

P O Box 94 Bloomfield, IA 52537

Davis County Iowa Genealogy

3rd Newsletter of Year ~ Review

Fundraiser Winners:

Deanna Johnson was chosen for the Tablet, and Suzie Warner received the Print.

Out Library has LED Lighting

Americorps, an Iowa Energy Independent is assisting with the Old School Winterization, and recently installed LED lighting.

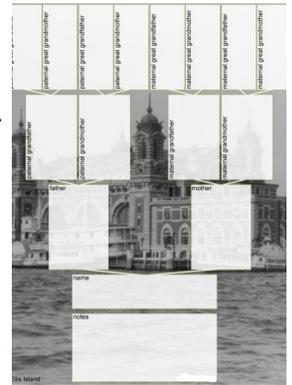
2015, has been unique in it's own way, just like the previous 40 years that DCGS has been in existence. We find that we are all busy with life's challenges, and don't find enough time to do what we enjoy. To a genealogist, the research and hunt is relaxing, thrilling, anxious and fulfilling, to name a few. Making time to do what you enjoy is important.

To summarize our year, you would most certainly benefit from reading our meeting minutes, coming to our meetings, agree to volunteer, join us at the fair, see you at our library, meet with us for our Holiday meeting. Lots of opportunities to join the affliction we all suffer from.

Hobby or Pastime, we all can agree we call it the Family Tree.

I've personally made no grand break through this year, my ancestors have ceased to appear. I find my time with the grandchildren near, they continue to come to grandma's, but I know the time will come, they will outgrow me too.

~ Finding Time to Hunt Ancestors



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Foundation Grant Application

Another opportunity for advancing technology to benefit our archived microfilms. DCGS has applied to the Davis County Community Foundation for a grant to make our microfilm digital. The intent is to do 50% of our collection this year, and the other half the next Grant

time. We have over 90 reels of newspapers, census, land, deeds, probates & wills on microfilm. The challenges we face as researchers when using this type of resources, can be difficult. Having the data digital at our fingertips, will help everyone along the way.

What's new on the Web



Davis County Genealogical Society

Find us on Facebook



The IAGenWeb.org for Davis County has just passed the semi annual review. Deb Barker is the County Coordinator and as a volunteer is required to maintain this URL and it's contents, set forth by guidelines enforced by the IAGenWeb leadership team & pre determined rules.

<http://iagenweb.org/state/rules.htm>

Assistance with transcription of any i.e., the following types of data is welcomed.

Memberships Pay Here!

One Year **\$17.5**

Buy Now



New complete record-sets or incomplete record-sets are to be added to a project no less than once every six (6) months, with at least one complete record-set added yearly. That is to say, both record sets may be complete record-sets, but both may not be incomplete record-sets. Some of the Special Projects only provide incomplete records, so Coordinators must add new incomplete record-sets no less than once every six (6) months.

A **complete record-set** covers a defined period of time or is complete for a given scope of data. An **incomplete record-set** is a substantial number of unorganized, but related, records. Incomplete records always have the potential of becoming a complete record-set. Record sources, contributors' names and the date when the material was added is strongly recommended.

Examples of "Complete" and "Incomplete" record-sets:

Complete record-set
(formerly called transcribed records)

- A bride index for all marriages within a span of years
- A census transcript covering a complete unit of data such as a township
- All biographies from a history book
- Complete gravestone inscriptions for a cemetery

Incomplete record-set
(formerly called random records)
(unorganized, but related, records)

- A substantial set of various county biographies
- A substantial set of transcribed county news articles
- A partial list of gravestone inscriptions for a cemetery

Http://iagenweb.org/davis

Vicki, DCGS Secretary and Deb Barker, Acting President; Attended the IGS Society Management Workshop.

The Workshop in Des Moines was well worth the drive, and we were able to learn many valuable tools to use to cope when facing the challenges, that DCGS and other societies face every day.

The lack of awareness and our shrinking audience, are some of the common themes.

Your membership is vital to our existence. The membership for DCGS Calendar year is \$17.50. If we maintain our memberships, we can continue to cover the yearly rent. Our research fees are now \$15 per hour, and are used to assist with Insurance, Internet, and Office supplies.

Three Iowa county societies; Montgomery, Adams & Calhoun no longer exist.

