogy Overview** to six people at the Carlisle Public Library in conjunction with their "Come Home to Carlisle" - 150 years celebration.

Upcoming, we will have our regular meeting on **Monday, October 15.** Carol Kubik is giving the program on how she published their family history for a family reunion this summer. At this meeting we will vote on raising dues to \$10 per year, and we will develop our slate of officers for next year.

Saturday, October 27 is the **IGS Fall Conference** in Des Moines. I plan to attend and have room for two more people in my car.

Saturday, November 3 is the date for the next all-day **Beginning Genealogy Class.** 9:00 – 3:30 at the Warren County Historical Building, \$10 per person. Contact me at 961-7542, if you want to sign up.

On **Monday, November 19** I will be giving the program

entitled "Where did I find that?" We will also vote on officers for next year.

I had originally planned to use Country Schools as the feature article for this newsletter, however, quickly realized that this subject was much too broad, and finally decided on narrowing it to the two schools—Grove and Hoosier Row.

Also, please note the "advertisement" found in this newsletter on page 9 and the comments about it.

On a sad note, over the spring and summer we lost two members of our society: Lucille Perkins and Kate Kauzlarich. Both of these women were long-time members and had given many hours of service to our society. Along with other responsibilities, Lucille worked many hours doing newspaper research for several publications and Kate was our Historian for several years.

Hope you enjoy the newsletter!

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### Officers 2001:

President	Marieta Grissom
Vice President	Dorothy Stearns
Secretary	Joanne Amos
Treasurer	Jane Godwin
Corresponding Secretary	Thelma Pehrson
Registrar	Virginia Nelson
	Kay Putz
Historian	Willa Grissom
Newsletter Editor	Marieta Grissom
Past President	Ev Brightman
IGS Representative (Area 4)	open

### Active Committees:

Library	Doris Young Jane Godwin Joanne Amos Elaine Baumgarten
Records/Projects	Virginia Wheeldon Dianna Parker
Obituaries	Dorothy Stearns
County Fair Superintendents	Joanne Amos Virginia Nelson
IGS Liaisons	Maxine Weinman Kay Putz
Newsletter Indexing	Mary Cae Pancratz

Newsletter published six times per year. Membership dues \$6.00 per individual or \$9.00 per family.

## Bits and pieces about ... The Stories of Two Country Schools

*The following story by Mrs. P. A. Wade was published, apparently as four segments in an Indianola newspaper, though the date or name of the newspaper has not been preserved. However, this was taken from newspaper clippings that had been mounted onto typing paper, stapled together and in a folder at the Warren County Historical Library and Archives. The second story by Blanche Hensen Flesher was found as typewritten copy in a folder also at the Warren County Historical Library and Archives.*

### 100 Years as a School District in Warren County

*By Mrs. P. A. Wade*

*Editor's comment: This narrative of the old Grove school district in Greenfield township was sent to The Record-Herald and Indianola Tribune by Mrs. P. A. Wade, P.O. Box 143, Highmore, SD at the suggestion of friends who have read it. We are grateful to Mrs. Wade for following the suggestion. Information for the historical sketch, which was written mostly for her own family, was obtained by interviewing older residents, pursuing school records, reading old letters and looking at souvenirs, says Mrs. Wade. She dedicates it to all of the people who gave so freely of their time and energy to the life of this district. Since it is rather lengthy, the narrative will appear in serial form.*

More than one hundred years ago, in a peaceful treaty, Oct. 11, 1842, the Sac and Fox Indians ceded a tract of land to the United States government.

Settlers began to occupy the land, and in 1846 the state of Iowa was organized and admitted to the Union. The counties were organized soon after.

At first, Warren county was a part of Marion county, but in 1849, it was organized as a separate unit with the county seat at Indianola.

Soon afterward, Polk county, in order to locate its county seat at Fort Des Moines, had the state legislature transfer the northern tier of townships to Polk county. Since "the strip" (as they called this tier of townships) was probably the most fertile in either county, interest waxed high.

Warren county entered a bill in the Fourth General Assembly at Iowa City in 1852, to regain control of it. The bill was passed and the decision was made final. The townships were laid out, and Greenfield was the name given to one of them. When this township was divided into school districts, one was named Grove school district.

The district was comprised of gently rolling hills along the

north side. These hills were covered with grass and brush, the western side being called Hazel Brush Ridge because that shrub grew so thickly.

The lush bottom lands of Middle River lay along the south side. There were a tangle of trees, vines and brush, amidst ponds and swampy lands. Wild berries, plums, grapes, and crabapples; walnuts, hazel, hickory, and butternuts; deer, wild turkey, and small wild game were found everywhere. Trees were plentiful for fuel and lumber. It was a veritable "Settlers Paradise."

Older settlers agree that the Vances were the first to build a home in the district. They settled on Section 34 in 1847. The Whites must have come about the same time, as William Whited bought the first land when it was opened for sale in 1848. Other early settlers were the Joshua Bishops, the E. J. Younts, in 1849, the Michael Ashes in 1852, followed by the Martins, Hasties, Wrights, Surbers, and Mountains.

#### Come in Wagons

Most of these families came in covered wagons bringing seeds, food, and equipment with them. My grandmother loved to tell about their trip from Tennessee—how tiresome the traveling—the pleasure she and her sister had hanging their bare feet over the back of the wagon in the cool evenings—the campfires—all exciting and wonderful to a little girl of nine.

We have read many stories of these early pioneers and their hardships and the pioneers of this section were no exception. All of them agree that of all their hardships, loneliness was the hardest to bear. They missed the loved ones they had left behind.

At that time Fort Des Moines, an army post, was two rows of cabins built at the fork of the Des Moines and Racoon Rivers. The row of cabins along the north bank of the Racoon River was called Coon Row.

The mail for this section of the county was kept in a dry goods box in a cabin on Coon Row. The men walked there to see if there were letters from loved ones. The letters were often many weeks old before they were received.

#### Burial Places

One of the first requirements of a new settlement was choosing and dedicating a place to lay their loved ones who passed away. This district was no exception.

The first summer Mrs. Vance and Mrs. Polly Whited passed away. The Vances chose a place east of the district and thus began the Scotch Ridge Cemetery. The Whites chose a place in the northeast part of the district because

## Bits and pieces about ... The Stories of Two Country Schools, *continued*

"Polly liked the pine trees there." It became the center of the life of the district. A Christian Church was built north of the burial grounds in 1849. One of the Forty Niner Trails passed through the area close to the church and many unmarked graves testify to some of the tragedies of the old trails.

Demas Beech and John Parmalee (first settler of Warren county) built a sawmill on Middle River where Summerset now stands in 1848. The first road of the vicinity was built that year. It was built from the mill to Fort Des Moines to haul lumber to the fort. The next year a grist mill was added. Charles Bishop remembered the pleasure he had as a boy, when he went "to mill" with his father and watched the big waterwheel churn the water into foam as it turned the big stones that ground the corn into meal.

### Frame Houses

With the coming of the saw mill, frame houses began to replace the one-room log cabins. Among these a large frame house was built by the McClintocks. It was at the east edge of the district and had an outside stairway, with "spare rooms for travelers."

Josiah Handley took his bride there for their wedding night and Sarah Ash-Yount chuckled over some of the jokes "the boys" played at the charivari.

The house was later bought by Mr. Ball who named it Hull House. It then played a big part in the community life as "the Express" left the mail there. H. L. Foust recalled that the men gathered there to see the "Express go through" on its way from Burlington to Fort Des Moines. It stopped six times en route to change horses. It never slackened speed at Hull House. The driver threw the incoming mail sack on a huge hook on the side of the house as Mr. Ball threw the outgoing mail into the Express wagon. Mr. Foust said so far as he knew they never failed to make connections. The next post office was established in Summerset.

