

THE GENIE BUG

North Central Iowa Genealogical Society
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THE GENIE BUG is published in February, May, August & November, as a benefit to members of the non-profit NCIGS. The current editor is Sandra Turner – ncigso@gmail.com. NCIGS was established in 1972.



CALENDAR

All programs at Clear Lake Public Library, Lower Level, 1:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.



August 10 – IOWA CENTURY & HERITAGE FARMS - Since the land of Iowa was opened up to settlers in 1833, agriculture has been the heart of Iowa. The family farm represents the traditions and heritage upon which our State was built. Today, those individuals and families, who followed in the footsteps of their ancestors, continue to produce crops and livestock on that same land. Our August meeting will feature a presentation/talk session with regard to these farms and the local families who have deep and permanent roots to their land.

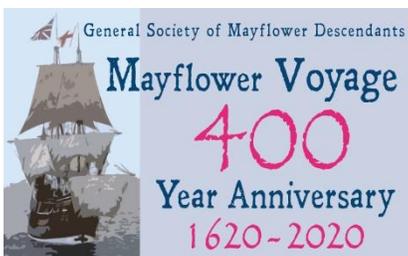


September 14 – OBITUARIES: INFORMATION PROVIDED AND NOT PROVIDED PLUS CHANGES VIA THE MEDIA - A history detective may discover previously unknown people, places and events! This leads to the discovery of the W's (who, what, when, where and possibly why). Statistical information may help "track" person/family movements. So much previously concealed becomes revealed. NCIGS member Carol Tinkey will offer insights into the value of obituaries.



October 11 & 12 – Iowa Genealogical Society Fall Conference in Des Moines. *Speaker will be David Lambert. Various aspects of research using New England records will be presented. David is the Chief Genealogist for the New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston, Mass., serving on the staff since 1993. David is an internationally recognized speaker and author on genealogical, military history and New England topics.*

October 12 – NCIGS Program - TBA



November 9 – CONNECTONS TO THE PASSENGERS OF THE MAYFLOWER'S FIRST VOYAGE. Learn how to create a family time line connecting members of each generation to any of the 104 passengers. Advanced research techniques, improved genealogy library collections, and computerized resources have made it easier to track down your Pilgrim roots. Added to the mix, secondary marriages between the passengers of the first voyage can offer both a challenge and an achievable goal for documentation.

December 14 – No meeting

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The President’s Column:

The year was 1907 and the James and Emma Kirk family was starting a new life in Dakotas. My grandmother Iva was the oldest at 7, her brother William was 2 and her brother Frederick was 1. They packed their belongings and left Fertile, Iowa on May 9, 1907 bound their new homestead at Hettinger, North Dakota. According to Emma’s account the journey took two and half days. I am assuming the trip was by auto. If it were by wagon it would have taken considerably longer, as oxen and horse may travel as fast as 8 to 10 mph. extending their travel into weeks. Her account is a facinating read.

Connie and I made the journey beginning July 8, 2019 to Hettinger. It was a 9 hour trip, since we could travel 80mph in the Dakotas on the Interstate Highway. We arrived in Hettinger mid-afternoon. My goal was to visit and research the land they occupied and find more info on the death of their son William, who died from diphtheria sometime in Feb 1908 at the age of 3. Emma’s memoirs indicate when William passed away the ground was frozen. They wrapped her little brother and placed his body in an out building, burying him in the spring. Emma’s story did not reveal the exact date of death, nor if the child was given a funeral, nor where he was buried. My goal was to figure this out, but I came home empty handed. There was no death record, no cemtery record, no church record, and no funeral home record, leaving me to believe he was buried at the homestead, perhaps with a wooden grave marker. The blowing wind, the years of snow and dust storms have swept away the existence of his precious life. Those who survived the ealy years of pioneering the Dakota Territory and lived to see their elderly years were the luck ones, as many did not make it.



