

40TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION
Warren County Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 151, Indianola, Iowa 50125

Volume 40, Number 4

November & December 2013, January 2014

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

With the end of the year just around the corner, so ends my two-year reign as your President. Rather than try to pull together my rambling ideas and thoughts in this final newsletter of the year, I plan to mail out a special note to all members soon. There's some big plans in the making for a new "home" for our Society that I hope to be able to share therein - STAY TUNED!!

Denise Gripp, President

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

Iowa Research Tidbits

Tom Jones, co-editor of the National Genealogical Society Quarterly asked me to write a guide for genealogical research in Iowa for publication in the NGSQ. This fall I have been visiting repositories around the state and learning about many resources. I am scheduled to submit a draft of the guide in March 2014, for publication in March 2015. For our meeting in November, I plan to share some of the information I have learned during this adventure.

Marita Grissom

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following slate of officers will be presented by the nominations committee at the general meeting of the Warren County Genealogical Society on November 18:

President: Brenda Morgan
Vice President: Donna Anderson
Secretary: Michelle Spear
Treasurer: Judy Richards

Nominations from the floor will be accepted during the meeting

Juanita Ott, jott396116@aol.com

IOOF INDIANOLA CEMETERY BOOK

IOOF Indianola Cemetery (East Side) Book. Cost - \$25.00 plus tax. Graves are listed by rows in each section. Tombstone information is transcribed and in some cases additional information about the person named on the stone. The book is 135 pages including an index.

Juanita Ott

2014 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It's time to renew your membership in WCGS for 2014. The cost is \$10.00 a year. The form is on page 11 of this newsletter.

Calendar:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Tues, Nov 12 | 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting |
| Mon, Nov 18 | 7:00 p.m. REGULAR MEETING Election of Officers Tidbits of Iowa Research by Marieta Grissom |
| Dec | NO Board Meeting |
| Dec | NO REGULAR MEETING |
| Tues., Jan 14 | 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting |
| Jan | NO REGULAR MEETING |

WCGS regular meetings are held on the third Monday of the month (September through June, except no meeting in December and January) at the Warren County Museum unless the weather is bad. Board meetings are held at the Indianola Public Library.

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FIRST 2014 MEETING WILL BE FEB. 17

Archie Cook, a high school teacher at North High School in Des Moines, has taken his students to the State Historical Library, Iowa Genealogical Library, and Woodland Cemetery in Des Moines. He has given tours of Woodland Cemetery on Memorial Day and is in the process of creating a virtual cemetery tour of Woodland Cemetery for the Des Moines Public Library. Next February 17, 2014, he'll come visit our group to tell us how he has gotten students interested in their family history and how he started giving cemetery tours.

THANK YOU

As outgoing past president of the WCGS, I would like to say a big thank you to a few people.

First, Denise Gripp will be ending her term as President. She has done a tremendous job of pushing and pulling us into the 21st century. Under her leadership we have developed a facebook page, a website, and established an Annual Family History Night (a tradition I hope continues).

Second, Karon King will be ending her term as Vice President. Her programs have been interesting and useful for researchers. In addition, Karon has already organized many of the programs for 2014!

Third, Virginia Wheeldon has turned in her resignation as correspondence secretary and county fair superintendent. Virginia has been an active member for many years and was instrumental in starting the updates for our 1980 cemetery book. We also owe her a debt of gratitude for her work in encouraging participation in the Warren County Fair.
(cont. page 2)

Fourth, Michelle Spear has used her talents to create an official WCGS logo. She also manages the WCGS Facebook page.

Finally, the 40th anniversary committee, Brenda Morgan, Michelle Spear, and Karon King, organized an absolutely FANTASTIC Family History Night and 40th anniversary celebration. Thank you.

Juanita Ott, jott396116@aol.com

WEBSITE NEWS

I hope everyone has had a chance to visit the WCGS website - www.warrencountygenes.com. The site is constantly growing and changing. As of October 20, we have had 11,288 hits. We have had visitors from all over the world and are now listed on the first page of Google Search when you search for warren county iowa genealogy.

The following information has been added to the website. Let me know if you see any problems.

- Genealogy shelf lists for the Indianola, Norwalk and Carlisle libraries
- List of centenarians who have lived in Warren County (thanks to Karon King)
- Photos from the Family History Fair
- Websites from Carla Anders presentation at the Family History Fair
- Index for Indianola Cemetery, East Side (Still have to add names beginning with P - R)
- Few more biographies
- Started adding newsletters
- Added the blogs that we had at the beginning.