### As Community Grows, So Does Need For Schools

*This is the second installment of a historical sketch of the Grove school district in Greenfield township which was written by Mrs. P. A. Wade, a former resident of that community. In the first installment, which appeared in the Sept. 6 issue of The Record-Herald and Indianola Tribune, Mrs. Wade told about the coming of the earlier settlers and the establishing of the school and burial grounds.*

As the community grew, the need for schools grew. The

first schools were held in the homes of the settlers. Betty Thompson-Wadsworth and Mrs. MacIntosh taught children to read and write in their homes. Sarah Ash-Yount attended both schools.

### Log Schoolhouse

The first school building of the community was of logs. It was built south of the burial grounds. The history of the building is hazy. It is supposed that it was built by the settlers about 1850. Pupils attended from as far west as Greenbush, as far north as North River, as far east as Summerset Junction and as far south as Middle River.

Jim Vance was one of the first teachers. Several of the pupils' names are remembered—Sarah, Peter, William, and John Ash; Sarah and Martha Mountain; the Younts, the Egberts, and the Waymans. Memories of that old school include: the severe cold of the building in winter—the hard uncomfortable benches lined up against the wall—the harsh discipline of the teachers—the snakes laying along the chinks between the logs—and more than all the rest—the afternoon they were dismissed so they could attend the burial of the little pickaninny in the burial grounds close by. The baby's mother was a slave being taken west by her owners and they refused to let them say a prayer over the body because the mother was a slave. The wailing of the mother lived forever in the memories of the little girls.

### Frame Building

By 1860 the present districts were laid out and District No. 2 became known as Grove school district. The first building was built in 1860 and 61. There are no records concerning the building or how the site was chosen, but older residents remember that Adam Surber gave the land, and Isaac Wright built the building and that as long as these two men lived in the community, they vied with each other in promoting civic affairs.

Some humorous and some serious incidents developed, but by and large, the results were beneficial. The building was constructed entirely of walnut as were the benches inside.

After a year or two Mr. Wright built seats and desks, also of walnut. Georgia Bishop-Mason remembered that the day they installed the new seats, the teacher allowed them a half-holiday to slide down the icy hill on the old benches.

### Subscription School

Probably the first school held in the new building was a "subscription school" taught by Patience Handley. The parents paid a dollar a month per pupil attending.

## Bits and pieces about ... The Stories of Two Country Schools, *continued*

Jim Lundy, who attended, said it was a sort of elimination school—"the parents could only afford to send their brightest children."

Dr. Levi Surber, A. C. Bishop, and Janet Hastie were more of the early teachers. They had problems and situations hard to handle. The pupils ranged in ages from four to 25 years old. The older boys fought and quarreled over the Civil War. Many of them quit and joined the army and their brothers and sisters "carried on the good fight" for them.

It was a difficult time in the homes, too. Most of the able-bodied men were in the army and the women had the work of the home. The work was hard—clearing land, keeping the brush from cleared land, farming with their few farm implements, keeping fuel on hand.

### No Sugar

They were unable to get sugar or coffee. Even so, I remember Grandmother telling of the picnic they had for the boys who were leaving for the army. They made their cakes with honey or sorghum and they were delicious. They ate out under trees and Grandfather wore a linen coat. (I still have a piece of it.)

Frame houses were replacing log houses and although wild game, nuts and fruits were still plentiful, they worked extremely hard from early spring until after harvest. Then they had what they called a "breathing spell."

The women pieced and quilted quilts out under the trees and the men hunted and fished some and did some chewing in the shade.

Shiny black stoves were replacing the old fireplaces. Grandfather bought Grandmother one, but her sister moved into a house without a fireplace so Grandmother gave her stove to her sister.

### Greatest Problem

Disease was the greatest problem because of the lack of doctors, and lack of knowledge and sanitation. The number of graves of young mothers and children are a lasting memorial to these tragedies. In the second decade of the community, of the 100 graves, 70 were infants and children. In the year 1861, 21 children died of diphtheria and

dysentery, called "summer complaint." The family of J. F. Foust illustrates the pathos of the time—two of his children died in 1854 and two more in 1855. His wife died in 1856, his son in the Civil War in 1861, and he in 1864. Tragedy and joy—work and pleasure—then as now.

As early as 1864 a few school records had been preserved. In 1864 Janet Hastie taught four months for sixty dollars. In 1865 the board allowed \$4.70 railroad fees for books and apparatus—the secretary and treasurer were allowed a dollar each for postage. In 1862, \$100 was allowed for the summer term and \$150 for the winter term (each three months). Thomas Hastie, Levi Bishop, I. Wright, and J. Handley were some of the earlier directors. H. M. Close, D. G. Wright and Pricilla Deweece were early teachers. In 1870 the schools were placed under county supervision.

And one more item—in 1872 seventy dollars was allowed for a three months summer term "or more if it can be gotten for the same money" and the teacher's contract had to be approved by the board.

### New Building

In 1874 the board allowed \$700 for an addition to the school building. This plan was apparently abandoned for on April 10, 1875, the board voted to build a new school because the old one was too small. A contract was awarded to S. R. Cain for a building 24' by 34' that faced the east. It was to have a platform across the west and a boys' and girls' wardrobe on either side of the entrance. A new site was discussed but the present one was kept. Cain was to receive \$750 for the work. Huldah Bishop-Foust remembered that they boarded at their place. It was completed in 1876 and the old building was moved west to the Baxendale's where it still stands.

### Railroad Comes; Grove Enrollment Was 84 in 1887

*In the previous installments about the history of the Grove school district in Greenfield township, Mrs. P. A. Wade, who once lived in that community, wrote about the coming of the early settlers and of the first log school-house. This was replaced by a frame building in 1860, and the building which served the district for the remain-*

*Thelma Pehrson is helping me with "Bits and pieces about ..." This will include information about various communities, events, or whatever strikes our fancy. The same subject may be featured more than once, depending upon the information found. Thelma is Librarian for the Warren County Historical Library and is gleaning this information from articles, scrapbooks, books, etc in the WCHS Library. For more information about the WCHS Library you may contact Thelma at 515-961-4409 (home). The Library is open Thursdays 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.*

Bits and pieces about ... The Stories of Two Country Schools, *continued*

*der of its existence was built in 1874. This is the third installment of Mrs. Wade's history of the Grove district.*

In 1878 Howard Huff taught the school. All of the older residents remember him because in 1875 he ran for county superintendent against Elizabeth Cooke.

She won the election and he contested it on the grounds that she was ineligible because she was a woman. The case was appealed to the supreme court and received statewide publicity. Miss Cooke won the case. The school board records since 1876 are quite complete and are kept in the courthouse.

The community was growing fast. New families were moving in and children were growing up and beginning new families. More and better farm equipment was being used.

In 1887 the Rock Island railroad built a "spur" from Summerset Junction to Winterset with a switch, or siding, straight south of the school house a couple of miles. This was called Prouty Switch and the farmers loaded their grain and livestock on freight cars there, thus saving many weary hours for man and team. The residents took their eggs and butter to Summerset or Spring Hill, sometimes even as far as Indianola if they had a good driving team.

**Trade Produce**

There they traded their produce for crackers from a cracker barrel, a length of calico, or Horseshoe chewing tobacco. Then the roads were graded, and carriages were replacing wagons as a mode of travel. Improved farm implements were being used on the farm. The women were learning to use the sewing machine and Nell Perley was teaching the little girls to play the organ, while their brothers played the jew's harp or the mouth organ.

There were changes in the school, too. The enrollment increased until in 1887, 84 pupils ranging from four to 25 years were enrolled. This is the largest recorded attendance.

