



July Aug Sept 2014 

# Davis County Iowa Genealogy

P O Box 94 Bloomfield, IA 52537

Volume 31, Issue 3

Step into another time  
Always you'll be there  
Memories within the heart  
Life's treasures we can share

Are you ready for a Celebration?

## From the President

Once again, a successful Davis County Fair. We did not have a quorum in June, but managed to pull it together by July fair time. Everyone knows the drill, we contribute in many ways to bring our own touch to the occasion. From the tabletop quilts, provided by Mr & Mrs Friend, to the Library & Booth volunteers, experts of history and ancestry, and the new "Google" Calendar, our judge Jay DeYoung, was even EARLY!, yes, it was wonderful weather too,

We turn our attention to the 40th Celebration Open House for October 4th. We are boasting many

a fine speaker for this event. Our own native Rudy Evans! Along with member Deanna Pitman & you'll know DNA when she's done with you; and the 2nd Certified genealogist in Iowa, Alice Hoyt Veen, along with Special guest Barbara Sandstrom, a Native American descendant and Mr Dave Snyder of Jacob's Ladder Cemetery Restoration. Promises to be a informational day! RSVP if you can, no cover charge, treats provided, lunch is on your own, sample the great atmosphere of Bloomfield. Call or Email us for final details.

~ Deb Barker, President & Editor

### Inside this issue:

Library Updates	2
Center School	3
Fair Results	4
Speaker Bio's	5
Why Join DCGS	6
New on IaGenWeb	7
Open House	8
Class of 1974	9

## Iowa Gravestones surpasses 1 Million Mark



Thanks a Million!  
Over 1 Million Records Uploaded



Search Page | Submit Photo | Logout |

User: Deborah Barker County: Wapello County

Project Info
Project Logos
County URL's
Edit & Report
Review Held Entries
Recent Additions
Search All Records

There are no Wapello County records waiting for approval

County Statistics					
County	# Apprv	# Hold	# Trash	Total Recs	Last Update
Davis	3,088	0	0	3,088	05/09/14 07:00 AM
Wapello	2,994	0	0	2,994	08/12/14 06:34 PM
All 2 Counties	6,082	0	0	6,082	08/12/14 06:34 PM

Genealogy Library Hours

Tue, Wed, Thurs, Fri 1-4  
Saturdays 10-12



## Library News

Diana Latch & sister Dot, mapped, walked, transcribed, photographed and printed the Troy Cemetery & Green Lawn tombstones into a superior Compilation. This collection in all of it's glory is now available in our library. Be sure to view it!

Ruth Rominger Swaim photographs and autograph books were donated, by the family.

Bob Miller family donated class of 1930 photographs, and reunion collectables of his mothers Ruth Soseman Miller.

No complaints about the new computer, the copier finisher is still at MPA for repairs.

Duplicate HS Yearbooks are to be sold at the Open House.

An annual DCGS membership gets you access to our (4) quarterly Newsletters, printed queries, and digital camera, scanner rights in the library.

And you'll want to get your tickets for the Raffle of the print by P Buckley Moss.

### 2014 Officers

### 2014 Meetings

- President– Deb Barker

iadavis@netins.net

- Vice -Karen Prosapio

tkpia@netins.net

- Secretary– Vicki Houk

vickihouk50@yahoo.com

- Treasurer– Pat Howk

bphowk@netins.net

- September 18

- October 16

- November 20

- December TBD



Raffle for the P Buckley Moss Print, Drawing will be held at the 40th Celebration, October 4th.

Chances are \$2.00 each, or 6 for \$10.00

REMINDER TO PAY MEMBERSHIP DUES, PAYABLE EACH CALENDAR YEAR

\$15.00 Send to DCGS PO Box 94, Bloomfield, IA 52537 \$15.00

Accepting Raffle Chances for members whom can't make the fair or to the Open House in October.



1974

Page 3, Iss3Vol31



Center School from Northwestern Davis County is now at the Historical Complex, in the city of Bloomfield. The one-room school house was moved from the Wheeler Ridge area to the Museum site in 1974. Area residents of Wheeler Ridge donated the school, placing it next to the log cabin on the grounds. This being one of the smaller school houses in the county. The intent is to restore and preserve it to original condition. Student desks and blackboard are still in tact, and a teachers desk and chair were solicited for. Donations made the move possible, along with waiver of permits and fees by the Iowa State Highway Commission, Davis County and the City of Bloomfield, along with Southern Iowa Electric Coop.