While we continue to look for additional Programs and Methods to attract new members, and always appreciate our current; we must keep in mind we also need to keep up with technology. Many researchers enjoy and prefer the old fashioned paper trail. While others are including digital online research. Our best practices going forward will need to be the best of both worlds.

The traditional genealogy hunt as we know it is evolving. Our unique library, rich in one of a kind archived materials, will remain the solemn place to safely keep these holdings. Our general public guides us to make our library electronic.

This means beginning with online research tools, Monthly meetings in video/presentation format, Electronic newsletters, Emailing, to name a few. You can currently find us on Facebook. We do not have any additional Blogs, RSS, Tweet, etc., at this time. I am investigating Google Hangouts for our meetings, and if you currently use our Google calendar, you are one step closer to joining us electronically.

We want to continue to provide traditional researching and unique newsletters, along with County information and research excursions for members and volunteers. We have Ancestry.com available on our Library PC.

We allow camera's and scanner's in our library to paid members. We sponsor the booth at the Davis County Fair.

We want to continue to provide traditional researching to our visitors and community. Continually finding projects of data sets to transcribe to create collections unique, and useable for the website and or our shelves.

We welcome any member or volunteer to host a project of this type. We collect family surnames, photographs and heirlooms, for archival of future generations to come.

DCGS wants your voice to be heard. What talent do you have you can share? What project would you like to lead or see completed?

Won't you join us for a meeting? We follow Roberts Rules of Order, have bylaws in place, along with appointed Officers. Would you like to hold an office? President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian. We cancel in bad weather,

We want you to volunteer. While at the library, you will be able to assist the researcher. When there is no visitor, you are free to use the resources to your advantage. Feel free to take on a project or task. Consider being on call, and helping when researchers are in need of our services. We close the library when school is not in session due to weather.

December is our Holiday Meeting and Election of Officers, would you like to attend and vote?

I made it to the Iowa Genealogical Societies Regional Ballot. I was asked by the Nominating Committee to be a Representative of IGS Region 9, for the calendar year of 2016. This Region includes the Counties of Davis, Wapello, Appanoose, Monroe, Wayne & Lucas. As a representative of these counties, you are required to visit each local chapter for a monthly meeting, and attend 4 board meetings (November, February, May and August) at IGS.

~ Deb Barker, Acting President & Editor.

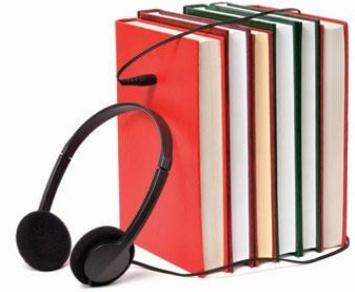
County History Books

Back in 1882 the fore fathers of our County, had the means to capture and print for our archival purposes the book we know as the History of Davis County 1882. And again in 1924, many community folks were very essential in the additional creation of another History Book , we

know as the Dillon Payne or Pioneer History . In the 1970s the TTT once again gave our county, community & relatives a recent History Book collection. All are must haves! So, to notify you we have limited editions available once again. We do not intend to do any reprints

in the near future.

Perfect gifts for the Holiday. Contact us for reserving, first come first serve.



Hurry before their gone.

Also note we have the Bethlehem Church 150th Ladies Aid Cook Book for \$10.

Donations

Recent donations have been for fundraising purposes and our Thank You! goes out to members Sue Spilman, donated the Tablet; and Vicki Houk for the Firemans' Print.

We have recently been

donated the Deb Baughman, DC Courthouse watercolor, and two P Buckley Moss Prints, by Lana Doll. One of the Square and the other a Amish Buggy scene.

Look for details on availability on these

prints, may be a silent auction in our future.

Winter Library Hours

*Thurs, Fri 1:00-4:00
Saturdays 10:00-12:00*

Meetings

*Third Thursday at 7 PM
Bloomfield Library*

PATTERSON CROSSING ~ Next 3 Pages

We start with this Wagon Train story, and continue it in another edition. Even if this family is no relation the story captured and shared is very interesting. We for-

get the hard times that our ancestors endured, as we have not walked in their shoes. Imagine the times, no technology like today. No comforts as we know them, and

how we do take for granted what we have. Give Thanks this Season for many.



Enjoy your Family Time

PATTERSON CROSSING

Janey
 Ft. Grandma died Aug. 1958 at the age of 100 years and 5 months. *in Janey*

Aug. 10, 1942
 Duncan's Mills, California.