Queries have been received for the following names: James Homer GRAHAM 1890-1968; James Leonard GRAHAM , 1863-1958; Thomas J. GRAHAM 1833-1900, and Enoch GRAHAM ?-1860; also LEMONS from Colorado, Hugh SCHRIER ancestors; plus obituaries for JACOBS, FETTERS, HOLLINGSWORTH, and LAWLERS.

Contributions to the website are ALWAYS welcome. Contact jott396116@aol.com or click "contact" on the right side of the website page. Our next committee meeting will be the fourth Thursday in January.

Juanita Ott

WARREN COUNTY GENWEB SITE

Winter Project by Karon King

Now that all of Warren County Cemetery listings are on the Warren County GenWeb site at <http://iagenweb.org/warren/cemeteries/cemeteries.html>, each cemetery includes an alphabetical listing of name, birth, and death date, of those buried in the cemetery, except the I.O.O.F. Indianola Cemetery, which just includes names and death dates (or burial dates). This winter, I'll be working on creating an updated listing for the I.O.O.F. cemetery to include birth dates (as well as death dates to replace burial dates). Once this is finished and uploaded, I'll start making a single alphabetical index to all the cemeteries of Warren County. That way, when people visiting the site don't know which Warren County cemetery their ancestor is buried, they'll be able to search the whole county. I'll still keep the separate listings for each cemetery as well.

NEW MEMBERS

We want to welcome eight new members to the WCGS. They are:

- Robert Gunderson - Dillon, MT
Mick Kreidler - Indianola, IA
Steven R. Rodgers - Milo, IA
Paula Joan Brown - Indianola, IA
Larry L. Dittmer - New Virginia, IA
Gary Harman - Indianola, IA
Janice Ruble - Lacona, IA
Barb Rasko - Indianola, IA
-

ABOUT OUR SOCIETY

Barb Rasko wrote a Memories of the Warren County Genealogical Society in preparation for our Oct. 21 event and 40th Anniversary celebration. The members of this committee (Michelle Spear, Brenda Morgan, and Karon King) all thought it was so good, we asked Barb if she would mind that we submit it to our newsletter editors for one of our newsletters. Barb made an updated version for us to submit to you.

Karon, Brenda, and Michelle

Memories of the Warren County Genealogical Society

By Barbara J. Rasko, 2013
Written in celebration of the Society's 40th Anniversary

A good group of ladies and gentlemen, who cared not only about their own family histories, but also the history of the county, formed the Warren County Genealogical Society in 1973. It seems they got busy right away printing and selling copies of Warren County Plat Maps and recording information from headstones at the county cemeteries.

In 1975, I was a young, stay-at-home Mom, with 2-year-old twin sons. I was interested in finding more about our family names, Rasko and Birlingmair, and I asked my mother-in-law if she knew of any groups in town that taught genealogy classes. She inquired, and before long introduced me to Maude Wilkins. Maude was in her 70s and I was in my 20s. An amazing friendship was born and I was launched into a 12-year adventure with the Warren County Genealogical Society. One of the saddest days of my life was when I received a call that Maude Wilkins had died. I knew that her birthday was coming up on November 5, and I had contacted some members of the group and planned a surprise luncheon for her. I had not seen her for several years, and she had been on my mind. She died October 24, just prior to her 87th birthday in 1991. I was shocked and felt bad that I had let the years drift by without contacting her.

I felt bad when each of these genealogical pioneers passed on. Louise Pilmer was 93 when she died in 2003, Pauline Baxendale died at age 89 in 1997, Edith Conn was 77 and died in 1998 and Sterl Conn was 83 and died in 2002. Lulu Patch was 87 when she died in 1996. I knew the highlights of some of their family stories. Louise Richards Pilmer had a pony express-riding Grandfather, Pauline lost her young husband to a bull on their farm and we were both doing research in Decatur County, Iowa. Edna Van Syoc, who died at age 81 in 2000, and her sister Bertine Davis, who died in 2000 at 94, were researching the same Eliot/Elliott family in Pennsylvania that I was. We all loved to hear about the Scottish research that Doris Lawson was doing. Doris died in 2005 at 99. Elaine Bumgarner died in 2006 at 83. Enola Disbrow died in 2011 at age 93. I am terribly sad that so many of my WCGS friends are gone. The memories are vivid

and I salute each of them.