## Davis County Genealogy 2014 Fair Results

### Category A: Research Material

Genealogical Collection: Blue; Shirley Willcoxson

Two or more documents relevant to each other: Blue, Deanna Pitman

Genetic Genealogy: finding from DNA testing: Deanna Pitman

### Category B: Stories and Articles

True Story written by exhibitor: Blue; Deb Barker

Storytelling Display: Blue, Deb Barker

Article from publication other than local: Blue, Pat Howk

Written Davis Co History: Blue, Pat Howk

### Category C: Charts

Pedigree/Family Tree Chart: Blue, Deb Barker

### Category D: Personal Documents

Records: diary, letters, ledgers, school, etc: Blue, Vicki Houk

Religious: Blue, Shirley Willcoxson

Certificate: Blue, Joyce Sheumaker; Red, Pat Howk

Document or Certificate relating to Davis Co History: Blue, Jaydyn Burton; Red, Lonnie Archer

### Category E: Legal Documents

Vital Statistics: birth, marriage, or death: Blue, Deanna Pitman; Red, Lonnie Archer

Will or Probate: Blue, Deanna Pitman

Land: land grant, deed, mortgage, lien, etc: Blue, Deanna Pitman

Military Record: discharge, pension, award, etc: Blue, Sharon Greenlee; Red, Pat; White, Deanna Pitman

Misc Court: immigration, divorce, guardianship, civil, criminal, etc: Blue, Deanna Pitman; Red, Deb Barker

### Category F: Photos

Two people or less: Blue, Shirley Willcoxson; Red, Ione Friend; White, Pat Howk

Three people or more: Blue, Pat Howk; Red, Joyce Sheumaker; White, Mary Belle Davis

Pictorial Family History: Blue, Richard Friend; Red, Pat Howk

Community: Blue, Deanna Pitman; Red, Deb Barker; White, Sharon Greenlee

Photos depicting Davis Co History: Blue, Lonnie Archer

### Category H: Junior Projects

Immigration. National origin of ancestors: Blue, Michaela Ramos

Family Tree or Pedigree: Blue, Michaela Ramos

Family Photo: Blue, Saunja Miller; Red, Michaela Ramos

Cultural or Historical Display pertaining to exhibitor's heritage: Blue, Saunja Miller

Art/Craft project depicting an aspect of family history: Blue, Saunja Miller

**Category G: Miscellaneous** Blue, Ione Friend; Red, Vicki Houk

Best of Show Ribbons were awarded to Shirley Willcoxson, and her Photo of Elizabeth Huggins Mathews; the Junior Best of Show Ribbon was awarded to Michaela Ramos for her Family Tree Display.





Alice Hoyt Veen is a Board-certified genealogist with Davis and Van Buren County roots. She was born in Mahaska County and grew up on a family farm in Monroe County.

A dedicated family historian for more than thirty years, Alice has been a volunteer researcher for the Mahaska County Commission for Pioneer Cemeteries and has researched, cataloged and archived historical artifacts for Forest Park Museum in Dallas County. She is past editor of the Iowa Genealogical Society newsletter.

In 2009, Alice began providing professional genealogical and historical research services. Working with clients from across the country, she strives for excellence in reconstructing and documenting the history of families and communities. She received her certification from the Board for Certification of Genealogists in July 2014.

Alice recently highlighted DCGS in her Blog, <http://www.prairierootsresearch.com/blog>.

\*\*\*\*\*

To 6th-generation Davis Countyite, Rudy Evans, Davis County is most certainly the center of the universe. It became thus 174 years ago when his great, great-grandfather, William Henson, put down roots in Fabius township, on July 4, 1840. (Oh sure, at the time he thought he was still in Missouri —details.) To further establish Davis County as the center of the universe, Rudy's 1st cousin, 5 times removed, William D. Evans of Troy, contributed BLOOMFIELD as the name for the new county seat. His 1st cousin, 3 times removed, Henry C. Ethell penned one of the first histories of the county in the 1883 classic, "Rise and Progress of Civilization in the Hairy Nation: A Comparative Topical Review of the Stages of Progress in the Brief History of Davis County, Iowa." Forty-six years later, 2nd cousin, 3 times removed, Harry C. Evans, gave his spin on the local history with the publication of "The Pioneers and Politics of Davis County, Iowa"—while interesting, did manage to muddle up the Evans family history a bit.