Mrs. Louise Loper-Hastie was the teacher. She was paid \$150 for the term. She recalled that the worst problems were that the children were always losing their slate pencils, or dropping them on the floor, or worse yet, the screeching of slate pencils as they worked on their slates.

**Some Stories**

Some stories recalled were: One day the teacher decided to whip Ward Bishop. The rest of the pupils became frightened and went home. Ward's sister Georgia, and Frank Bishop, a neighbor boy, were the only ones left at school. (Funny I forgot to ask if Ward got the whipping

and I still do not know.)

Ed Blackford helped the teacher whip his younger brother, Albert, but he later married the teacher.

The most popular story concerned a teacher, a Mr. Clow. It seemed his favorite game was "Pass the Dollar." One of the pupils always furnished the dollar, and it was passed secretly from hand to hand around a circle of players. If the person who was "it" could guess who was holding the dollar, that person became "it" and "it" became a part of the circle. However, this term of school, the dollar would disappear and no one could locate it, so the school board had an all-night meeting, and Mr. Clow decided to resign.

**Literary Societies**

The school and building also served the community in other ways closely allied with education. It was used as a Methodist Sunday school until the Methodist Church was built at Summerset.

A singing school was organized in 1870. It was held in the evening and anyone in the community could attend. A Mr. Burton charged one dollar per pupil for 10 lessons and between 30 and 40 people attended. He married a local girl, Mary Jean Handley.

The next singing school was conducted by Milton Calahan of Spring Hill. A writing school was conducted by A. M. Fitzgerald in 1897. It was a night school for anyone who cared to come. He taught 12 lessons for a dollar and set his own copies. Belle Bishop still has some of the copies and they are beautiful. Many adults attended.

The organization that lasted the longest and became the center of the community socially was the literary society. It started as a school program after recesses on Fridays and finally developed into an evening of entertainment in which the whole community participated.

The entertainment was furnished by the members and included songs, pieces, essays, and dialogues. Often a newspaper was edited by some of the members. Literaries were popular as late as the 1920s.

**With Reorganization Grove Closes After 100 Years**

	Belle Handley					Student
	From December 16 to 20, 1878					
	M	T	W	Th	F	Average
Deporment	9	9	9	9	9	9
Diligence	9	9	9	9	9	9
Punctuality	9	9		9	9	
Rhetoric			9.1			8.8

J. A. Bower

## Bits and pieces about ... The Stories of Two Country Schools, *continued*

*This is the fourth and final installment of the Greenfield Grove school district written by Mrs. P. A. Wade, a former resident of the district who now lives at Highmore, SD. In previous installments she wrote about the coming of the early settlers, the organization of the school district, and the changes that occurred in the school and community as time passed and transportation facilities improved.*

Changes were also taking place in the school policies. The first report cards were issued by A. J. Bower in 1878. Belle Handley-Ash let me make a copy of hers, which appears above.

In 1901 the county superintendent required that report cards be given to all pupils once a month. The grades were to be computed on the basis that 100 per cent was perfect, 75 percent passing, and 65 per cent was failing. These were used until 1920 with few changes, but they have changed many times since.

The earliest library record is dated 1903 and reported 70 books. That increased steadily until the pupils had access to hundreds of books through the county superintendent's office.

### Graded Work

Graded work was introduced in the school in 1910. As late as 1906, 23 year old boys still attended school through the winter months. When high schools were made available to rural boys and girls, through township payment of tuition, the older pupils either went to high school or "dropped out," or passed the eighth grade examinations thus finishing with the school.

In 1887 we have noted that there were 84 pupils. In 1895 there were 35 to 38, in 1912 there were 20 pupils, and in 1931 Grove and Center Schools had to combine to have enough pupils to hold school. In 1887 the teacher received \$20 a month. In 1930 she received \$100 a month and was required to take 12-weeks training called a normal course.

### More Improvements

About 1900 telephones were installed through the rural districts and Rural Free Delivery was established. A new and better church had been built.

By 1915, cars were replacing the horse and buggy, and in the 1920s and 1930s tractors were replacing horses in farming.

Of the thirty-two graves in the cemetery from 1910 to 1930 only six were under 15 years, showing better sanitation and medical facilities.

Middle River was straightened and the ponds and swamps were drained to make more farmland available. As the number of pupils declined in the schools, so the number of farms decreased because tractors made larger farms practical. Trucks made direct markets available so Prouty Switch was abandoned.

By 1940, standardization of schools was required. Grove School made plans and met requirements by improving the building and grounds, by organizing parent-teacher activities, and by hiring college-trained teachers at \$200 per month. Special subjects were taught so pupils could compete successfully with urban and city school pupils. The school was standardized, graded, and county supervised—what more could be needed?

### New Conveniences

The community was becoming standardized, too. The coming of electricity introduced electric lights and appliances. This, plus faster cars, new conveniences and the attractions of country living attracted commuters from the nearby cities and again the community must keep pace.

The increased school enrollment resulted in crowded conditions—even remodeling a fuel room into an addition, hiring a part-time teacher and hiring better qualified teachers could not cope with the situation, so the school was closed, and the building sold in 1960—just 100 years from the time the first one was built on that spot.

Thus ends 100 years of Grove School District, in which men and women of high ideas and simple tastes gave of their time, their money, their energy, and their personalities to their community.

(My grandmother attended the old log school—my father attended school in both the school buildings and attended the singing and writing schools—my brothers, sister, and I received the first eight grades of school there—my three children attended school there. The building, the grounds, the beautiful old maples are indeed a part of us. We remember them with nostalgic tenderness, but the things that live on through us are the qualities of those who gave of their time and energy to instill in us their high ideals, who gave our lives purpose and a goal toward which we shall always strive. So to each and every teacher who taught us "Thank you and God bless you.")

## Hoosier Row School

by *Blanche Hensen Flesher*

I want to welcome all to our Old Fashioned Christmas Program this afternoon. Hope all enjoy it.

When Worth called and said they wanted me to have a part of the program, that I had been a teacher here, I assured him I had taught there 18 years, but I had also learned my A, B, C's here. Then he wanted me to give a short history about the school. There is one subject I never remember talking about in this particular room. If these walls could talk, they could tell a lot of interesting things that have taken place in this old room. I could tell some very interesting stories, too. You know children do confide very much to their teachers. Teachers do not repeat all they hear. And, the parents also get news about their teacher.

### I Love Hoosier Row

Between 1850 and 1852 the Eugene Park family came from Indiana to the site of Hoosier Row. The area is two miles west and four miles south of Indianola. The family entered Government land in White Oak Township. Being from the Hoosier state, the vicinity was called Hoosier Row. There were also six sisters who took claims in the same neighborhood. The sisters married Andy Park, Eugene Park, Albert Randolph, Sanford Owens, Elijah Belhs and Thomas McClure. They founded and built the first school and called it Hoosier Row.

Hosea McClure was one of the first teachers. Elijah Belhs also taught. Fannie Hutt Tucker, John W. Kern, who later was U. S. Senator from Indiana, attended school at Hoosier Row as a child. Dr. Kern, father of Senator Kern, is buried in the Hewitt Cemetery two miles south of Hoosier Row.

When I started to school in 1893 in this building, it was a very small room—no halls or place for anything. Double seats, some smaller ones for little folks, but not small enough to keep our feet from dangling. On each side of the door was a row of hooks to hang our wraps, and a bench for our lunches, and a shelf with a box which held our ink bottles. We had penmanship each morning after we got the ink thawed out. Another small shelf in the corner was for our water pail and dipper. Everyone drank from the same dipper. We carried our water from the house north of the school. There was no problem to have someone to get the water—we got out of class. We went twice a day and when we got back we passed the water to each pupil, one carried the water and the other did the dipping. That was fun!

I attended school in the old building about three (?) years.