Grandma Janey's Account of her early life and trip across the plains in a wagon train. Told to her Granddaughter Maxine Clark Hiller.

"I remember I was told I was born in 1858 at Bloomfield, Davis County, Iowa.

"We lived with my Grandmother Grider until I was a year old when we moved to ourselves.

"Grandma had a big house and it had a fireplace that was at least ten feet across. The logs had to be rolled in and piled high onto the andirons. Of course, they'd burn all day and all night; the fire never went out.

"Reached by a back stairway was a big attic where I remember seeing strings of dried pumpkin hanging from the rafters and containers of popcorn and of cotton stored there.

"In the evening after supper, as we called it in those days, all of us would gather around the fireplace and pick the seeds from the cotton while we popped corn, ate apples and talked. When the cotton was cleaned Grandmother would dye it black, yellow, blue, brown, or red with dyes made from bark or roots which she gathered herself. Black walnuts provided the browns and the blacks; the yellow came from saffron but I can't recall how she got the other colors.

"After the cotton was dyed Grandmother would card it, then spin it into thread, weave it into cloth from which she cut out the garments - pants, coats, vests, dresses, etc. - and sew them for her family entirely by hand. There was only one girl in the family and she died at about sixteen or eighteen. She'd had measles. While Grandma was away one day the daughter got the nose bleed and her brothers - there were four boys - put cold water on her to stop it. This well meant treatment drove the measles in, later causing her death. Her name was Jane Eliza and I was named after her. My father said he was too poor to give me a middle name, so I was just plain Jane'.) These home-made cotton materials were pretty coarse and rough. The women's materials were called 'linsey' and 'woolsey'. I'm not sure if that's the way to spell it. I don't recall that they had any name for the men's cloth though I do remember hearing some cloth called 'jeans'. Nowadays they call men's overalls 'jeans', but in those days it was the cloth they were made of.

"The women also made all our wool socks and stockings. Grandmother would take a hank of white wool, tie strings around it's length at one, two, or three inch intervals, then dye the hank. When the strings were removed the yarn underneath remained white and when the stockings were knitted they were striped, the stripes running around the leg like a barber's pole. Sometimes the colors were just varigated.

"The dye-pot was always the stinkin'est thing in the world because they put chamber-lye in it to set the color, I reckon. Ma never told me just why they did it.

"You've seen a spinning wheel, of course? Well, Louie's sister - Louie was later my husband - was once forbidden to attend a dance because her required amount of spinning wasn't done. Not to be outdone, she danced while she worked and by the time her spinning was finished her shoes were worn clear through!

"When the old clothes were too worn for use they were cut up in strips, sewed together, wound into balls and woven into carpets. Nothing was ever wasted.

"All the beds in the house were very high four-posters, some with wooden canopies, some with hand-made flounces around the bottoms. They didn't have springs; ropes were laced both ways across the steads. On these ropes were placed home-made straw mattresses. On top of these forty pound feather mattresses were laid, the feathers picked from selected geese by Grandmother herself.

"The geese were picked twice a year. The picker would put the live goose's head under her arm (no man ever did this chore) and hold it tight while the heavier feathers on the breast were plucked. Once when I was about nine or ten, after we came to California, I remember a great big fat woman with a goose's head tucked under her arm that way and I sneaked up behind her and teased the goose. Instead of its biting me it bit her and even though I got slapped each time I teased it, it was too much fun to resist. The woman's name was Jane Gard and she lived in Kelseyville in Lake County.

"Over the feather mattresses we used home-made quilts filled with home-carded wool and old blankets. Every stitch was made by hand, Grandmother's hand. The spreads were also wool colored blue, white, and red, woven in check and squares. I expect they are pretty valuable now if any can be found.

"One of these big beds was in the room with the big fireplace. Stuffed under it was any and everything Grandma wanted to get out of sight, not because she wasn't a good housekeeper, but because there were no clothes closets in those days. You see, the flounce hid all.

"Out in the lot toward the barn was a big sugarpress where the sugar cane was made into juice which was later boiled down into sugar and syrup. The press was turned by an old gray horse hitched to a shaft and it spent the whole day going 'round and 'round in a circle. Many's the long ride I've had on that old horse's back! I've seen threshing machines operated the same way but using more horses, sometimes as many as twelve. That was in later years, of course.

