

Warren County Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 151, Indianola, Iowa 50125

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October, November, December 2016

President's Letter

Here is one last letter from this President's corner. On the one hand it's hard to "find the words" as my granddaughter used to say, to thank all the people who have helped me during this term as President. Many assured me that they would help with programs, meetings, and Research Retreats... and they did with enthusiasm. I thank them very much. I thank the members who offered suggestions and participated in our meetings and activities. You have all been Great!

On the other hand, I'm ready to "pass the baton," for the Society needs new ideas, new energy, and a different perspective. I'm looking forward to the upcoming year as we plan new programs and activities (maybe we won't have rain on our annual cemetery picnic)! I get to continue to serve on the WCGS Board. I just won't have to referee the discussion!

How has your family history fared this summer? Have you made any progress? Made any new insights? Filled any of the lines or holes in that tree? I haven't done as much as I would like, but there has been progress. I have made a connection with a cousin who is interested in scouting out another branch of the tree...now, that's progress!! I found a couple of long ago relatives and I am continuing my interest in DNA as it relates to confirming family history and ties. I'm still waiting for a response or two from inquiries, but all in all, I call that progress. I hope you can identify progress in your quest.

I hope to see many of you at the October Family History Night on Oct. 17 and again at our Research Retreat on November 12. These are both wonderful opportunities to learn and to share with others who are on their own family history journey. I look forward to learning how the American Civil War may have influenced the paths some of my ancestors took. Even though my family did not live in Iowa, the Civil War was a national event and what went on here probably was similar to what went on in other states.

Our Research Retreat will again give members and others an opportunity to spend a dedicated period of time with our notes, insights, and "brick walls". It is a fun half-day where you can spend an uninterrupted time with your notes, your questions, or the wonderful treasure of information found in the Warren County Historical Society Library. We have snacks and a light supper – no TV, no football, no (oops, I was about to say phone calls), oh well, no TV and no football will have to do for now.

Thanks again for a great time as President... be sure to support our next group of officers as they help us move ahead.

Brenda Morgan, President, WCGS

2017 Dues

You can start paying your dues for 2017. The form in the back of this newsletter is ready for you to use and send them in. They are \$10.00 for either one person or a family but please designate. If you have an e-mail address, please let us know so we can e-mail the newsletter to you and help cut down on our costs.

Calendar:

Tues., Oct. 11	7:00 p.m. Board Meeting.
Mon., Oct. 17	7:00 p.m. REGULAR MEETING Family History Night Underground Railroad Speaker – Deborah Taylor
Tues., Nov. 8	7:00 p.m. Board Meeting
Sat., Nov. 12	12:00 noon – 12 midnight Research Retreat
Mon., Nov. 21	7:00 p.m. REGULAR MEETING Election of Officers Planning Meeting
Mon., Dec. 19	NO REGULAR MEETING
Mon., Jan. 16	NO REGULAR MEETING

WCGS regular meetings are held on the third Monday of the month (September through June, except no meetings in December and January) weather permitting at the Warren County Museum. All meetings are open to the public. Guests are welcome.

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FAMILY HISTORY NIGHT FEATURES THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

By Mick Kreidler

Learn about local connections to the Underground Railroad at the fifth annual Family History Night on Monday, Oct. 17. The featured speaker is Deborah Taylor of Milo, Iowa. She has spent countless hours searching the genealogical records to discover some of the Warren County residents involved with the Civil War-era Underground Railroad.

The Underground Railroad was a network of secret routes and safe houses used by abolitionists to help slaves escape to freedom in northern states or Canada. Sharing a border with a slave state placed Iowa, and Warren County, right in the center of several routes that fugitive slaves traveled along to get to freedom. The people who helped slaves escape were often in grave danger from those pursuing their "property."

Taylor will discuss the origins and religious beliefs of the people that moved to Iowa and were involved in helping slaves. She will also share her research techniques in her fascinating talk that will start the evening program at 7 p.m.

Family History Night is sponsored by the Warren County Genealogical Society (WCGS) and is held at the Warren County Historical Society Museum on the Warren County Fairgrounds, located on Hwy. 92 in Indianola. The free event is from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

WCGS members will be on hand to answer questions and offer guidance about searching for family history in various records and on websites. Free handouts, such as blank census records, family group sheets, and family tree forms, will also be available.