When I joined WCGS, I was amazed at how ambitious the older ladies were. We volunteered at the Iowa Genealogical Society Library on Douglas in Des Moines. When we were first doing research, virtually nothing was indexed. Then indexes appeared, but with all of the misspellings in the census, for example, we were still having trouble finding our ancestors. We were a little befuddled when the SOUNDEX was introduced since so many different surnames were found under each code, but we figured it out, and it did help our research move forward.

Within the first year that I belonged to the group, we started taking trips to various libraries to work on our own genealogical projects. We took car trips to the Iowa Historical Library in Iowa City, where we searched their great collection of newspapers. We researched census records in the Iowa Genealogical Library in Des Moines. We took a bus trip to Fort Wayne, Indiana, and besides working in the library, toured the Historic Fort with docents that guided us through the demonstrations and re-enactments of life from the early 1700s to the Civil War Era. We could only ask questions about that were relevant to that time period.

On our bus trips to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Family History Library we fought down our fears as we got close to our destination. The smell of the hot brakes, along with the speed of the descent of the seemingly out of control bus, were part of the trip as we took the steep drop into Salt Lake City. We were in the library every hour that it was open and appreciated the magnificent records from around the world that were available to us there.

We were excited about our research and wanted to share it and encourage others to trace their family history, too, so we started the genealogical booth and competition at the Warren County Fair. At one point I spoke to an organization of county fair directors and soon groups from several other counties came to talk to us about starting similar booths at their own fairs.

We were concerned about action the Iowa State Legislature was considering to tamper with public records. A few of us testified at Senate hearings at the Iowa State Capitol in support of leaving the parents' names on birth certificates of children who had been adopted. We lost that fight and the names of the real parents of adoptees were blacked out.

At one point we were involved with scanning the records in the Warren County Courthouse for a microfilm project. The records are now in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Family History Library in Salt Lake City.

We held a lot of beginning genealogy workshops in those days to help people learn how to research their families, and

Memories of the Warren County Genealogical Society (cont.)

most of our programs involved research tips and encouraging stories. Some of us gave speeches to various organizations and did other projects in the county to help others understand and appreciate their family heritage. The 5th grade classes in the Indianola School District did a unit on family history each year, and we helped many of them fill in their 4 generation charts. For years, I took students from the Talented and Gifted Classes into local cemeteries to see interesting and historic stones and to understand that everyone buried was someone's loved one: a mother, father, sister, brother or spouse. The students were often afraid to enter the cemeteries, but came out with a sense of understanding and respect.

I recorded a television show with Host Morgan Halgren for Iowa Public Television about unique findings in the Warren County cemeteries. I also spoke to various groups about genealogy, the history of the county, and our genealogical involvement at the Warren County Fair.

We had a regular newsletter that kept everyone up to speed on our activities and also contained selections of county records. The newsletter went to our local and out-of-state members as well as libraries around the country.

Our organization was focused on setting and accomplishing goals that would preserve the records of the county for future genealogists. Members spent thousands of hours in the county's cemeteries and had 17 ½ shoe boxes of index cards recording the names, dates and other pertinent information about those buried in the county. I have the feeling that Edith and Sterl Conn and maybe others had been working on this project for many years prior to the Warren County Genealogical Society being formed.

We were doing a lot of work in the county, but felt it was time to tackle a big project. We turned our attention to the cemetery work that had been done by Edith and Sterl Conn, Louise Palmer, Pauline Baxendale, Maude Wilkins, Lulu Path, Edna Van Syoc, Thelma Pehrson and others. The group had much of the research done, but was unsure of the best way to share the information with libraries and the public.

We decided to publish and sell a book. To be sure our information was as up-to-date as possible, we walked through each cemetery with index cards in hand to catch the more recent burials and correct any errors on the cards. We selected a name for the book, Cemetery and Death Records of Warren County, Iowa, and researched publishers. I was president of the organization, and scared, but I signed a contract to publish the book with Walsworth Publishing in Marceline, Missouri. I set up a copy machine in our small dining room (the only other occupant in the room was a snake in an aquarium on the dining room table for a Tiger Cub project), and organized the group into various tasks for the project.