My first teacher was Almeda Reynolds (from Ackworth). Those days we didn't always have the same teacher all year. We had two months fall—vacation for boys to help farm, three months in the winter—more vacation—two months in the spring. Miss Reynolds taught the fall and winter term, then Anna Hassack (Ethel Van Patten's mother) was my second teacher. Next year Maggie Braucht taught.

About this time the district decided we needed a new building. Edd Willsey, who lived across the road, did all the carpenter work. The community decided they wanted a cupola so we could have a bell. The question was how to pay for the bell. The district wouldn't bear that expense so the community decided to do something about it. The ladies in the community planned an ice cream social and the men all gave a dollar—a lot of money in those days. The bell was paid for. Everyone was so proud of the new building and bell. Every morning at 8:30 the bell rang for 5 minutes. The neighboring schools listened for the bell and would start school when they heard it ring.

The new building had three halls. The south one the girls used as their cloak room and the boys used the north hall. The new building had a larger coal stove that stood in the middle of the room. On real cold mornings we sat near the stove, cooked our faces or back. The teacher banked the fire at night, but Monday morning had to start all over.

Our school yard had so many large maple trees.

We had what we called a race track, and in the center a large tree and grass. This provided much fun in playing games. We played Black Man, steal sticks, Sheep my pen, and Beckon Shinnny. During the winter we played Fox & Geese, made forts, chose sides and hall snow ball fights. Also coasting down the hill south of the school.

When the new building opened Augusta Fisher (later Mrs. John Welsh) was the first teacher. We all loved her. Lettie VanDorn, Juletta Brackney followed. All good teachers.

About this time my parents sold their farm and we moved near New Virginia. Eight years later we moved back to the same place.

My ambition was to teach at Hoosier Row. I said to my father, "I wish you would take me to see Bert Willsey. I would like to teach Hoosier Row." He was the director. We went to see him—I got the school. I taught the school six years. Then I was married to Frank C. Flesher. I never expected to teach again. Those days they didn't hire married teachers.

In 1946 some of the people in the community asked me to teach their school. They couldn't find a teacher and they



## Bits and pieces about ... The Stories of Two Country Schools, *continued*

didn't want their school to close.

I talked with my family—they laughed and said, "You would last about a week." I convinced them I wanted to try. My week lasted twelve years.

The country schools consolidated and our school closed in May 1958.

The last twelve years were much different from the time I was a pupil and the first six years I taught there.

We had automatic oil heat, electric lights, and about any equipment we needed. The first six years I had boys as old as I was, much larger, too. The most I had was 36 and the last 12 usually a large enrollment.

We used to have programs at Halloween with a box supper or pie social. A program on Arbor Day and the last day of school. The most loved was the Christmas program. After giving our program, we gave it again at the Pleasant Hill Church. In the olden times someone would bring an evergreen branch, and we would string pop corn, cotton, and strips cut from tin cans to decorate. Later years, we had a big tree and all the decorations.

So you can see, after spending twenty-five years at Hoosier Row, why I love it.

When the school closed its doors in 1956, the community purchased the building and it is used as a community center.

### FGS Membership Benefit

*The following advertisement is one of the benefits of our society being a member of FGS, Federation of Genealogical Societies. We can get discounts on products. If you are not familiar with Family Tree Magazine, I suggest you buy a newsstand copy and review it. If you are interested in subscribing, use a copy of the coupon below to receive a discount on your subscription. I have now read two issues of the magazine, am very impressed with it and have sent in my subscription order. Jane Godwin reported that she has been a subscriber for a long time. Many of the articles are written by renown, trustworthy genealogists. Furthermore, just by publishing the advertisement and me sending in a copy of our newsletter, our society will get \$100 credit for books for our library. While I believe several of you may want to subscribe to Family Tree Magazine, I want to emphasize that you are under NO obligation to subscribe to the magazine. This offer is merely a benefit of our society belonging to FGS.*



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MPFGO

## A Research Story: Grisham vs Grissom?

by Marieta Grissom

One week this August Dave and I set out to see what we could find. We visited cemeteries, courthouses and libraries. What we found in that week was utterly fantastic! And, I'm sure Dave was amazed at what he learned about genealogy research, as he had never done "grass roots" research before.

As you may remember, Dave is actually David 4<sup>th</sup> in the direct line succession of now 6 Davids. Dave has long believed that David Grissom 1<sup>st</sup>'s father was Thompson Grisham, but we only had a few clues. David Grissom 1<sup>st</sup>'s death certificate listed his father as "Thos Grissom." The 1860 Federal census records show Thompson and Margaret Grisham with several children, including David. The cemetery records for the Keokuk County Home indicate "Thomas Grisham, Kentucky, Richland Township, 88 yrs, died 1-15-1894. Buried in Row 3, Grave 10. Removed to Rome, 2-10-1899."

The statement "Removed to Rome . . ." had us stymied for several years. Finally at IGS I found records that a Margaret Grisham and a James Grisham were buried at the Lambirth Cemetery, which was near Rome in Henry County. Therefore, on a hunch, we visited this cemetery. In between Margaret and James was a stone for Elizabeth Tracy. Who was she? We had no idea. All three, Margaret, James and Elizabeth died in 1866. Interesting. There was a long space (we measured the exact number of feet) between these three stones and any others on either side. Is Thompson buried next to Margaret? We don't know, but think he probably is. Are these Dave's ancestors? Since we decided a while back to make rubbings of all direct line ancestor stones, we made rubbings of these stones, just in case.

On another hunch, I felt a stop at the court house in Mt. Pleasant (Henry County) could be a good idea. We started our research in the Recorder's Office. I looked for vital records and Dave tackled the big land record books. In these big books, Dave found his first big find. He found land records listing Wm T. Grisham, John Grisham, William Paxton, Margaret M. Paxton, Thompson Grisham, Elizabeth Tracy, John Tracy, David Grisham, Jemima Grisham and Eleazor Morgan. I found additional supportive birth, marriage and death records. We found the people in the offices here to be friendly and helpful and the photocopy charges reasonable. When the office closed that afternoon, we had to decide whether to stay overnight in Mt. Pleasant. It occurred to me that we might not have exhausted our possibilities here and the next morning we returned to the court house where Dave checked for wills and probates in the Clerk's Office and I looked for more vital records. Dave found his next gold mine by finding Margaret Grisham's will, written four days before her death, in which she names

her husband, children and brother. As a result we know that Margaret was married to Thompson and her children were Wm. T. Grisham, John Grisham, Margaret M. (aka Minerva) Paxton, Elizabeth Tracy and David Grisham, and her brother was Eleazor Morgan (probably giving us her maiden name). From the various other records we also learned that Jemima Grisham was the widow of another son, James Grisham.

From here we drove to Fairfield, but we only found a couple things at this court house. Our next stop was the court house in Sigourney, Keokuk County. We arrived by 12:30 p.m. allowing us 4 hours to research before the offices would close. The Recorder was very friendly and the office was very genealogy friendly. A previous Recorder had photocopied all of the Vital Records and arranged them in sheet protectors in binders. Other records had extensive indices. A special workspace had been set up for genealogists. Again I worked on vital records and Dave looked for land records. We found an abundance of both. However, I found the first significant record here—the marriage certificate for David Grissom 1<sup>st</sup> and Mary Ann Mills, which listed David's surname as "Grissom" in two places and "Grisham" in another place—on the same record. Then we found the probate packet for David 1<sup>st</sup> and the guardianship papers for David 2<sup>nd</sup>, as well as many other significant records, including many land records, which seemed to use "Grissom" one time and "Grisham" another time. By the middle of the afternoon, I could see that the staff in this office was not prepared to do all the photocopying we were accumulating, so they showed me how to run the machine and I spent a good hour and a half photocopying, while Dave continued to look for more records. By the time the afternoon was over, the Recorder and her staff had told us we were the most fun genealogists that had been in their office in a long time and we had accomplished more in one afternoon than most researchers do in a week! We accepted both as compliments!