"While I'm on this subject let me tell you a little incident. The path the old press horse traveled gradually wore into a circular trough or trench and one day my brothers, O.C. and Harry were playing in it with me. O.C. was the driver and Harry and I were the horses. O.C. stood in the middle of the circle with a whip in his hand and, as he popped the whip to make us go faster - of course he never really hit us, he cussed a blue streak, and he really knew how from listening to the real drivers! My Pa came along and heard him but he didn't say anything - then. But after supper that night he called O.C. over to the stove and showed him the teakettle. He pointed

"About this time friends and neighbors were being organized to make up a train to travel to California.

"Uncle Henry Grider, Pa's brother, whose eye-sight had kept him from serving during the war, had reached California by vessel around Cape Horn and had written, telling of the wonderful country and opportunities, asking his family to come as soon as possible.

"Uncle Henry's father-in-law, Dr. Fulkerson, had money enough to buy and outfit a train of about thirty wagons with four mules to each as well as a carriage for his own family use. Other families, with their equipment, signed up to go along, some to drive Uncle Henry's stock and others to make their homes in the new country.

"Louie's father, Joshua Patterson, furnished another big outfit consisting of his family and friends, and the groups joined for the journey, leaving in April 1864 taking the Old Emigrant Trail.

"Most of the members of the train had been vaccinated for small-pox. About ten days out their arms became so sore there was danger of losing them and some turned back to their homes. All we could figure was there must have been something wrong with the vaccine.

"Aunt Sarah, Uncle Henry's wife, and her family traveled with us. Our wagons kept together and we agreed to go fifty-fifty on work, food, etc. Well, my mother found herself doing all the cooking before long, and we discovered that Aunt Sarah was gathering her family into their wagon and feeding them luxuries she'd stored away, with no thought of sharing a thing even when Pa and Ma were sick.

"I remember a big black dog Aunt Sarah had. He had a white ring around his neck so we called him "Ring". It's hard to believe but Ring walked every step across those plains except when we ferried the rivers and his feet got so sore they had to make moccasins for him.

"We crossed the Missouri River on ferry boats, a few wagons at a time, which, of course, took some time. I noticed as I went across how very muddy the water was. Some days later we reached the plains and, since there was danger from Indians, each night we'd drive our wagons into a big circular formation for protection.

"Often the Indians would come dashing up on their ponies as ask for food - 'bissy cut' they'd say, meaning bread. Some of them had learned a little English. At first we didn't know any better than to feed them, but later it got to be too good a thing so we stopped it. They never did molest us until we were in Colorado someplace, but they did massacre trains before and after us several times. Our train was so large I suspect they were afraid of us.

Once Pa whipped an old squaw. Several of them came and squatted around the campfire with almost no clothes on, just a thin slip-like garment. The men seldom had much on either except a breech-clout. When Pa told them to go away the old one just squatted until he took his big whip and lashed her legs. We expected trouble over that but there wasn't any.

OTTUMWA TRI WEEKLY COURIER, APRIL 2, 1910

BELKNAP

Mrs **Altheide** of Bloomfield filled her appointment Sunday night at the Congregational church. She was accompanied by her husband and little son, Karl. Mrs Eliza **Middleton**, who makes her home at Ratheville, Mo., with her sister is visiting here at the home of her son G H **Middleton**. Mr and Mrs A D **Munn** and daughters Zelda and Mrs Etta **Sample** and children of Sherman Chapel visited Friday with Mr and Mrs Davis **Munn**. Mr and Mrs G W **Johnston** and daughter Pearl and Mr and Mrs Howard **Johnson** and son Doyle of Drakeville were guests Sunday of Mr and Mrs George Johnston. Mrs Nancy Rundell of Kirkeville visited here las week with her sister Mrs J T **Munn** and husband and with other friends. Mr and Mrs C A **Wishard** spent Saturday and Sunday in Ottumwa, guests of Mr and Mrs Elliott **Bachman**. Miss Allie **Hawkins** spend Sunday at Sherman Chapel where she visited the home of her uncle and aunt. Mr and Mrs Harrison **Hawkins** and also attended the Easter program. Harry **Ziegler** is spending a few weeks at West Grove at the3 home of his grandparents, Mr and Mrs J D **Pirth**. Robert **O'Neal** of Seymour visited a few hours at the home of his aunt, Mrs G H **Middleton** and family while on his way home from Ottumwa. James **Games** of Bloomfield was a caller at the George Johnston home one day last week. Mr and Mrs Oscar Snell spent Sunday at the J M **Wilson** home near Dunnville. The post office was moved last week to the house vacated by J B **McCormick** and Mr and Mrs **Palmer** have moved into the house vacated by the postoffice. Miss Bina **Albright** of near West Grove spent Monday night with Mrs J W **Kneedler**. Mrs Elvira **Dickson** and Mrs Hattie Neighswonger and daughter, Mildred, of Moulton spent Thursday with their sister and aunt Mrs Elmira **Morris**. Miss June **Gibson** visited Centerville last week with her sister, Mrs Ray M **Garrett**. Mrs Jane **Brown** is quite ill, with catarrhal fever and other troubles. The misses Lena and Gladys **Anderson** and Mrs J W **Kneedler** and children spent Sunday afternoon at the R H **Kneedler** home east of town. Glen **Anderson** who is staying at the home of his uncle Ed Martin near Bloomfield spent Sunday at home.