I was a young Mom, and passionate about helping these older ladies see their work in print. I was probably foolish, since

we had little money and I spent much of my time on our book, other projects for the Warren County Genealogical Society and other organizations I was in. In fact, I am sure my kids felt neglected at times. I remember them saying on more than one occasion, "Mom, can we set up a meeting on your calendar?" It looked like the best way to get my attention.

We needed someone to type all of the index cards in those 17.5 shoe boxes. My brother had recently been stationed in Little Rock, Arkansas, for training with the Air Force. My sister-in-law was taking care of their young son, but had plenty of time to type the book. When the pages came back they had to be proofed. Many people helped, but I remember spending hours upon hours, days upon days, proofing the book against the index cards with Maude Wilkins. We would laugh until we cried. Sometimes we were so tired of sitting, we would lie on the floor, feet in the air, and take turns reading the index cards and looking for mistakes on the pages. It was grueling, crazy and fun.

Since we all hoped our ancestors names would turn up in the books we were researching, we were determined to do a complete and accurate index for our cemetery book. The job was tedious and time-consuming, but we indexed every name in the book and proofed and proofed and proofed it. Most people using the book take the index for granted and have no idea how much attention we gave it.

One late fall day, I asked my husband Frank to help me with the photography for the book. We loaded Nathan and Aaron and a couple of Pentax cameras into the truck and took off to visit all of the cemeteries in the county. It took several weekends, but we got all of the pictures taken, film developed and everything marked correctly.

The next assignment was to locate the person responsible for the upkeep of each cemetery and record the history of the cemetery. As I traveled the county, I was increasingly nervous about the care of the records, which was usually the responsibility of the township trustee. In one case the records of who was buried where was pulled from the bottom of a chest deep freeze. In many cases records had been lost or burned or tossed. Luckily, we were able to find someone with some knowledge of the history of each cemetery. We wrote short cemetery histories, added a simple map (I don't remember who compiled those) and added a photo for each cemetery. I know armchair genealogists, as well as those who carry the book to the cemetery to help them find relatives' graves, appreciate our efforts.

The members of the Warren County Genealogical Society were outraged with a farmer who chose to illegally plow a cemetery in order to expand his field. He did have the decency to pile the stones against a tree. Our members retrieved the stones and set them in cement in Ackworth Cemetery.

We cleaned several cemeteries, and in one case, at Dillard Cemetery on I-35 South, a fence was installed to mark the

Memories of the Warren County Genealogical Society (cont.)

cemetery, and a large white cross was erected. I believe Jim Patrick was in charge of this project.

The amount of work needed to complete the book seemed to be growing. Many books were pre-sold and I knew we had to get the book to press as soon as possible. We still needed to select artwork for the front of the book. I was taking art lessons from Doris Currier, a talented local artist, so I asked her to draw a tree for the cover.

It was an amazing project and we really just took a leap of faith, and I, for one, had no experience, but we worked together and were thrilled when we had 500 pre-publication orders sold. Many of the books were ordered by libraries across the country and around the world. By the time *Cemetery and Death Records of Warren County, Iowa, 1980*, was on the press, we knew the biggest mistake we made was not printing enough books! Today, it is very difficult to find one of the original publications.

At one point, the books were ready to be picked up. I was a young Mom with young children. I loaded them into my husband's work truck and drove 3 hours to Marceline, Missouri. We loaded a skid of books onto the truck and I drove home. We put the books in our garage, and immediately found out that my husband's cousin had been killed that day by a drunk driver. She left 2 small sons. I was always amazed that I had driven 6 hours and returned home safely with my two sons, and Karen had gone a few blocks to a luncheon to receive a trophy for being the best softball player in her small town, and been killed. My sons were 6. Her sons were 8 and 3. I'll never forget the day the cemetery book was delivered.

An amazing side story to our book is that, while spending so many hours in cemeteries, I learned that I could "witch" graves. Edith Conn knew that some people had the talent, and that people that could witch water were unlikely to be able to witch graves, and vice versa. We were standing around in a cemetery and many of us grabbed the wire tools to try. I had little interest in these – thought it was some kind of gimmick – and was absolutely shocked when I was the only one in the group that had the "gift." This has been a unique talent that I have called into use, both for entertaining business associates around the country, and for helping people determine if a grave in a family plot is empty and available for use.

After the cemetery book, we tackled the birth records. Again, the ladies, this time I believe spurred on by Louise Pilmer, were copying the early birth and marriage records of the county. They spent a lot of time at the courthouse. Unfortunately the small books recording the earliest births and deaths had been snuck out of the courthouse, and, although we knew where the books and an historic headstone were, we were not able to recover them.