However, it was the family car rides with his parents and two brothers, plus trips with his dad to the various cemeteries in Fabius township, where they placed American Legion flags on the graves of veterans, that Rudy became fascinated with the local history. Not just "important people" history, but the history of everyday people and the ordinary events in their lives. It was with this interest that he has been able to put together a pretty good idea of who Thomas J. Tolan and his son Brentwood were—the architects of the Davis County Courthouse—but the types of buildings they designed and where they were built (such as the sheriff's residence and jail in Newton, Iowa). Rudy has also compiled a biography on Henry "Dare-Devil" Roland, the Human Fly, who successfully climbed the exterior county courthouse 1932, after failing his first attempt in 1924, when he fell.

Rudy lives in Omaha, Nebraska where he has been an art director/graphic designer for 30 years and is an avid collector of old photos and various odds and ends of Davis County history, which clutter up his office, apartment and his mind, but otherwise has left his bank account free from clutter, and pretty much all else.



# 10 Reasons to join DCGS

A genealogical society membership can impact your life as a genealogist? Here are ten reasons:

## **1. You are no longer alone.**

Until you discovered the network of local genealogists, you've been researching within a vacuum. You had no idea there were more than 100 genealogists within a few miles of your home. You can now share the passion with other like individuals. More important, You'll plug into a network that can alert you to the latest products, news, and educational opportunities locally and nationwide.

## **2. You will learn new research skills.**

The guest speakers at monthly meetings and annual workshops will teach us how to prepare a research plan, how to evaluate evidence, and techniques to discover new sources.

## **3. Come learn how to evaluate genealogical software.**

One of the most frustrating decisions for a genealogist is deciding upon the right software for their specific needs. Our society provides guidance and instruction, we won't let you flounder within the world of computer genealogy.

## **4. You can improve your skills in reading old handwriting.**

My personal research included transcribing old documents, but until I became involved in a society project, I didn't realize that my skills were elementary.

## **5. I learned from other members. You can too!**

Our society encourages members to share their latest breakthrough or discovery at our local meetings. This sharing was not only fun, but gave me ideas on how to solve my own brick wall research problems.

## **6. You will gain an appreciation of other local societies.**

While abstracting or indexing other society records, you realized that volunteers in Ohio or Denmark might be indexing some records pertinent to your own ancestry. Genealogists helping one another in this manner is one of the most significant gifts we receive within this unique hobby.

## **7. Gain experience in using a new record type.**

Let volunteers assist you with research inquiries. Many of the questions could be answered through library research. Some may require types of records you were unaware of.

## **8. Come develop leadership skills.**

As an active and involved member, you will ultimately be given opportunities to participate in the leadership of the organization. While serving on committees and board member positions, you'll develop skills that would be valuable in future state and national leadership roles.

## **9. You may not find a cousin, but someone else did.**

I'm always amazed at the odd connections that are made at meetings. For example, someone will casually mention they are researching the Watson family in Kentucky. Another member will answer that they are too. After comparing notes, they discover they are related six generations back into time. Believe me, it happens more often than you may think. Members will also find others researching the same geographical area and can help each other with resources, etc.

## **10. We develop lifelong friendships.**

Common interests create friendships, and you'll have gathered many through genealogical connections. Can you imagine what it might be like if you didn't have an understanding genealogical friend to call when you make a major discovery or solve the problem you've been working on for several years?

MEMBERSHIP DUES, PAYABLE EACH CALENDAR YEAR

\$15.00 Send to DCGS PO Box 94, Bloomfield, IA 52537



Davis County Genealogical Society

## Davis County Genealogical Society

★★★★★ (0 ratings)

104 likes · 1 talking about this · 10 were here

Like us on Face Book, Still In search of a 40th Year Theme.