Come for the history and enjoy some cookies and cider with others interested in family genealogy. Hope to see you there!

For more information, contact Brenda Morgan, WCGS president, 515-962-9261 or visit the WCGS website, warrencountygenes.org.

GENEALOGY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FROM HOME

By Marieta Grissom

Quality genealogy learning opportunities from the comfort of your recliner; what can be better?

While *FamilySearch.org* and *Ancestry.com* offer many learning opportunities that you may already be aware of, I want to emphasize another option: *Legacy.FamilyTreeWebinars.com* offered through Legacy Family Tree.

You may already be aware of Legacy's genealogy software, but are you familiar with the webinars that the company offers? You do NOT need to use Legacy software (I do not) to take advantage of their wonderful educational webinars. In fact, the Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG) so recognizes the value of this opportunity, that the board has joined forces with Legacy to offer even more valuable classes.

The webinars are presented by popular, recognized genealogy speakers, with high qualifications, excellent PowerPoint slides, and detailed syllabus materials. I often review the syllabus to determine whether I want to watch that particular webinar. Many webinars are approximately one hour in length, so are literally the identical presentations that these speakers present to live audiences at conferences.

If you are available when the webinars are offered live, you can register and participate for FREE. However, if not, you can pay a subscription fee to watch the webinars at a time more convenient for you. Rates for the subscription are \$9.95 per month, or \$49.95 per year. Think about it: for \$50 you can watch their entire library of webinars (including the new ones during the upcoming year) for an entire year! You can't register for a one-day conference for such a reasonable price, plus with a conference, you have transportation costs, food, etc. At Legacy you can spend twelve months watching and learning!

You can investigate the offerings and even preview the presentations without committing to anything. Go to *Legacy.FamilyTreeWebinars.com* and see for yourself the exciting opportunities!

2016 FAIR RIBBONS

The following are the ribbon winners for each of the categories. Charlene Craig was our winner for the Well Rounded Genealogist Award. See story and picture after the ribbon winners of each Division.

Senior Division 58: Photographs

- 1 Ancestral Portrait or Photo (only 1 photograph, 1 or 2 people) 1-Virginia Wheeldon; 2-Charlene Craig; 3-Brenda Morgan
- 2 Family Group Photograph (only 1 photograph) 1-Melissa O'Brian; 2-Brenda Morgan; 3-Lynn Burt
- 3 Ancestral Home, Barn or Homestead Photograph 1-Charlene Craig; 2-Megan Staude; 3-Melissa O'Brian
- 4 Pictorial Family History Poster or Display Board 1-Megan Staude; 2-Virginia Wheeldon
- 5 Family Photo Album - No entries
- 6 Ancestral Church, School Building or Organization Photo 1-Michelle Spear; 2-Melissa O'Brian; 3-Lynn Burt
- 7 Miscellaneous Photograph that doesn't fit any other class (organizations, sports teams, 4-H, etc.) 1-Michelle Spear; 2-Mary Mitchell; 3-Brenda Morgan

Senior Division 59: Books and Legal Documents

- 8 Diary, Ledger or Letter 1-Charlene Craig; 2-Lynn Burt; 3-Melissa O'Brian
- 9 Vital Statistic Certificate or Record: Birth, Baptismal, Marriage or Death 1-Charlene Craig; 2-Michelle Spear; 3-Virginia Wheeldon
- 10 A Land Record 1-Melissa O'Brian; 2-Charlene Craig; 3-Megan Staude
- 11 Military or Military Pension Record 1-Charlene Craig; 2-Lynn Burt; 3-Michelle Spear
- 12 Will or Probate Record 1-Melissa O'Brian; 2-Lynn Burt; 3-Charlene Craig
- 13 School, Church, or Organization Records (not poster or display) – No entries
- 14 Best Collection of Documents (not a poster) (example: any or all records listed above) 1-Charlene Craig
- 15 Poster or display (any or all of Division 59) 1-Megan Staude
- 16 Any document that doesn't fit above classes – No entries