OTTUMWA TRI WEEKLY COURIER, APRIL 12, 1910

PULASKI

I T **Plank** of Potosi, Mo., came Thursday to visit his mother, Mrs J J **Plank**, who is in poor health, but returned home the first of the week.

Miss Nettie **Gibson** of Milton visited friends here over Sunday.

Miss Elsie **Hayes**, who has been teaching at Thompson, Iowa, is home for a week's vacation and will return the last of the week.

Miss Emma **Haley** and daughter Mamie, left Thursday for Cedar Rapids.

Mrs Bertha **Johnson** and son, Theodore of Mt Pleasant are visiting Mrs Mary E **Augspurger** this week..

Miss Ruth **Anderson** who is attending school at Mr Pleasant, is home for a short vacation.

Frank **Hendricks** and family returned to their home in Ottumwa Sunday after a few days visit with Mrs Hendricks' parents, Mr and Mrs A J **George**.

Dr Claude **Powers** was elected health physician by the township trusteds at their meeting.

Mrs H H **Helsel** and little daughter are visiting Mr and Mrs S E **Lee** this week.

Miss Sarah **Wagler** returned home from Illinois Saturday where she had been visiting relatives.

Mrs Ira **Haney** and daughter, Jessie left Tuesday morning for Page, Neb., where they will join Mr **Haney** who preceded them a few days ago.

Alva **Hunter** and family visited his parents J W **Hunter** and family, in Farmington over Sunday.

New Memberships & Renewals

New Members are always welcome!



Did you know you can pay your membership dues on the WEB? Visit the societies page at http://iagenweb.org/davis/gene_societ.htm Plenty of Research items for sale also. Check it Out!

2016 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership: Newsletters, Queries & Email News & Content
Renewal Membership dues are \$17.50 for a Calendar Year

Name _____ Street Address _____
 County _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone: _____ Email _____


Receive Newsletter via email | Receive Newsletter by Post Office Mail
WHAT WAR WAS IT?


Mail to **Davis County Genealogical Society, P O Box 94, Bloomfield, IA 52537**

Surnames Researching:

Missouri Ancestors? Spend the winter starting here at

<http://quicklook.midwestgenealogycenter.org/>
an index of resources available through the Midwest Genealogy Center (MGC),

AMENDMENT No. XIV (07-09-2015) ARTICLE VIV Effective January 1, 2016, dues shall be \$17.50 per person payable on or before January 1, of each year. Memberships admitted after October 1 shall be credited with dues for the following year. Research fees are now \$15 per hour.



DAVIS COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY
PRESERVING FAMILY
HERITAGE &
HISTORY

PO BOX 94
BLOOMFIELD IA

52537

[HTTP://IAGENWEB.ORG/DAVIS](http://iagenweb.org/davis)

DCGS@NETINS.NET

DEAR ANCESTOR

Your tombstone stands among the rest;
Neglected and alone.
The name and date are chiseled out
On polished, marbled stone.

It reaches out to all who care
It is too late to mourn.
You did not know that I exist
You died and I was born.

Yet each of us are cells of you
In flesh, in blood, in bone.
Our blood contracts and beats a pulse
Entirely not our own.

Dear Ancestor, the place you filled
One hundred years ago
Spreads out among the ones you left
Who would have loved you so.

I wonder if you lived and loved,
I wonder if you knew
That someday I would find this spot,
And come to visit you.

Twisted Twigs on Gravelled Branches