	<u>Born</u>	<u>Died</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Latest Reading</u>
Anderson	M C		4 Jan 1854	62y10m W C
Curry	John		6 Jun 1854	55yr
Gore	Elijah H	26 Aug 1835	March 2 1855	Son of Martin & Infant of JW & MA 1y5m15d Infant children
	Olliver			
	Martin		May 27 1875	61y7m12 16y
	H Y		Aug 29 1892	wife of 81y1m17d 31y
	Martin L		Dec 26 1870	Son of M 17y8m
Kennedy	Ida		Aug 30 1873	Dau of S & RG 1y8m18d
Harris	Infant		11 Jan 1865	Son of G
	Mamie E		Jun 8 1873	Dau of G H & S 10y2m4d G W & S
Maskal	James	Nov 29 1810	Apr 10 1851	
Rown	H E	Jun 17 1896	Aug 16 1898	Son of C June 1888
	S C	Apr 3 1896	Feb 4 1898	
	Infant Son	Jan 23 1892	Feb 4 1892	
Shelton	Vilet			Wife of E 86y3m4d
	Eli Elrod		Jul 30 1883	59 Years
Young	Emma			Wife of J 23 years
	Miranda E		Oct 22, 1847	Dau of E & E Z 2y7m5d
	William		Nov 6 1854	son of E 1y9m16d
Stone	Broken			Many 61y1m22d

SULLIVAN | GORE  
CEMETERY

Everything you wanted to know  
about DNA but was afraid to ask.

# 40 YEARS OF GENEALOGY

1974

## OPEN

2014

## HOUSE

### OLD SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

200 W LOCUST

**RUDY EVANS**

NOTED DAVIS COUNTY HISTORY BUFF

**ALICE HOYT VEEN**

IOWA'S 2<sup>ND</sup> CERTIFIED GENEALOGIST

**DAVE SNYDER**

JACOBS LADDER  
CEMETERY RESTORATION

**BARBARA  
SANDSTROM**

NATIVE AMERICAN DESCENDANT

## 10.4.14

9 AM to 4 PM

Come anytime, Come as you are!



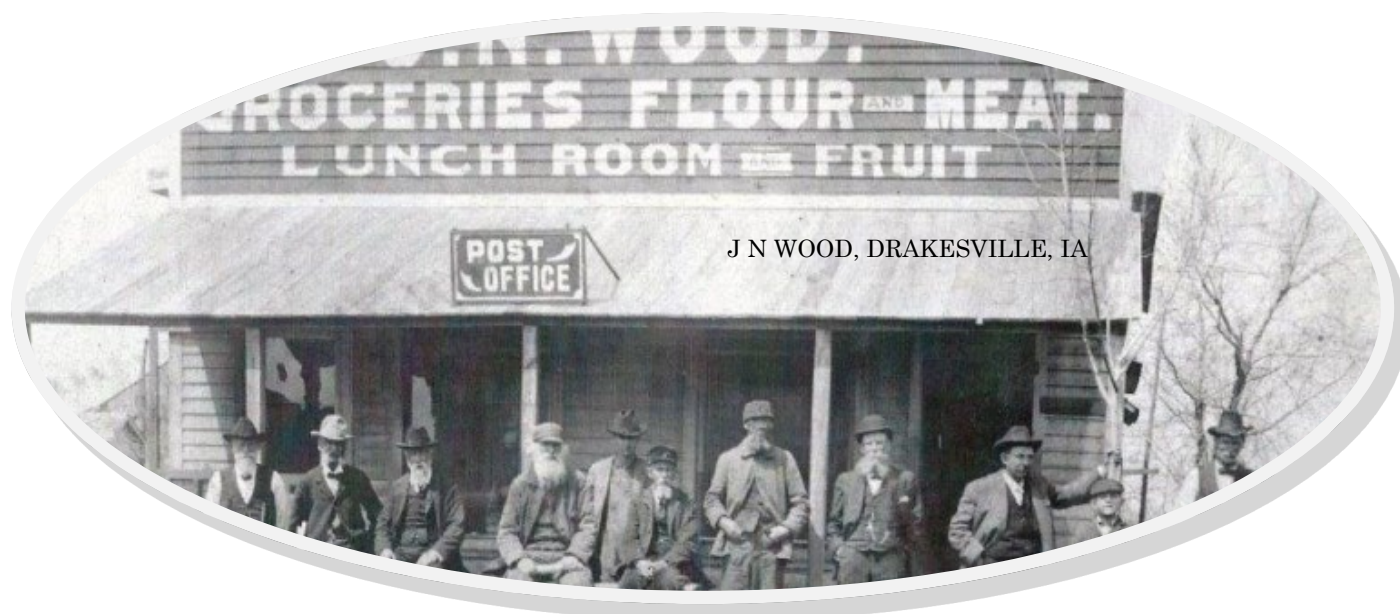


Old Burlington Railroad  
Depot moved to Pulaski  
park in 1974.