Several years ago I had found a map at the State Historical Library showing where David 1<sup>st</sup> owned land, and I had recently found where Thompson Grisham had also owned land in Richland Township of Keokuk County. We took the opportunity to drive around the area. We were surprised when we drove by David 1<sup>st</sup>'s land, as it had the dilapidated remains of a house that was the right age and style to have been lived in by David and his family. We don't know if that is really true, but Dave had me take many pictures of the house and even had me take some with him in front of the house, just in case it really was a David 1<sup>st</sup> house. He even ventured up the unsafe stairs in the story and a half house and traipsed through the tall weeds around the back yard and found the well. We also found the acreage where Thompson Grisham would have

## A Research Story, *continued*

lived, but no buildings remain.

At the State Historical Library and Archives of Iowa in Des Moines, Dave checked the archives for Civil War records for James T. and William T. Grisham—there were enlistment papers for both. He also checked census microfilm and found several of the families for several years, adding supporting evidence to our research.

At the NARA (National Archives and Records Administration) branch facility in Kansas City a volunteer helped us find Pension application numbers for James T. and William T. Grisham and he gave us forms to send to Washington, D. C. to request the records. He also gave us the hint that if we include our credit card information on the form we will get the records faster because they won't have to write to us with the cost information and us send the payment before they can send the records. We were only at this facility for an hour, but felt we had gained some valuable information.

After doing all this research, we spent an entire afternoon organizing the items we had collected during the week. It will take us a while to get all the information processed onto the appropriate family group sheets and pedigree charts and to start asking the questions that need to be answered next.

Grisham vs Grissom? Yes, we believe we have found enough records to prove that Grissom was originally Grisham and that Thompson Grisham was the father of David Grissom 1<sup>st</sup>. Was Dave floating on air most of this week? Yes, as seasoned genealogists know, this is the kind of success that hooked them on this hobby!

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## Continuing Education and the Genealogist

*by Karen Tippetts*

Doctors, nurses, teachers, and many people in other professions require further education to maintain their licenses or certificates so they can continue functioning as professionals. The same standard could apply to us as genealogists. Some may immediately object that "I'm not a professional genealogist, don't even want to be." Nevertheless, some form of systematic continuing education is beneficial to all genealogists, whether amateur, family or professional.

An editorial in the June 1997 *NGS Quarterly* by editors Gary and Elizabeth Shown Mills, made an interesting and very valid point.

"What's the point of conferences when you've already taken classes? What's the point of reading journal articles

that don't name anyone in your family? The point is exposure—exposure to new ideas, exposure to new materials (No! No one could possibly know about all the records), exposure to new ways of looking at the information you already have, exposure to new methods for piecing together clues that don't seem to mean anything all by themselves. There's a tremendous difference between knowing what sources exist and knowing how to get the most from them. And just going to a different library in hopes of finding different books can be a tremendous waste of genealogical time and funds—if the answer is already at hand but we do not have enough exposure to ideas and methods by which our clues can be developed.

Continuing education can come in the form of reading genealogy magazines, attending workshops, conventions, listening to tapes, reading the latest book on research in a particular genealogical or ethnic area . . . or even reading a book on beginning research.

--from Greater Omaha Genealogical Society's newsletter, Oct, 1997.

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## Autumn

It is the autumn time again,  
The time of falling leaves and  
Homing birds, and soon the wintry  
Winds and leaden skies will drive  
us to tour glowing cheery hearths.

We may not have in bleak November,  
Flowers of June and song fests at the  
Dawn. The south wind and the verdure  
Of the woods and hills have known  
Their season and we miss them sore.

Yet in their place there comes the  
Wondrous beauty of the carpet 'neath  
Our feet; the glory of the autumn sunset;  
The fruits of orchard and of vine.

There come again associations, in the glow  
Of evening lamp, withheld thro' summer's  
Busy hours. And so, we welcome Autumn,  
For tho' she takes away, she brings us much  
Which, but for Autumn, we should never  
Know and, knowing not, should miss  
"The last for which the first was made."

*by Lottie B. Lamb, in an Indianola newspaper, Nov 1925*

## FGS Conference: 12-15 September 2001, Davenport, Iowa

by Marieta Grissom

Note the dates of the conference and consider the events of September 11. Yes, the conference was held; yes, it was wonderful. However, we were kept "in tune" with national and world events with TVs running continuously in several locations. In addition, we were lead in moments of silence, prayer and singing "God Bless America"—all very appropriately handled. A few speakers were unable to attend; other speakers fill in admirably. At one point I heard that 1400 had registered and about 200 were unable to attend; however, I also heard that there were about 200 walk-ins (we would have had at least that many walk-ins anyway). At any rate, the conference was huge and fabulous! And, I'm ready to go again!

The expertise of the speakers; variety of topics; sharing of experiences and knowledge of the other attendees, and the extensive exhibit hall were my highlights of the conference—it would be difficult to prioritize them. All were excellent. I enjoyed seeing some of the people who have written books and articles I have read—people I consider to be the pre-eminent genealogists of the day. I enjoyed attending a variety of presentation topics—I felt I gained a wide range of knowledge. I enjoyed gathering information from other attendees about their research experiences and society activities (yes, I got some ideas for WCGS programs for next year). And, of course, I always enjoy shopping in the exhibit hall—there is never enough time allowed for this.

With 5 sessions scheduled each day and special luncheon and dinner speakers as well, all days began at 8:00 a.m. and some days did not conclude until 8:30 p.m. I was extremely glad I stayed in one of the hotels connected to Davenport's RiverCenter. This allowed me the luxury of going to my room for an occasional few-minutes' break. At the end of four days, I felt I had been living a surreal life of not having to cook or clean; yet my mind was swimming and my enthusiasm racing. On the one hand, the time had been almost grueling, on the other, it was extremely rewarding.

To be more specific, the first day I attended several sessions of the Back to Basics track. These included sessions on basic genealogy skills, census records, computerizing genealogy, and pedigree analysis. The first day also included a track for society officers. I attended the session on creating a county resource guide. At meals I always randomly select someone to sit with. At dinner the first evening I happened to sit by a lady, Kathryn Thompson Carey, who grew up in the Liberty Center area; she and I were in the same Liberty Belles 4-H club—oh, so many years ago! What a small world. I would have never recognized her—it has been at least 35 years since I've

seen her. After dinner I sat in on a computer discussion lead by Cyndi Howells of cyndislist.com.

The second day was opened by an outstanding presentation by Tony Burroughs on the Soundex. This was followed by the grand opening of the exhibit hall. During the rest of the day I attended sessions on organizing your genealogy, using the Family History Library, time lines and collateral research. The evening festivities were sponsored by Ancestry and consisted of a 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party for FGS and there were several large door prizes, unfortunately, I wasn't included in the lucky group.

The classes I selected to attend on Friday included the Draper Manuscripts, using tax records, New England research (2 sessions), and territorial research. The evening dinner banquet included a light speech by Sandra Hargreaves Luebking, who had driven back to Chicago to get her speech, after the original speaker was not able to attend.

Saturday was probably the day I had looked forward to most, and I was not disappointed. I attended classes on Quaker research, steps to becoming a Certified Genealogist (2 sessions), Indiana research and resolving conflicting evidence.

I hoped to leave immediately upon completion of the 3:30 – 4:30 session—the last on the schedule. Actually, I was in my car leaving the parking lot at 4:25 p.m. and I didn't stop until I was home—at 7:15 p.m.—back to the "real" world—with a lot more genealogy research ideas to mull over in my mind.