We spent two days in Hettinger and I talked with a lot of people. The mosquitoes and deer flies were horrible. We spent 3 hours at the courthouse, half of day at the Historical Museum and lots of time wandering about town taking pictures and yes! we did find the ground they homesteaded. Nothing there to report, just prairie grass as if no home ever existed. The Historical Society was interested in Emma’s story and the pictures of their sod shack and the typical two story home they eventually built.

It was on to the Litle Bighorn in Montana. We arrived at about noon DMT. This is another hot, no shade place in the middle of no where, surrounded by hills, gullies, revines, sage brush and the Little Bighorn River. I did not know it, but this is also a National Cemetery site. There are no soldiers who died at the Little Bighorn buried in this cemetery, as they are all buried in a common grave with a common marker atop a hill.



As you drive or walk through the park you are guided by your cell phone by dialing a number or activating a QR code from your phone. You will hear a narrative of what possibly happened at that particular site. In the 80’s a prairie fire swept across the Little Bighorn allowing archeologists and researchers to scower the area for historical clues. The findings allowed them piece together the battle of the Little Bighorn. There are white markers (Army) and red marker

(Indian), some with names and some marked unknown where bones were scattered in the distance and along the road. This gives you a somewhat realistic vision of what June 25, 1876. was like. The U.S. military force was out numbered and outgunned when their ammunition was exhausted.

The Indians, when rounded up and questioned as to who witnessed the battle, were silent as to their involvement, even though they may have been a witness or participated in the event. They were afraid the American Army would hold them accountable and would hang them or punish them for their part in battle. They remained silent for quite sometime, until they were ready tell their historical story in the "Battle at the Little Bighorn."

It was on to Yellowstone Park and the Grand Tetons. The park covers three states -- Montana, Idaho, with the majority being in Wyoming, Spent two days and then traveled through the Tetons and stayed in Idaho Falls for two days. We followed the Snake most of the way. Everyone in the world should see this beautiful place. We met the owner of a local restaurant while eating at his establishment in the town of Hardin, Mt. If you want to know how to tackle a trip, talk with the locals, because a map just doesn't do it.



He suggested using route #212 through Billings to Red Lodge; then on to

Cooke, Montana. At Cooke, Montana you start the most stunning ascent to Yellowstone you will ever see. The road winds through numerous switchbacks to reach the 11,000 foot summit. There are various overlooks to stop at, most of them you can look down a see the road you traveled (stunning views). Start early as the road is basically a 25 to 35 mph road and the drop off s will kill you if you leave the roadway, so be careful.

We also made a quick stop at the "Great Salt Lake." We can say we've been there. Nothing much more to say!

This was the beginning of our journey home. I decided to cut back north to Interstate 90 though Cheyenne, stopping to see my ex-brother-in-Law (who we all liked) in a town called Guernsey. Wy. We were there in 1980 when my sister was still married to him. We got there mid-afternoon and spent some time catching up with each other's lives. He asked if we wanted to spend the night and we accepted.



The next day he took us to "Register Cliff" where the "Mormon Trail" was located. This is the cliff where early pioneers scratched their names. There is also an historical spot where the pioneer wagon wheels cut ruts into the soft rocks as they made their way west.

We left Guernsey late afternoon and made our way to Keystone, SD in the "Black Hills" and spent the night there. The next morning we headed for Rapid City and connected with I-90. Our first stop was the air and space museum at Ellsworth Airforce Base. If you

like older and newer aircraft, this is a great place to stop. It is a very active base and you can watch some craft take-off and land while wandering around the grounds. We also stopped at the NPS Minute Man missile history site. During the "Cold War" the landscape around the "Bad Lands" was dotted with thousands of nuclear missiles silos loaded and ready to be launched. This was a terrible time for those of us who grew up in the 50's and 60's. Both sides came close to launching nuclear missiles. **Mark Suby, President, mcsuby@hotmail.com, 641.425.6808**