We published Birth Records of Warren County through 1920 with Anderson Publishing in Decorah, Iowa.

Our group enjoyed each other and was very active. We were still holding regular meetings, some were volunteering with the state library, some were working with old newspapers at the Warren County Historical Society (mostly Marieta Grissom), and most were working on our own family histories. We had another goal and that was to publish a history of the county.

I had faith that the members could handle this project, even though it was so different from our other projects. As I remember, those who committed the most time and effort to our projects, and really seemed to enjoy working together, were Maude Wilkins, Louis Pilmer, Pauline Baxendale, Edith Conn, Bertine Davis, Edna Van Syoc, Ruth E. Hall, Doris Lawson, Sheryl Ledlie, Molly Bowlin, Thelma Pehrson, Marieta Grissom, Elaine Bumgarner, Robert and Rose Bowery, Charlotte Hardin, Enola Disbrow, Lillian and Don Noble and Beulah Wilson.

This time I signed a contract with Curtis Media Corp. in Dallas, Texas. Sheryl Ledlie and I took a road trip to Dallas to check out the system for producing the county history book and to tour the printing plant. When we got back, the members got busy with the process of collecting family and township histories. We also researched the history of the county and worked with previous county histories and archives from the historical society as well as information from personal collections. We had hundreds of labeled envelopes with family stories, business and organization histories, township information, city information, stories on schools, and maps, photos, etc. It was an amazing challenge to keep it all straight...especially since no one was working on the history book full time. We called people back to fact check. We called people to get more information. It was a mammoth project, we were all volunteers, and we had a deadline to meet. We promoted and sold the books, and collected the money to, once again, pay the bills.

When the book went to press, it dawned on me that people in the real world get paid to do what I was doing. I had enjoyed every minute of my 12 years as a professional volunteer, but that did not help with household expenses. I had not worked for 12 years, but crafted a resume based on my volunteer activities, especially those with the Warren County Genealogical Society, and landed a job at The Record Herald. I sold advertising. The very day *The History of Warren County, Iowa, 1987* was to be delivered by semi, I fell down the stairs at the Kinder House. My leg was hurt pretty badly, but I went to the fairgrounds anyway and helped unload the semi. The wound bled into the muscle of my leg and I have had trouble with it for the last 30 years.

I worked at the Record Herald and continued to be active with WCGS. Within 2 years I was working for *Midwest Living* at Meredith Corporation. I was often on the road and both my personal genealogical research and my involvement with the Warren County Genealogical Society dwindled.

Memories of the Warren County Genealogical Society (cont.)

I have an incredible fondness for the members, past and present of the Warren County Genealogy Society. I feel gratitude for and salute the people with the vision and love of family and history that started the organization. I also feel a sense of loss that I have not participated with this group for more than twenty years. I am amazed at the list of publications you have to assist current and future genealogists. I am glad to see the group is going strong.

WCGS can be a unique place for sharing of family stories and for getting words of research advice and a nudge and word of encouragement to keep looking, and don't give up. I love the fact that members are always interested, like no one else, in what you have found.

My final thoughts about the Warren County Genealogical Society are filled with a deep love for the friends I cherished in the organization. I was the youngster. I pushed through the fear. I was enthusiastic. I respected. I encouraged. I learned. I loved. I helped them become a close-knit group. I helped them have fun. We all celebrated the work we were doing. I valued these men and women who had already seen so much of life, who had learned hard lessons, and experienced hard losses and great joys. I attended funerals for many of my friends in WCGS. I loved them and I will never forget them.

I am glad to see the current Warren County Genealogical Society dream new dreams, set new goals and continue the work. You have so many opportunities to help genealogists by putting our records on line. I know you updated the Cemetery and Death Record book in 2010. Can the History book and cemetery book be uploaded to the Website? Is it time to produce a second edition of the History book?

Thank you for doing your part to preserve the records of our county. I am sure the rewards for you are as beautiful as they have been for me.

By the way, when I joined the Warren County Genealogical Society, our family did not have any history in this county...except for the fact that my husband was born in the Indianola Hospital. I still understood the importance of providing records that would help others do their own research. Now, our family has been here for over 60 years, so I guess we belong!

Thank you.

Marieta Grissom also reflected on her history with the society. Don't we all wish we had known Maude Wilkins?