Senior Division 60: Genealogical Research Material

- 17 Pedigree or Family Tree Chart (Pedigree is Ancestors or Descendants of 1 person, Family Tree includes siblings) 1-Lynn Burt; 2-Michelle Spear; 3-Virginia Wheeldon
- 18 Collection of Research Material (including clippings or photocopies of clippings, internet items) 1-Michelle Spear; 2-Melissa O'Brian
- 19 Research Notebook (Incomplete record, may include Internet research, collaboration research, show what facts still must be researched and verified, i.e.: a work in progress) 1-Charlene Craig; 2-Michelle Spear; 3-Melissa O'Brian
- 20 Genealogical Record Book (Finished product, including family group sheets, documents, clippings, photos etc) 1-Charlene Craig; 2-Gina Garrett; 3-Virginia Wheeldon
- 21 Lineage Chart (Direct bloodline between 2 individuals) 1-Virginia Wheeldon; 2-Melissa O'Brian; 3-Lynn Burt
- 22 Time Line (1 person compare dates for family, local, national, world events) 1-Charlene Craig; 2-Lynn Burt; 3-Megan Staude
- 23 Genealogical Map (show where ancestors lived) 1-Charlene Craig; 2-Michelle Spear; 3-Megan Staude
- 24 Family Census Records (three or more years for the same person) 1-Michelle Spear; 2-Charlene Craig; 3-Lynn Burt
- 25 True Story, Biography or Autobiography (complete or segment) written by exhibitor (500-600 words) 1-Michelle Spear; 2-Charlene Craig; 3-Megan Staude
- 26 Miscellaneous Research Item 1-Juanita Ott; 2-Melissa O'Brian

Senior Division 61: Heirlooms and Artifacts

- 27 Book (published, not a genealogical book) 1-Melissa O'Brian; 2-Lynn Burt
- 28 Piece of Glassware or China 1-Michelle Spear; 2-Lynn Burt; 3-Megan Staude
- 29 Small Household Item or Tool 1-Brenda Morgan; 2-Megan Staude; 3-Lynn Burt

- 30 Needlework item 1-Michelle Spear; 2-Melissa O'Brian
- 31 Personal Item (example: Small piece of silver or jewelry, etc) 1-Megan Staude; 2-Lynn Burt; 3-Melissa O'Brian
- 32 Bible, other Religious Item, or Bible records 1-Melissa O'Brian; 2-Lynn Burt
- 34 Artifacts with central theme (souvenirs, documents, keepsakes, etc, example: military collection, school, religious collection) 1-Mary Mitchell
- 35 Simple display with genealogical theme to include items from multiple divisions easily visible in one eye shot 1-Michelle Spear; 2-Jean Heston; 3-Megan Staude
- 36 Item of Interest (greeting cards, clippings, post cards, etc) 1-Melissa O'Brian; 2-Charlene Craig

Senior Division 62: Iowa Heritage

- 37 Historical Poster depicting the history of an Iowa town, township, organization, or event 1-Lynn Burt; 2-Charlene Craig; 3-Megan Staude
- 38 Historical Poster depicting the history of a method of lost art, craft, trade or custom common to Iowa – No entries
- 39 Photograph depicting life in early Iowa 1-Michelle Spear; 2-Melissa O'Brian; 3-Lynn Burt

Junior Division 63: Ages 12 and Younger

- 40 A Pedigree or Lineage, made by the exhibitor (Pedigree is ancestors or descendants of one person; Lineage is direct line between two persons) – No entries
- 41 A Family Picture (one photo) – No entries
- 42 Family Record Book (include family group sheets, other items of interest) compiled by the exhibitor – No entries
- 43 Genealogical Poster (family group sheets, photos, maps, clippings, documents, etc. for a family) - No entries
- 44 Map showing where Ancestors lived – No entries
- 45 Photographs showing present home or barn and an ancestral home or barn – No entries

Senior Division 64: Digital Display

- 46 Digital Display (power point or other program). Use any available media program to create up to a 3-minute genealogical presentation. May use any or all classes listed as inspiration if desired. Prepare some print pages if possible to display during the fair. Exhibitor must be present during judging. 1-Michelle Spear; 2-Juanita Ott; 3-Megan Staude

CHARLENE CRAIG WINS WELL-ROUNDED GENEALOGIST



Charlene Craig Wins Well-Rounded Genealogist (cont.)

Charlene Craig of Indianola, Iowa, earned the WCGS top honor at the 2016 Warren County Fair, the coveted “Well-Rounded Genealogist Award.” The following photos and accompanying explanation is one example of Craig’s multiple, fine quality entries at the county fair.