Hitting the Highlights



Since our grant request from the Worth County Development Corporation was denied, the society will need to apply for other grants. The board has been working on prioritizing identified needs that could be provided through grant funds. Jay updated the board regarding the switch from Dropbox to Microsoft Teams. He also reported our Facebook site has been utilized by a variety of individuals. A key lock box has been obtained and installed on the west door. Around 35-40 people attended our open house in April. Larry Paul successfully contacted members who had not renewed their memberships. Rod Hungerford and Carolyn Anderson will again represent NCIGS at the Mason City Diversity Day and Ethnic Lunch Gathering on September 20, 2019 at Central Park. The current NCIGS by-laws need updating. This process, which takes several months, has been initiated. Input from the membership has been solicited. Carol noted the Board needs to look at funding for our annual rent payment. Currently, we are \$400 short of the full amount, which is due in November.

Librarian's Update

The NCIGS Library is located on the 2nd floor of the Masonic Temple (75 S. Georgia, Mason City, Iowa 50401). Using the west entrance, use either the stairway or the elevator (to the right of the stairway). Upon reaching the 2nd level, proceed down the wide hallway to the library entrance. The library is open M/W/F, 9 a.m. – noon; 1- 4 p.m.; SAT by appointment). **It should be noted, at the present time, Rod Hungerford is usually there from 9 a.m. to closing on most days, except Sundays.**

Library Committee Members: Joan Bartel, Linda Faridi, Kay Mestad, and Sandra Turner. **Library Volunteers:** Linda Faridi, Kay Mestad, Carolyn Anderson, LeNore Forbes, Gwen Miller, Rod Hungerford, Mark Suby, Mary Lou Galindo, Beth Enright, and Sandra Turner. **Beth Enright is a new volunteer assigned to work on Research Requests.**

The passing of Dorothy Paul, library committee member and volunteer, is difficult for us to absorb. Dorothy was such a terrific source for recalling past actions and activities as well as a great contributor of current ideas and actions. She was not just a treasure of information, but a person valued for her kindness and concern for others. She will be greatly missed. Her family not only donated Dorothy's family history materials to the library, but also designated NCIGS Library as the recipient of her memorial funds. We are most appreciative.

Due to Dorothy's death, President Mark Suby will need to appoint 1 or 2 new members to the Library Committee. Anyone interested in serving on this committee should contact him. If you would like a copy of the job description for this position, please let me know (ncigso@gmail.com) and I'll e-mail it to you. The job doesn't take much time, but it does require commitment and enthusiasm.

Work continues on reviewing and organizing the collection, as well as scanning/digitizing selected items from the collection for inclusion into the NCIGS Library Data Base. Needing to update the search component for the NCIGS Library Data Base, the board approved the purchase of 2 Adobe Acrobat Pro packages (through Tech Soup for \$55 each). This software was downloaded by Jay into the two All-In-One Computers. Two book trucks were purchased using the Relocation Account. The library is busy with researchers traveling to our location during these "lazy, crazy days of summer." Have you been to see us?

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Turner, Librarian

New DNA test will help identify soldiers still missing from World War Two –

From Family Tree website
www.family-tree.co.uk/

Editorial note: I recently ordered a personal subscription to this magazine. I think it should be interesting. I'll bring the hard copy to the library when I receive it and put it with our other subscriptions, so give it a look. Do you have a favorite subscription or website we should know about? Let me know!! Thanks.



A new targeted DNA test developed by researchers at Queensland University of Technology (Australia) could help identify casualties from World War II more accurately and reliably than current DNA testing methods. Forensic biologist Dr. Wright, who has helped identify victims in the Bali bombings and Boxing Day tsunami, works with the Australian Defense Force identifying Un-recovered War Casualties. More than 25,000 Australian soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice have no known grave. The current utilized research method is from modern criminal investigation case work and uses mitochondrial DNA, following maternal lineage. However in 69 to 83 per cent of these historical cases, current DNA tests can't reliably identify ancestry.