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The American Flag is the fourth oldest national flag in the world. Only the flags of Sweden, Denmark and the Netherlands are older.

—from *Collector's Journal*, Vinton, IA, via the Monroe County Gene Society, Albia, IA Oct-Dec 1997.

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Editorial note: The story about Centennarian Effie Trueblood in the July-August newsletter named one of her sons as Dr. Carl Trueblood. The newspaper item I copied for this named him as "Dr. Carl Trueblood" and I made every effort to copy my information exactly as the original document. However, several people have pointed out to me that Dr. Trueblood's correct name is "Clare." If I had realized the newspaper clipping was incorrect, I would have written it as "Dr. Carl [should be Clare] Trueblood."

## Computers, Software and the Internet

### Ten favorite things to do on the Internet

1. Search for my family's previously compiled ancestry at the LDS church's web site (Ancestral File & IGI International Genealogical index). <http://www.familysearch.org>
2. Download (free) genealogy software for Windows Personal Ancestral file (PAF). <http://www.ldscatalog.com/>
3. Study the Family history Library Catalog. It has the index to over 2 million rolls of microfilm and hundreds of thousands of books and maps from archives, churches, court houses throughout the world. <http://www.familysearch.org/Search/searchcatalog.asp>
4. View and print how-to articles:  

"Research Guidance" from the Family History Library <http://familysearch.org/rg/index.html> (includes the SourceGuides for each state, province, and most countries)

About.com's Genealogy <http://genealogy.about.com/mbody.html>

DearMYRTLE's Daily Genealogy Column at <http://www.DearMYRTLE.com>

Genealogy.com's How-To Articles at <http://www.genealogy.com/backissu.html>

Genealogy Forum on AOL (keyword: roots) <http://www.GenealogyForum.com>

Genealogy Research Associates <http://www.genealogy.com/university.html>

Internet How-To (Marthe Arends) <http://www.genealogy.com/university.html>

RootsWeb's Guide to Tracing Family Trees <http://www.rootsweb.com!/rwguide>
5. Subscribe to these free e-mail genealogy newsletters:  

Ancestry Daily News  
<http://www.ancestry.com>

DearMYRTLE's Daily Genealogy Column <http://www.DearMyrtle.com>

Dick Eastman's Genealogy Newsletter - <http://www.ancestry.com/collumns/eastman/>

Everton's Family History News - [www.everton.com](http://www.everton.com)

Family Tree Finders - send a black e-mail message to: [join-family-tree-finders@gt.sodamail.com](mailto:join-family-tree-finders@gt.sodamail.com)

RootsWeb Review & Missing Links - <http://www.rootsweb.com!/review/>

6. Search the Social Security Death index (free):  
Ancestry.com - <http://www.ancestry.com/ssdi/advanced.htm>  
RootsWeb - <http://www.rootsweb.com>
7. Visit these sites indexing topics on other genealogy sites on the internet:  
Cyndi's List - <http://www.cyndislist.com>  
Genealogy Resources on the internet <http://www.rootsweb.com/~fuller/internet.html>  
Genealogy.com [www.genealogy.com](http://www.genealogy.com)  
RootsWeb - <http://www.rootsweb.com>  
SurnameWeb - <http://www.surnameweb.org>
8. Check out supplies of charts & forms listed by Cyndi:  
<http://www.cyndislist.com/supplies.htm>
9. Study PERSI Periodical Source Index for references to ancestors, their ethnic background and places they lived in genealogical magazines published since 1847.  
<http://www.ancestry.com/home/library/abtpersi.html>  
Then mail away for a copy of each article if the local public library doesn't have that issue. (This database is part of the "paid" service portion of Ancestry.com, perhaps \$5 per month.)
10. Visit USGENWEB sites to discover more about the states and counties where your ancestors once lived:  
<http://www.usgenweb.org>

*Union County Gene. Society, Creston, IA,  
November 2000*

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### Another Computer Site

[www.cr.nps.gov](http://www.cr.nps.gov)

This is the web site for the National Parks service. It contains web sites and data files that chronicle individuals and events of the American past. Click on the "links to the past" page and discover one of the following categories: Archaeology, Civil War, Historic Places, History, Maritime, Museum Collections, People, history, Cultures. By the end of 2001, all states will be online for the Civil War and after that project is completed, they will be adding the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812.

## Research Helps

### Census Date

From the first census in 1790, there has existed what may be called the census date. All questions were to have been answered as of this date. To begin with, it was the first Monday in August. Then it was moved to June 1, then April 15 and finally to January 1. Notice the following chart:

<u>Census</u>	<u>Official Date</u>
1790	2 August
1800	4 August
1810	6 August
1820	7 August
1830 - 1900	1 June
1910	15 April
1920	1 January

To illustrate the importance of this, let's assume that in 1850 the enumerator (census taker) came to a house in mid-August. In the home was a mother caring for a month old baby. The baby could not be counted in the census because it had not yet been born on the first of June. On the other hand, suppose that in the household an individual had died a month before the visit. That person would be listed in the census as though still living because on June the first he was.

It is especially important to keep this in mind in looking at censuses 1850 and later. In these, there is a place at the top of each page for the enumerator to enter the date of the visit. Many assume that the questions were answered as of that visit date, but such was not the case. Observing the census date can be very helpful in resolving an otherwise puzzling record.

*by Lloyd Hosman for AntiqueWeek dated 2 January 2000 page 17B, via Eastern Nebraska Genealogical Society, Fremont, NE February 2000*

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### A Genealogy Tip:

If you subscribe to several magazines that are family history oriented, it is helpful to photocopy the table of contents for each magazine and then file it in a binder. Rather than hunt through stacks and stacks of periodicals, just look up what you want in the binder of photocopies. It serves as an index for all of the magazines.

*—from Union Roots, Union County Genealogical Society, Creston, IA, May 2000*

### What to expect from the 1930 U.S. Census

*by Terry Tippetts*

The 1930 US Federal census will be made available to the public in 2002. However, only ten states and portions of two others have been indexed (using the soundex system). The ten states are: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

**Only certain counties for Kentucky and West Virginia have been indexed:** For Kentucky, these counties are: Bell, Floyd, Harlan, Kenton, Muhlenberg, Perry, Pike and West. For Virginia, these counties are: Fayette, Harrison, Kanawha, Logan, McDowell, Mercer and Raleigh.

The 1930 census has the following information for each person: address, name, relationship to head of household, home owned or rented, value or monthly rental, radio set, whether on a farm, sex, race, age, marital status, age at first marriage, school attendance, literacy, birthplace of person and parents, if foreign born, language spoken in home before coming to the U.S., year of immigration, whether naturalized, and ability to speak English, occupation, industry, and class of worker, whether at work previous day (or last regular working day), veteran status, for Indian: whether of full or mixed blood, and tribal affiliation.

*—Information from the US Bureau of the Census via Greater Omaha Genealogical Society, Omaha, NE, March 2000.*

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### Look Next Door

When using the earlier censuses, go ten to twenty families on either side of your family and investigate their identity. It is a proven fact that usually about half will prove to be related.

*Greater Omaha Genealogical Society, Omaha, NE January 1998.*

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**Sign Here Please:** Make a list of original signatures of your family lineage. Obtain these as far back as you can. Begin with great-grandfather, grandfather, father, then your turn to sign, passing to your son or daughter, then to a grandchild. This will make a good start toward building a pedigree chart of original signatories.

## Preservation for Future Generations

### How to Store Newspapers

Occasionally, we all want to keep memorabl enewspapers. most destruction of old newspapers is caused by fire, water, and mistreatment. The California newspaper Project has some storage tips:

—Avoid storing papers in areas subjected to extremes of temperatures and humidity.