“When I found the top photo, I was unclear of the date of the photo. The back was inscribed “C.S. Miller behind the wheel of 1923 Cadillac and A.E. Emerson.” The C.S. Miller is my great-grandfather. He was a barber in Winterset and a prominent citizen. So I could see him doing a promotion of some kind for the auto since the photo was professionally taken by “Nielsons.”

When I found the second picture, it gave a whole new perspective. I had missed the 1940s or 1950s auto in the background of the first picture. They were obviously having fun on a display model. Look at the cigars and facial expressions in the second picture! That is the grandpa I remember as a child, always a little ornery.

And, it proves that you must be careful with old pictures. Look for details about the time frame in which they might have been taken. The date of this photo went from 1923 to the early 1950s.”

2016 WARREN COUNTY FAIR ENTRIES

by Mick Kreidler
Photos by Juanita Ott and Mick Kreidler

It was another good year for entries at the 2016 Warren County Fair. Theresa Liewer of Ankeny, Iowa, was the judge and she had her work cut out for her as she worked through the many entries on a hot July day. Liewer of Ankeny, Iowa, is president of the Iowa Genealogical Society and has a wealth of knowledge about genealogy records and research. She is a noted speaker and gave a very useful presentation on tips for researching family members at our WCGS Family History Night last year.



Theresa Liewer assisted by Brenda Morgan, WCGS president, and other WCGS members.

Brenda Morgan, county fair genealogy superintendent and WCGS president, was pleased with the participation in this year’s county fair genealogy contests.

“I want to send a big thank you to everyone who brought entries to the fair. We had another good showing of records and family items. It makes a great display at the fair that the public really seems to enjoy viewing,” says Morgan.



The judging was well-attended by WCGS members at the 2016 Warren County Fair.

Of course, she would always like to see more WCGS members enter the genealogy classes. Plan to make some entries from your own family history next year. Encourage yourself and other family members, especially the young ones, to work on genealogy. It makes a great winter project for those long nights of darkness. Better get started – it’s never too early.

The following photos and the accompanying copy are from a few of the entries at the 2016 county fair.



Entrant: Charlene Craig, Indianola, Iowa
Div. 58: Photographs, Class 3: Ancestral Home, Barn or Homestead

2016 Warren County Fair Entries (cont.)

This picture has written on the back “How do you like our Kansas home? -- Thomas Ham.” Thomas was my paternal great-grandfather. I had written an extensive research on him, his brothers and sisters, and his son, Ralph, my grandfather. But no matter how much you research, something will pop up when you think you have exhausted all of the angles. This picture I found in a box in my father’s attic. I had been through the boxes several times before and missed it. Anyway, Thomas and his family came from England, settled around Solon, Iowa, and in 1906 picked up and moved to Kansas. The realtors of that day were advertising cheap land in the West and Texas. We know that the farm was close to Abilene because Thomas’s son met his wife there. But the winds of Kansas did not agree with Thomas and two of his children, Fred and Mabel. So in 1908 they moved back to Iowa. I would say from the looks of the house that it must have been pretty nice. Two-story, attic, porch, pine trees in the front yard and a hedge -- not what you would expect for a farm in Kansas in 1906. But what is even better is that the inscription is written and signed, “Thomas Ham.” The handwriting is very neat and legible for a person with little schooling. So...did *he* sign it or not? That remains a mystery but the picture will become a part of Thomas’s story.



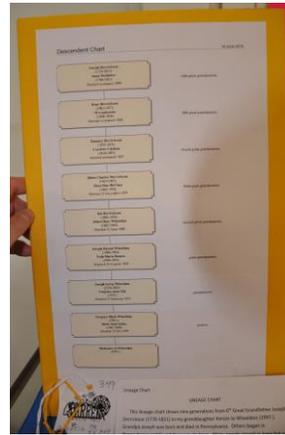
Entrant: June Garrett, Indianola, Iowa
Div. 58: Photographs, Class 7: Any Miscellaneous Photograph

This is a charcoal drawing of Jane Strongman, ancestor of the “Gehret Safelfinger.” Family genealogy: Born April 12, 1818, in St. Clement, Cornwall, England. Item of interest: Her husband’s Strongman set of armor is in the Tower of London in London, England. Artist is unknown.