The Possibilities Are Endless

By Marieta Grissom, 2013

I joined the Warren County Genealogical Society for two reasons: 1) my great aunt, WCGS charter member Maude Wilkins, apparently saw potential in me and kept encouraging

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me to join, and 2) I was working on the *Milo 1880-1980* book and felt the correlation between history and genealogy.

As I stated in the history I wrote of the society for our 25th anniversary, several people over the years have been very dedicated members; they developed a unique camaraderie, and worked really hard for the benefit of the society. Their accomplishments were great and are a legacy that will be appreciated by Warren County researchers for years to come.

After being involved at the local level, somehow I discovered the world of national conferences and other educational opportunities. Then I wondered what kinds of things make some genealogists more effective or more trusted than others. I had never heard of a board certified genealogist or an accredited genealogist. I started asking questions. Somewhere along the trail I decided I'd like to see if I could meet the requirements to be board certified.

During the process, I read many books and journals, developed an extensive library, attended several conferences and talked to a lot of people. I learned about kinship determinations and the five points of the genealogical proof standard: 1) conducting a reasonably exhaustive search, 2) creating complete, accurate citations, 3) analyzing and correlating relevant sources and information, 4) resolving conflicting information, and 5) writing up the results. As a result, the portfolio of work samples that I submitted for evaluation to the Board for Certification of Genealogists was blind judged by three independent people. I passed! Fewer than 40% of applicants pass on the first try. I felt very honored to be one of the minority and to be certified for a five-year period. Many people submit renewal portfolios every five years to keep up their certification. I do not plan to do that. I know that the work I do meets the highest standards and since I do not take clients, I do not see a need to continue.

I have published my mother's memoirs. I have had one article published in the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* and am currently working on another project for the National Genealogical Society. In addition, I have written a few articles for the Iowa Genealogical Society's *Hawkeye Heritage* publication. I hope my future includes writing more articles and books.

All of this started with my aunt encouraging me to join the Warren County Genealogical Society in 1979. As a society we need to become mentors to others who show interest in learning about their family tree. The possibilities are endless.

[Note - In our Society By-Laws, the first objective is to "create and foster an interest in genealogy." This story is a beautiful example of how this was accomplished, by the simple act of an Aunt encouraging her niece to join the Warren County Genealogical Society. In celebration of our 40th Anniversary, 2013, this letter was written upon the request of the Committee of the 2nd Annual Family History Night: Brenda Morgan, Michelle Spear, and Karon King]

40TH ANNIVERSARY AND FAMILY HISTORY OPEN HOUSE

The WCGS held their Second Annual Family History Night on October 21, 2013, at the Warren Co Historical Building. In addition, the Society celebrated its 40th Anniversary as an organization. Everyone was pleased that so many persons came to the celebration.

The large community room was set up to offer attendees information via posters, handouts, and personal communication with several members who had volunteered to answer questions and offer suggestions. Handouts included "Days of the Week Calendar 1800-2030," family history records, generational ancestral charts, individual sheets, web sites for genealogical research, and local and area libraries.

Two classes were given during the evening. Brenda Morgan welcomed the audience and introduced the first speaker, Barb Rasko, Joy of Genealogy: The Basics.

Between the classes, Karon King read a brief history of the Society and introduced the second speaker and former member, Carla Anders, The Best Internet Sites for Genealogy. Both classes were very informative and audience participation was brisk.

At the end of the evening, Michelle thanked the audience for coming and drew the program to a close. Everyone was free to continue looking at the displays and information.

The History of the organization was celebrated by having on display pictures of past activities, names of former society officers, historical notebooks containing many biographies, newsletters and member achievements, and copies of books put together and printed by the Society.

During the past year the Society developed a logo which was used on all advertisements, announcements, invitations and other materials for this celebration. This logo was also on the cake, which was the centerpiece of the refreshment table. Nuts, mints, Hershey kisses, coffee, and punch were also available. Michelle Spear was instrumental in designing this logo and in developing all the promotional materials.

A follow-up class was given a week later, October 29, by Barb Rasko on Joy of Genealogy: Flesh on the Bones. She showed books she's bought to help in her research and various copies of her personal family history like newspaper clippings and census records.

The Family History Night committee (Brenda, Karon, and Michelle) wish to thank all of the members who helped make this year's event informative and such fun.