—Single issues are best kept clean in a plastic bag. Use a large bg and store the newspaper flat. leave one end of the bag open to let in air.

—Avoid folding newspapers if at all possible.

—If necessary to repair torn areas, use Magic mending Tape. do not use Scotch tape. Library paste and tissue paper can also be used.

—Special issues can be frmed, using acid-free materials and mountings, and used as wall decoration, but do not expose frame newspapers to direct sunlight; they could fade and become dry and brittle.

—Store large collections flat in an old chest of drawers. Acid-free storage boxes are ideal.

—*The Searcher*, Vol. 37, No. 1, January, 2000 of the Southern California Genealogical Society, via Boone County Genealogical Society, December 2000.

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### Preservation Tips:

Sniff your photograph album. If it smells, it probably is made of vinyl or some other unsafe material. Do not use it.

Thick celluloid items tend to become brittle over the years. Once cracks form, they cannot be mended. To prevent deterioration, do not hang your ornaments where it is hot or sunny. Be sure to store them away from light, heat and high humidity. Wrap them in acid-free tissue paper. Do not put them in plastic bags or pack them in cardboard boxes.

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### What is Conservation Framing?

Conservation framing employs the use of materials that hve been proven to protect and maintain art in as close to its original condition as possible.

Most pieces we take to a framer should be framed with conservation in mind. If the item you are framing is an irreplaceable, one-of-a-kind photograph, document or piece of memorabilia, or is an original work of art or a lim-

ited edition, it should be framed using conservation techniques and materials.

Things to specify when you go to a framer:

1. Conservation series glass which protects from ultra-violet light.
2. Conservation quality mat boards which are free from all acids, lignins and impurities found in ordinary "pulp" boards.
3. Careful adherence to proper conservation techniques for mounting and sealing.

—Clark County, Washington, May 1998

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### How Long Will Copy Machine Documents Last?

There are many questions about the longevity of documents copied on a copying machine. How long will they last? If you make a xerographic copy on a permanent archival quality paper, you will have a copy that will last a long time (150 years), if stored at 70 degrees with a 50% humidity.) This advice was by Kathy Ludwig, Archives Conservator of the Minnesota historical Society. Permanent quality paper (paper made with purified cellulose, less than 1% lignin, calcium carbonated 2-3% by dry weight and an alkaline size) is the specification that meets the American Society for Testing materials specifications for permanent quality.

The xerographic image is made of carbon black pigment mixed with a plastic binder that is fused onto the paper with heat. The carbon black is not light sensitive, nor will it dissolve when exposed to water, therefore, it's resistance to fading and washing away if the paper should become wet. If the machine is in good condition and the toner is fused to the paper properly, you should have a relatively permanent copy. This also applies to computer laser printed copies.

There may be some questions about the uniform stability of computer jet printed inks. There are many formulations of jet ink, and the formulations constantly change. Contact the manufacturer about the stability of a specific jet printer ink.

—from *AntiqueWeek*, 6 May 1996, via Eastern Nebraska Genealogical Society, Fremont, NE June 1996.

## 2001 Warren County Fair

We had 148 exhibits at the County Fair this year; compared to 158 in 2000, and we had several first-time exhibitors. Jay DeYoung, our judge, again provided an afternoon of interesting and educational comments as he reviewed our exhibits. There is little doubt that the quality of our exhibits is reaching higher and the competition is stiffer each year. Afterwards, Jay suggested to me that for future years we could include more information in our stories about what we learned genealogically from this item or project.

Ev Brightman, a former WCGS president, was instrumental in beginning a Genealogy section at the Lucas County Fair this year. She recently reported to me that they had 84 exhibits for their first year—everyone was quite surprised and pleased with their success. Jay was also their judge and he was also impressed with the quality of their exhibits and with the kinds and quality of research that several members had to exhibit.

Our mini-classes were also a success and I have agreed to teach similar classes again next year.

The workers at the booth again, did a wonderful job of promoting our society and the items we have for sale.

### Category: Ancestral Portrait

2nd Dianna Parker

"This is a picture of my husband's Great-Grandfather born 1835 and died 1917. The original picture was in the possession of his one daughter. She passed it on down to her son, who then passed it on to a cousin. We could not get the picture out of the oval gassed (bubble) frame as it had stuck to the glass. One day the frame fell off the wall and broke apart. The picture popped out. I ran to the copy store and had copies made. The original is now back in the repaired frame, hanging on her daughter's wall. We believe it was taken in the 1880s"

### Category: Needlework

2nd Maretta Miller

"There must have been a 'division of labor' in the family as my grandmother Marjorie grew up: her mother made lots of quilts, but Marjorie crocheted. As a child I saw doilies on every bureau, dressing table, plant stand, and arm and back of every upholstered chair. And there were lovely tablecloths, too, usually incorporating one of her favorite designs—the pineapple—the symbol of hospitality. But the items that caught my eye then were the dolls in crocheted dresses and the potholder in a dress design. Grandma let me play with them, of course (she was a terrific grandmother!). Displayed here is one of those 'dress'

pot holders and two companions in other designs. Normally they hang on a hanger in my kitchen, reminding me daily from whence I came. Once in a while, though, if you're very special and coming to dinner, I'll place them on a table to receive a hot dish."

### Category: Birth, Death or Marriage Certificate or Record

1<sup>st</sup> Vicki Felton

*Vicki entered the birth certificate for her grandfather. This is the story she wrote to go along with the record:*

"Grandpa Morris was born December 23, 1914. Chris Edward Morris I thought was my grandfather's full name. After all, his 7 children thought it was just Chris. This is what Grandma had put on his tombstone in Hopeville, Iowa. However, upon going to the courthouse to get a copy of Grandpa's birth certificate, I find out it shows his name to be Christopher instead of just Chris.

"Grandpa was born in the Prole, Iowa area. Later in life when he met my Grandma, he lived in Murray area. I only know of two homes my grandparents lived in after being married. One was in the Hopeville area. I'm told my one aunt was born in that home. And, the other one is on Fillmore Street in Osceola, Iowa, across from the hospital. This is the only one I remember going to. They both still stand today!

"Grandpa passed away on January 11, 1972. He was laid to rest in the cemetery at Hopeville, Iowa."

### Category: Will or Probate Record

1<sup>st</sup> Willa Grissom

"I was confused when I found this Probate Record in the Wayne County Genealogical Museum Library. It shows the widow of Wm. Belvel to be Cinthia Belvel, but in my records I have his wife as Sina Gloschen. Now, I discover that Cinthia was a second wife. Also shows a daughter Norah that I didn't have on my list. I have been hunting for an Elnora to go with the picture I have which was also in those given me by a cousin. I'm really anxious to find more obits to see if I can tie in more and get the children in the correct birth order. What mysteries await the searcher of past relatives!!!"

### Category: Biography

2<sup>nd</sup> Jane Godwin

*Jane wrote the following on the card that accompanied her story:* "Marie Haahr was my husband's 'Bedstemor' (Grandmother), who had a long and interesting life in Denmark and America. In spite of many sorrows and setbacks, she was able to raise her six children by herself.



## 2001 Warren County Fair, *continued*

She lived in Hamlin, a Danish community, with Danish neighbors. My favorite memory of her is her soft voice saying grace before meals: 'I Jesu navn, gar til boards at spise drikke---.'"

### Marie Kirstine Petersen Haahr

Marie Kirstine, born September 3, 1870 at Thorlungaard, Olgod, Denmark, was the first child of Bertel Petersen and Maren Jorgensen Haahr. She had three brothers, Jer-gen Thorlund, Peder Helt and Jens Garde, and five sisters, Ane Kathrine, Karen Peders, Nielsine Kristiane, Abelone Karoline and Ellen. When she was seventeen, she emigrated to the United States, settling in Iowa.