Using the expertise and instrumentation at QUT's Genomics Research Centre, the study has been able to develop a targeted SNP panel to identify ancestral origins of Australian and Japanese WWII soldiers. SNPs have become a commonly used genetic marker for ancestry. The panel also includes genetic variation information on hair and eye color as an extra layer of identification. Dr. Wright said to test the accuracy of the new SNP panel, researchers generated profiles of Australians born around World War II, and used profiles of people from Japan: "We were pleased to get 100 per cent accuracy with the test predicting Australian and Japanese ancestry. Based on the population samples we also found that the SNP test identified ancestry in 79 per cent more cases than currently used DNA methods."



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You can now help support NCIGS! Instead of using amazon.com, use smile.amazon.com. AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of your purchase price to our society.



NCIGS Refreshment Donation List 2019

Each monthly meeting, we need about 4 dozen cookies or bars. Rod Hungerford always provides a couple of dozen, so we need one more volunteer to provide the other 2 dozen each month. Will you please contribute? Contact Lenore Forbes to get on the list:

lforbes@myomnitel.com OR call 641-749-5505 OR sign up using the sign up form at the monthly meetings. Thanks.



The 37 volume, sixteen thousand page history of your county of origin ISN'T INDEXED

The critical link in your family tree - when you finally discover it - is named "Smith".

N.C.I.G.S. Financial Report
For July 8, 2019 Meeting
 June 1, 2019 – June 30, 2019

<u>Budget Account</u>	
<u>June 1, 2019-June 30, 2019</u>	
<u>INCOME</u>	
2019 Dues (2)	24.00
2020 Dues (0)	
2021 Dues (0)	
2022 Dues	
Basket Donations	3.00
Copies	5.00
Donations-rent	
Memorials	180.00
Research	20.00
Thrivent Choice	
Interest	2.54
Miscellaneous	
Total Income	234.54

<u>Year-to-date</u>	
<u>Jan. 1, 2019 - June 30, 2019</u>	
<u>INCOME</u>	
2019 Dues (40)	480.00
2020 Dues (7)	84.00
2021 Dues (3)	36.00
2022 Dues	
Basket Donations	34.00
Copies	27.25
Donations-rent	826.08
Memorials	1665.00
Research	251.00
Thrivent Choice	325.00
Interest	17.53
Miscellaneous	
	3745.86

<u>Acct. Balances June 30, 2019</u>	
Society Funds	\$15,325.58
<u>Restricted Society Funds</u>	
2020 Dues (10)	120.00
2021 Dues (4)	48.00
2022 Dues (1)	12.00
Equip Fund 2017-18	470.00
Memorial Fund	1770.00
Thrivent Choice-web	339.52
Savings	5330.58
Total Restricted	8090.10
Spendable Budget	590.30
Donations – Rent	826.08

Transfer to Memorials 180.00

<u>PENSES</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>
Genie Bug	134.53
PO Box Rent	80.00
Liability Insurance	302.00
Library	159.95
Office	
Hospitality	
Web Host & Domain	100.85
Memorial	40.00
Miscellaneous	.00
Total Expenses	817.33

<u>RELOCATION FUND</u>		<u>EX-</u>
Balance 6/1/2019	6548.60	
<u>Expenses</u>		
2 Book carts	619.50	
2 Adobe Acrobat	110.00	
	729.50	
Balance 7/1/2019	5819.10	

Account Transactions 2018-19 Genie Budget 6/1/2019 – 6/30/2019

Num	Date	Payee	Memo	Amount
Dep	6/10/2019	Basket Donations	Basket Donations-June	3.00
Dep	6/10/2019	Michael Klimesh	2019	12.00
Dep	6/10/2019	Eileen Tlusty	2019	12.00
Dep	6/10/2019	Dorothy Paul Memorial	Sharlene Stoddard	25.00
Dep	6/21/2019	Michael Klimesh	Research	20.00
Dep	6/21/2019	Michael Klimesh	Copies	5.00
Dep	6/30/2019	Dorothy Paul Memorial	Memorials	180.00
Dep	6/30/2019	First Citizens Bank	Interest - June	2.54
Trans	6/30/2019	Memorial Fund	Dorothy Paul Memorials	(180.00)