Brenda Morgan

THE BEST INTERNET SITES FOR GENEALOGY

by Carla Anders

These are Carla's favorite websites she gave in her program presented at the 2nd Family History Night of the Warren County Genealogical Society, October 21, 2013:

General – free

www.timeanddate.com
www3.gendisasters.com/
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ourtimelines.com/
familysearch.org/search

Pay sites

www.fold3.com/
www.ancestry.com/

Newspapers – pay sites

www.newspapers.com/
www.genealogybank.com/

State websites - free

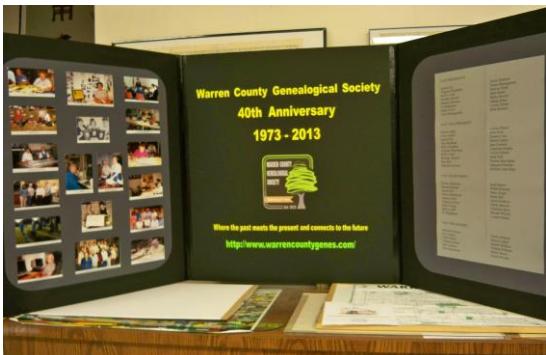
www.courts.mo.gov/casenet/base/welcome.do
www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/ordb.asp
www.cyberdriveillinois.com

Federal websites - free

www.glorecords.blm.gov
memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html
www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm



40th Anniversary Cake
Picture taken by Juanita Ott



40th Anniversary -Photo by Juanita Ott



Molly Bowlin, Barb Rasko, Sheryl Ledlie
Photo by Karon King



Barb Rasko and Virginia Wheeldon - Photo by Karon King



Carla Anders - Photo by Juanita Ott



Pres. Denise Gripp - Photo by Karon King



Photo by Juanita Ott



Donna Crow, Juanita Ott, Ruth Hall - Photo by Karon King



Joan Brown - Photo by Karon King



Brenda Morgan, Marieta Grissom, Brenda King
Photo by Karon King



Donna Anderson
Photo by Juanita Ott



Dani Bowlin - Photo by Karon King



Memories! - Barb Rasko by Juanita Ott



THANK YOU FROM THE FAMILY HISTORY COMMITTEE
Karon King, Michelle Spear, Brenda Morgan
Photo by Juanita Ott

Citing the Source of the Source of the Source

By Marieta Grissom

How often do we share genealogical information with family, or do a quick look up for a friend? Are we providing the person on the receiving end with **complete source citations** of where the information came from? In today's technology world, we may not have found the information in its original form; very often we have found the information in some derivative place, such as on Ancestry.com or FamilySearch.org, or other online resource. Once we find the information, then we need to ask, where did Ancestry or FamilySearch get the information? What lineal path has the information gone through to get to you, the user?

Let's take a look at a few examples. The following citation shows that I actually looked at the Marriage Book in Lee County, Iowa:

Lee County, Iowa, Fort Madison, Marriage Book 3: 92; Luther P. McNeill to Rebecca J. Newby on 8 May 1868.

However, if I looked at the microfilm of this marriage record at the State Historical Society of Iowa (SHSI), the citation would look like this:

Lee County, Iowa, Fort Madison, Marriage Book 3: 92; Luther P. McNeill to Rebecca J. Newby on 8 May 1868; **State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines, microfilm Lee-93.**

Another example: If I were able to look at an actual paper copy of the 1856 state census record at SHSI, I would record it as:

1856 Iowa state census, population schedule, Lee County, Washington Township, pp. 632-633, dwelling 70, family 74, Wm Spencer household.

If I had looked at the census on a roll of microfilm at SHSI, I would record it as:

1856 Iowa state census, population schedule, Lee County, Washington township, pp. 632-633, dwelling 70, family 74, Wm Spencer household, **State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines microfilm Pol-H-287, FHL 1,021,305.**

But if I looked at Ancestry.com for the census record, I should record it as:

1856 Iowa state census, population schedule, Lee County, Washington Township, pp. 632-633, dwelling 70, family 74, Wm Spencer household, **Ancestry.com digital image (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 31 July 2007), citing microfilm of Iowa State Censuses obtained from the State Historical Society of Iowa via Heritage Quest.**

The lineage chart for the information would look something like this:

- 1) Original paper copy of the 1856 Iowa state census in possession of SHSI
- 2) SHSI had the original census microfilmed
- 3) Through various agreements, Heritage Quest gave a copy to Ancestry
- 4) Ancestry digitized it.