## CLASS OF 1974 BHS

Phyllis K Aeschliman, Steven K Allen, Steven H Altheide, Barry D Anderson, Clifford Wm Augspurger, Vickie D Bardwell, Miriam I Bartlett, Debra S Bachman Gerald A Bemis, James N Bengé, Douglas E Berryman, Jerold M Besco, Jack L Boatman, Carolyn K Bohi, Cheryl L Boley, Claire M Bridgeman, Brenda M Brown, Bonnie Jo Burns, Jeri Lynn Bragg, Steve M Campbell, Tim D Campbell, Diana Kay Chickering, Joan E Chickering, Debra J Christy, Bonny L Rominger Collins, Roger P Cook, Sheryl P Dahl, Randy A Davis, Wm L Davis, Jeffrey L Dowell, Cliff Eakins, Marcia E Nicklin Eakins, Donna L Simmons Eaves, Denise L Elson, Jerry S Engle, Barbara E Enlow, Sheryl A Baker Enlow, Wm C Everly, Deliah J Fenton, Pamela K Fenton, Lynn A Foster, Sherry R Friend, Phillis L Fry, Debra L Fuller, Joyce M Garon, Roy G Gideon, Maria E Gotuzzo, Sue Ann Grant, Gary L Gravett, Rusty G Grinstead, Gregory J Harris, Richard T Haselhoff, Doug L Heckethorn, Cynthia L Henderson, Vickie J Hill, Nancy S Hanna Hopwood, Cheryl L Hougland, Doug A Houk Vickie M Howk, Michael L Huffman, Randy J Huggins, Sue E Huggins, Roger D Humphrey, Brenda K Johnson, James O Johnson, Teresa L Downing Johnson, Greg L Kinney, Dixie L Kline, Paul I Krog, Susan L Kunzman, Vickie D Lammert, Peggy A Landtiser, Beverly J Lawson, Linda L Lofton, Warren K Lough, Jolene M Tarbel Lundstrum, Michael J McClure, Tim M McElderry, Patricia A Mincks, Tim E Mincks, Patrick B Moore, Vernon I Neill, Marc D Noel, Linda L Norman, Ricky G Northup, Carol L Norton, Thomas R Olinger, Bernard A Orman Jr, Randy G Owens, Debra A Payne, Brian J Peck, Danny L Porter, Kathryn B Porter, Kendra J Pose, Norman J Prevo, Laura E Quinones, Nancy A Ritz, John D Roberts, Kathy G Roberts, Carlton K Rook, Kenneth D Roulet, Connie M Rudd, Donna L Runkle, Mark A Rysdam, Mary M Ritter Rysdam, Kathryn L Rook Sample, Michael L Sanders, Roger D Saner, David W Schaer, Jane Ann Schaer, Janet Lee Schaer, Garry L Schumaker, Randy D Scott, Mark L Shively, Merle A Shively, Donna K Sloan, Wm C Smith Jr, Patricia A Spurgeon, Barbara D Stevens, Richard D Strait, Kathy Jo Stufflebeam, Jutta Sutter, John A Swaim, Arron D Turner, Danny Wm VanHorn, Fabio A Vareda, Randall L Veatch, Michael D Walker, Mitchell L Walker, Bruce E Walley, Jeffrey D Walton, Steven E Ward, Teresa A Wardlow, Sandra S Farley Warning, Connie R Jones White, Douglas R White, Jeanne M Wilkinson, Lori E Willcoxson, Twylla K Williams, Elizabeth L Wix, Kenneth L Wuthrich, Virginia L Wuthrich, Dennis A Yoakam

~ *Davis County Republican, May 21, 1974*



J N WOOD, DRAKESVILLE, IA

Our Mission: to Create, Foster, Promote the study of genealogy, preserve genealogical and historical records of the past generations, and to assist one another in our constant search for ancestors and family. To Establish and Maintain a library through donations, contributions and

Davis County Genealogy Society

PO Box 94

Bloomfield, Iowa 52537