OFFICERS for 2019:

- * *President: Mark Suby* *mcsuby@hotmail.com*
- * *Vice-President: Rod Hungerford* *hungerfordrodney@gmail.com*
- * *Secretary: Larry Paul* *pontiacfan36@hotmail.com*
- * *Treasurer: Carol Tinkey* *tinkeycarol@gmail.com*
- * *Research Chair: Vacant (Rod Hungerford & Beth Enright are currently providing this service.)*
- * *Librarian: Sandra Turner* *ncigso@gmail.com*
- * *Publicity Chair: Sharlene Stoddard* *worthgen@mchsi.com*
- * *Website Chair: Jay Lehmann* *jay@ncigs.org*
- * *Membership Chair: Vacant*
- * *Hospitality – LeNore Forbes* *lfrobes@myomnitel.com*

Also **vacant** is Editor of THE GENIE BUG. (Sandra Turner is temporary editor with Linda Muth assisting with the editing & proofing of the newsletter.)

Periodical Review

The July/August issue of YOUR GENEALOGY TODAY magazine features several interesting articles. Some of the titles: 1) Compiling a Cemetery Guide – Leave a Legacy for future Generations; 2) Preserving Old Family Letters – Tips for Organizing and Saving; 3) Passive vs. Active Genealogy – Combining Two Approaches for Success; 4) 7 Tips for Hassle Free Heritage Travel; 5) Dedication to Service – Lady Nurses and 5) Ghost Town Genealogy – Locating Ancestors in Non-Existent Places, etc.

Let’s summarize one of the articles: Ghost Town Genealogy. David Norris looks at how to find records for ancestor who may have lived in towns or villages that no longer exist. Covered in water from huge dams, mines going busted, railroads diverted to other routes, there are many reasons why towns disappear. And even today in our own area, small towns are being abandoned. The Ghost Towns of America website has locations for 3,800 ghost towns throughout the 50 states. Federal, state and county records that would have outlasted the brief existence of a ghost town may offer much help to the genealogist. Newspapers, school & church records, wills & probate records from ghost towns may still exist. Just because a town has faded away does not mean you can’t track down records and documents pertaining to ancestors who lived there. For more info, YOUR GENEALOGY TODAY July/August 2019 at the library.

REMEMBERING -



Dorothy Jean Paul - February 14, 1930 - May 14, 2019. Dorothy was a long-time devoted member of the NCIGS, serving in many different capacities. She was serving as a member of the Library Committee at the time of her death. Dorothy and her husband lived in Mason City for many years, where she worked for 15 years at the Girl Scout Office.

Charles Walter Schilling - July 7, 1936 - July 21, 2019. Chuck was an avid genealogist who, with his wife Donna, has been an active member and supporter of NCIGS. He served his country as a marine from 1954-1958, continuing his military affiliation as a member of the North Iowa Marine Detachment. After leaving the military, Chuck began a career as a teacher, professor and writer.



Note: If you are aware of a member or supporter of our society who has passed, please e-mail us the details, so we don’t miss honoring them. Thanks.



NCIGS Membership Application

Per household dues cost \$**12.00** per calendar year (Jan-Dec). New member dues paid after October 1 will extend through the next year. Annual membership includes: quarterly newsletter with one free query, monthly meetings, support and friendship of like-minded folk, opportunity to participate in a variety of projects and use of the NCIGS Library. In addition to my membership, I am making a tax-deductible gift of \$ _____ to be used for _____ . Please note: Non-designated donations will be added to the Rental Fund.

I am interested in volunteering as follows: Library Website Membership Programming Refreshments
 Grant Writing Other: _____
 New Membership or Renewal Today's Date _____

Name _____ Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____

Newsletter to be sent via: E-mail or Postal Service

Amount Enclosed: Cash \$ _____ or Check \$ _____

Mail application and monies to: North Central Iowa Genealogical Society, Box 237, Mason City, IA 50402-0237