Entrant: Mary Mitchell, Lacona, Iowa
Div. 58: Photographs, Class 7: Any Miscellaneous Photograph

Man’s Work Horses – These work horses are towering over my father-in-law, Harold Mitchell. He was about 5 feet 5 inches or 5 feet 6 inches tall, but appears quite short standing in front of and surrounded by his work horses. We think the picture was taken in the 1930s. Horses did all the field work then and into the 1940s. There appears to be five horses but if you look closely, there is another head and several more legs and tails, possibly colts or younger horses.



Entrant: Virginia Wheeldon, Pleasantville, Iowa
Div. 61: Heirlooms and Artifacts, Class 21: Lineage Chart

This lineage chart shows nine generations from sixth great-grandfather, Joseph Derrickson (1770-1821) to my granddaughter, Kenzie Jo Wheeldon (1997-.) Grandpa Joseph was born and died in Pennsylvania. Others began in Pennsylvania and found their way to Iowa. Many people stayed in Iowa but some found their way to the Pacific Ocean and places north and south.



Entrant: Michelle Spear, Lacona, Iowa
Div. 61: Heirlooms and Artifacts, Class 28: Piece of Glassware or China

Hazel’s Teacups – My grandmother, Hazel Whitney Eichman, loved her teacups. She had several in her china cabinet. The teacups were all kinds, from fancy to plain. No one in our family really knows when she started collecting them but everyone knows she loved them. Grandma would not just enjoy their beauty but she would use them, too. I admired that as this was not just a collection to look upon, but something to actually enjoy. Grandma had warm tea or hot water every day. She always enjoyed sharing a cup with

2016 Warren County Fair Entries (cont.)

anyone that wanted to join her. I was never into china, nor do I have any now as an adult, but when Grandma died I was thrilled to get to pick one of the teacups. I chose this cup solely because it better fit my style in my home. I don't remember it ever being used but I know she probably did, just as she had used all of them for her tea. Hazel Whitney Eichman is the mother of my mother, May Eichman Goode.



Entrant: Megan Staude, Norwalk, Iowa
Div. 61: Heirlooms and Artifacts, Class 28: Piece of Glassware or China

This green glass shoe belongs to my great-grandmother May Catherine Kasper Hebl. She had it in her curio cabinet when I came to visit her. I researched the shoe and it dates back to the 1940s-1950s. My grandfather, William Henry Hebl, gave the shoe to me as a gift to remember my great-grandmother.



Entrant: Lynn Burt, Indianola, Iowa
Div. 61: Heirlooms and Artifacts, Class 29: Small Household Item or Tool

This was my great-uncle Orris Clair Haines' (1924-1945) doggie tape measure. He was born in Appanoose County, Iowa, and was killed in Germany during World War II around one month after the Battle of the Bulge ended. He is buried in Luxembourg. It is significant to me as it is the only tool that I have of his. My mother was the only niece/nephew alive to be held by him.



Entrant: Brenda Morgan, Indianola, Iowa

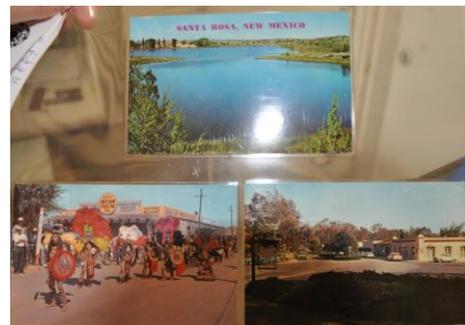
Div. 61: Heirlooms and Artifacts, Class 29: Small Household Item or Tool

My mother, Minnie E. Gullion Martin, graduated from Burlington Beauty School in June 1940. A few weeks later, she married and for 15 years didn't practice her hair techniques on anyone but her family. However, she had all her equipment at our home that she had obtained as a student. This pair of electric clippers is the only item that I have from that time, along with memories of her trying to get my sister and me to shave our legs with it.