On February 10, 1890, she was married to Knud Petersen Haahr. He was the son of Peder Jorgensen and Mette Jensdatter Haahr, born on September 26, 1867 in Tistrup, Denmark. His father and Marie's mother were half brother and sister. He came to the United States the same time as Marie and worked on a farm. After their marriage, the couple farmed near Newell, Iowa.

In 1894, the family moved by train to Dayton, Liberty County, Texas where they bought a 40-acre farm. They later moved to Port Arthur, Jefferson County, Texas and Knud worked in the oil fields. The family included six children, Peter Thorlund, Maren Augusta, Mette Marie, Julie, Birthe Amanda and Mabel Evelyn.

In December, 1901, Knud became ill with typhoid fever and on Christmas eve, he died. His last wish was that Marie would take the children back to Denmark. The three oldest children lived with their paternal grandparents, the youngest three were with Marie at Thorlungaard, home of her parents. Not much is known of the years in Denmark, but the children were not happy and wanted to "go home." So, in 1904, the family returned to America.

On the return trip, Julie, Birthe and Mabel became ill with scarlet fever. When the ship docked, they were taken to a hospital. Marie did not know where they were and began a frantic search for them. After several days, she sent Peter, Augusta and Mette by train to friends in Jacksonville, Iowa. A kindly pastor helped Marie go from hospital to hospital until she found her girls. Many years later, Julie and Birthe remembered huddling together in a hospital crib, alone, sick and lonely.

Marie worked hard to support her children. She cooked meals for farmers who came to Hamlin to buy and sell livestock. Cream from the family cow was churned and the butter sold to neighbors. The older children worked in homes and on farms.

Marie's home was always neat and clean, and the yard

and garden were well cared for. She rented a pasture for the cow, and cared for a vegetable garden. She often spent the early morning hours working in the garden, then did her housework. In the afternoon, she put on a clean white apron and went to a neighbor's house for coffee and conversation.

Marie was called Bedstemor (Grandmother) by her family. She was a kind, considerate woman, beloved by all who knew her. She became ill in the summer of 1949 and died of cancer on August 4. She is buried in the Hamlin, Iowa cemetery.

## It's not too early to be thinking about 2002 County Fair exhibits!

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### Center Stage: Ruth Henry, *cont'd from page 1*

While living in Des Moines she met her husband Edwin at her cousin's wedding. Edwin was also a cousin to this person from another side of the family. The couple married in 1950 and moved to a farm near Indianola. The couple has four children and ten grandchildren. Ruth began teaching again in 1968. She taught at Hawthorne Elementary in Indianola. All four of her children attended Hawthorne as well. Many fond memories made it sad to see the old building be torn down.

When asked what she has learned from her research, Ruth stated that some of it can be frustrating; reading the microfilm machines, for example. Many other family members have generously shared their research and Ruth is appreciative. She has enjoyed meeting and getting reacquainted with distant family members through this research.

Ruth and her husband continue to farm and enjoy their family. Since retiring from teaching, she has been active in the Farm Bureau Women as well as WCGS. She has served as President of the FBW for four years and is currently vice-chair. The group offers study, political information and supports agriculture education in the classroom.

Thank you for sharing your interesting story. Ruth's first response to my call was, "I am not sure I have anything to offer."

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## Publications about Warren County

	Price	Shipping	Tax (IA residents)
<b>Available from WCGS</b>			
<b>Jane Godwin, 808 West Detroit, Indianola, IA 50125 (515-961-3363):</b>			
◆ <i>Birth Records of Warren County through 1920</i> , including delayed births, hardbound, 295 pages, indexed.	\$15.00	\$3.00	5% (IA residents)
◆ <i>Atlas of Warren County for the years 1847, 1872, 1887, 1897, 1902-1903, 1915, 1919-1924</i> , softbound, 162 pages	\$35.00	\$4.00	5% (IA residents)
◆ <i>Cemetery and Death Records of Warren County, IA</i> , 1980 (reprint)	\$35.00		

**Available from Warren County Historical Society**  
**Thelma Pehrson, 306 West Salem, Indianola, IA 50125 (515-961-4409):**

◆ <i>Railroads of Warren County</i>	\$ 8.95	call to verify shipping costs	
◆ <i>1879 History of Warren County</i> (reprint)	\$25.00		

**Available from**  
**Milo Public Library, 123 Main Street, Milo, IA 50166:**

◆ <i>Milo 1880-1980, including Belmont &amp; Otter Townships</i> , hardbound, 364 pages, indexed.	\$25.00	\$3.00	5% (IA residents)
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**Available from**  
**Iowa Genealogical Society, PO Box 7735, Des Moines, IA 50322 (515-276-0287):**

### *Warren County Marriages*

◆ #0473 1849-1879, 72 pages	\$ 9.40	call to verify price and shipping costs
◆ #0474 1880-1899, 96 pages	\$12.50	

### *Warren County Newspapers-Deaths, Probates & Obituaries*

◆ #1947 1857-1876, 55 pages	\$ 7.20	call to verify price and shipping costs
◆ #1728 1877-1885, 81 pages	\$10.50	
◆ #1727 1886-1889, 72 pages	\$ 9.40	
◆ #1948 1890-1893, 48 pages	\$ 6.20	
◆ #1949 1894-1895, 60 pages	\$ 7.80	

## Membership in Warren County Genealogical Society:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$6.00 for individual membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$9.00 for family membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Are you interesting in helping with any of the following committees:

Fair                       Library                       Program                       Special Events  
 Finance                       Vital Records                       Cemetery  
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Comments:

Mail this form to Jane Godwin, Treasurer, 808 West Detroit, Indianola, Iowa 50125

## **Genealogical research sites:**

**INDIANOLA PUBLIC LIBRARY**, 207 North B Street, Indianola, 515-961-9418,  
Mon - Thurs 10:00 - 8:30, Fri 10:00 - 6:00, Sat 10:00 - 5:00

**WARREN COUNTY HISTORICAL LIBRARY**, Warren County Fairgrounds, Indianola, Thurs 1:00-4:00. Contact  
Thelma Pehrson, Librarian, 515-961-4409.

**MILO PUBLIC LIBRARY**, 123 Main Street, Milo, 641-942-6557, Mon, Wed, Thurs 2:00 - 5:30, Tues 6:00 - 8:00, Fri  
9:00 - 11:00 & 2:00 - 5:30; Sat 9:00 - 12:00. Paula Griggs, Librarian. The Milo Library has an extensive collection of  
obituaries for cemeteries in Otter and Belmont Townships, and some obits for people who have lived in the area and are  
buried elsewhere.

**IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**, 6000 Douglas Ave., Des Moines, 515-276-0287.  
Tues, Wed, Thurs 10:00-9:00. Sat, Mon, Fri 10:00-4:00. Closed Sunday

**STATE HISTORICAL LIBRARY**, 600 East Locust, Des Moines, 515-281-6200.  
Tues - Sat 9:00-4:30. Closed Sunday & Monday.

**DES MOINES PUBLIC LIBRARY**, 100 Locust, Des Moines, 515-283-4152. Mon, Tues, Wed 10:00-9:00, Thurs, Fri  
10:00-6:00. Sat 10:00-5:00. Closed Sunday.

**CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS FAMILY HISTORY CENTER**, 3301 Ashworth Road, West  
Des Moines, 515-225-0415. Mon, Tues, Wed, Sat 10:00-3:00. Tues, Wed, Thur evenings 6:30 -9:00. Closed Friday &  
Sunday.

**CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS**, 1800 West Jackson Street, Knoxville. Mon 10:00-2:00.  
Thurs 6:30-9:30 p.m. Sat 10:00-3:00. Information & appointments outside regular hours call Janet Long, Director, 641-  
828-8743.

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