So, when you look up something on Ancestry, it may have quite a history and all of this needs to be documented. Whether you give a copy to a relative or friend or to someone who sent a query to the society, you need to give the full provenance of the record, and they should add to the provenance that they received the copy from you.

DATE SET FOR IGS SPRING TECH CONFERENCE

IGS has just announced that its Spring Tech Conference will be, Saturday, April 12, at the IGS Library. Tentative topics are: Tribal Pages website for your personal genealogical site; The Cloud and Dropbox, what and how to use; Purchasing a new computer, what you need or don't need. At least one additional topic will be announced later.

CLASSES AT IGS

Classes are \$5 for IGS members and \$10 for non-members unless marked as free. Please call IGS to preregister. 515-276-0287; email igs@iowagenealogy.org

Monday, Nov 4: 12:00-1:00 What About Me? Lunch & Learn (bring your lunch), Jan Myers. You've been doing genealogy for years but are you recording your own history? What do you need to do to preserve your own history for future generations?

Saturday, Nov 16: 10:30-12:00, Using FamilySearch, Debi Chase. This class will introduce you to the different parts of FamilySearch and show you how to get better results when searching this fantastic free web site.

Saturday, Nov 16: 1:00-3:00 Beginning Genealogy, Linda Greethurst. Find out how easy it is to get started in this popular and fascinating pursuit. Your family has a story to tell - begin your journey of discovery with IGS. Free.

Saturday, December 7: 10:30-12:30 Tidbits, Odds & Ends, Linda & team. This class will cover lots of things that every genealogist should know.

Special interest groups:

German-7:00 PM @ IGS First Monday
African-American-7:00 PM First Tuesday
Scottish-7:00 PM Nov. 14

Classes at IGS (cont.)

Irish-7:00 PM Nov. 19
Legacy Users-1:00 PM Nov. 21
RootsMagic Users-10:00 AM Nov. 23
Norwegian-7:00 PM Nov. 26
English/Welsh will not meet in Nov. & Dec. but will meet in Jan.

You can follow IGS on Facebook at
<https://www.facebook.com/iowaGenSoc>

Other Interesting Meeting Opportunities

April 11 & 12 Annual Genealogy Workshop at Burlington Public Library featuring John Colletta
www.burlington.lib.ia.us/130/Genealogy

April 26 Quad Cities Genealogical Conference, 8-4, Viking Club of Moline. Speaker: Jeanne Larzalere Bloom.

May 7-10 NGS annual conference, Richmond, VA

August 1-2 Missouri State Genealogical Assn. annual conference in Columbia. Keynote speaker will be D. Joshua Taylor, who has spoken at national genealogical conferences and appeared on several television shows about genealogy.

August 27-30 FGS annual conference, San Antonio, TX

This is the season for announcements for Spring and Summer conferences. If you have information about a conference or special event in a surrounding state, please let us know.

Officers 2013**Elected Officers:**

President Denise Gripp
Vice President Karon King
Secretary Michelle Spear
Treasurer Judy Richards

Appointed Officers:

Corresponding Secretary (Open Position)
Registrar Judy Richards

Historian Virginia Wheeldon

Newsletter Editor Ruth Hall & Judy Richards

County Fair Superintendents Brenda Morgan

Other:

Immediate Past President Juanita Ott
IGS Liaison Denise Gripp

IGS Regional Representative Ken & Mary Booth

Web Site for Warren County www.warrencountygenes.com - our new website

www.rootsweb.com/~iawarren

<http://iagenweb.org/warren/>

Warren County Historical Society

www.warrencountyhistory.org/genealogy

Indianola Public Library www.HeritageQuest.com
(Library Card Required)

Active Committees:

Library Brenda Morgan

Cemeteries Juanita Ott

4-H Project Brenda King

Records/Projects

Family Records and Surname File (Open Position)

Nominating (Open Position),

Juanita Ott & Brenda Morgan

Auditing Peggy Kruse

WCGS Dues Form - Due now for 2014

\$10.00 per person or family

Membership in Warren County Genealogical Society

\$10.00 for membership (individual or family, no distinction in price, but please mark which one.)

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____
We are offering members the opportunity to receive the newsletter by e-mail. Please check one of the following responses.

Yes, I would like to receive the newsletter by e-mail _____.

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Comments:

Mail this form to Treasurer, WCGS, PO Box 151, Indianola, Iowa 50125

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