Entrant: Michelle Spear, Lacona, Iowa
Div. 61: Heirlooms and Artifacts, Class 35: Simple Display with Genealogical Theme

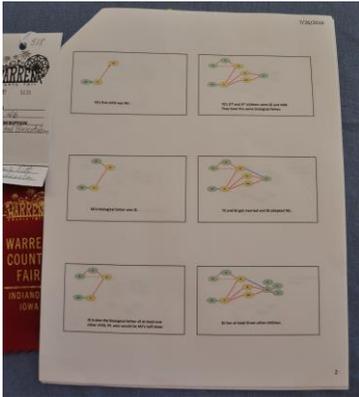
G.F. Bloss Military Display – My great-grandfather, G.F. Bloss, served in the Spanish American War. Later he became very active in the VFW, even serving as Post Commander in Ottumwa, Iowa. My brother, Maurice Michael Goode, was given Grandpa Bloss's war medal. I recently asked if I could borrow the medal. I wanted to create a shadow box including some of the genealogy behind the medal. The shadow box includes: Spanish American War medal; photo taken during his service time; G.F. Bloss obituary; VFW hat worn by G.F. Bloss; map of campaign of 30th Infantry; list of engagements of the 30th; page 139 of U.S. Adjutant General; military records 1631-1976.



Entrant: Melissa O'Brian, Indianola, Iowa
Div. 61: Heirloom and Artifacts, Class 36: Item of Interest (greeting cards, etc.)

2016 Warren County Fair Entries (cont.)

The postcards were from my father, after his second divorce. Oma Wincey “Jack” Johnson, 1909 – 1974. He was going west for a new life. He always said he would retire in California at 55. He left in the fall 1963 and turned 55 in January 1964.



Entrant: Juanita Ott, Indianola, Iowa
Div. 64: Digital Display, Class 46: Digital Display Using Power Point

The New Family Group Sheet – Because the traditions in society have changed, we can no longer diagram our families in the traditional way. We need to look at a new way to diagram family relationships. Here is one idea. For example, a key to use would be symbols and lines for: a) family group; b) peripheral relations; c) biological relationships (arrow points to child); d) adoptive relationships; and e) half-sibling relationships. The next slides illustrate an actual, real-life family involving non-traditional relationships such as adoption and partnerships without marriage.

Following are pictures of other entries without names of who entered them.



Blue Ribbon



Blue Ribbons



NOVEMBER 21 MEETING

Come to the November 21 meeting to elect our new officers and help plan for next year. The Board has some different ideas we'd like to tell you about.

The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer positions will be up for election this year. On the roster are Donna Anderson for President, Lynn Burt for Vice President, Juanita Ott for Secretary, and Judy Richards for Treasurer. If you have someone else you'd like to see on the roster, please let one of the officers know.

RESEARCH RETREAT ON NOVEMBER 12

November 12, 2016, is our next Research Retreat from 12 noon to 12 midnight. If you've never been to one, now is the time to come.

This event will give everyone who attends an entire half-day to work solely on their own family's history. The Research Retreat will be held at the Warren County Historical Museum on the Warren County Fairgrounds.

All levels of family historians are welcome - from novice to experienced genealogists. If you need help getting started on your family history, there will be folks on hand to help you with your research. Learn from others about some of the best resources - from libraries and museums to websites and workshops. If you have already started on your family genealogy, bring your materials and spread out in the spacious museum. Attendees can use the WCHS library resources, and if you want to bring your computer, you can search on-line via the museum's Wi-Fi.

Cost for the Research Retreat is \$5.00 to cover use of the facilities. A light supper will be provided and everyone is asked to bring a snack to share. Join us for some "R&R" at the Research Retreat. It will be a fun and informative day finding your family history.

VISIT US ONLINE

Facebook.com - warren county genealogical society iowa
www.warrencountygenes.org

Contributions and comments are always welcome.

2016 WCGS Officers

Elected Officers:

President Brenda Morgan
Vice President Donna Anderson
Secretary Juanita Ott
Treasurer Judy Richards

Appointed Officers:

Corresponding Secretary (Open Position)
Registrar Judy Richards
Historian Virginia Wheeldon
Newsletter Editor Mick Kreidler & Judy Richards
Fair Superintendents Brenda Morgan & Brenda King

Other:

Immediate Past President Denise Gripp
IGS Liaison Marieta Grissom

IGS Regional Representative

Web Sites for Warren County:

www.warrencountygenes.org

<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
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 2017

\$10 per person or family January through December
Membership in Warren County Genealogical Society

_____ \$10 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 _____.

No, I would like to receive the newsletter by regular mail _____.

Comments:

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

Warren County Genealogical Society
PO Box 151
Indianola IA 50125