

## FAIRS AND FINDS

If ever you find yourself looking for a good old fashioned vacation, the County Fair is hard to beat. You and the family can certainly pull up a camper and stay a spell. No need for the pet sitter to come by while your away from home. All the animals are welcome at the local county fair. Plenty of shade, food and drink. So much commotion, you must keep an agenda brochure at your fingertips, along with anything else that can be used as a personal fan. The temperatures tend to keep up with the amounts of fun. Along with the fun, comes the friends.

I had the pleasure of attending the Davis County Historical Society monthly meeting, this week. President Nancy Clancy is tearing it up. Years of accumulation are being re distributed throughout the complex.

DCGS has permission to copy critical pages out of Family Bibles that have been contributed over the years, and there are MANY. This compilation will be a project all in its own. But what a nice Indexed finished product it will be. The DC Historical Society is also looking for volunteers, Board Members & Memberships.

NOTE\* Our Heritage Showcase coming in October, be sure to sign up & Attend.

Our Door Prize is a P Buckley Moss; Framed Davis County Courthouse rare Print.

~DEB



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2012

**In this issue:**

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**Special points of interest:**

- \* Big Plans for a Heritage Showcase
- \* Historical Society under reorganization
- \* Books, CDs and Records for Sale

DAVIS COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



## CEMETERY'S AGAIN !

I found myself campaigning with a couple of other interesting folks, to help iagenweb's gravestone photos project [IGPP] shine. The state of Iowa has a great repository for online gravestone photographs. This database caught the eye of an employee at

"The Ottumwa Courier". Laura was soon reaching out by email, requesting to do a story. After several emails and phone calls, we were able to get together and meet in a local cemetery, the most perfect setting for this story. I was able to meet Mr Rich Lowe of Van Buren

County, we have been coordinators of iagenweb sites for several years and had never had the pleasure. His son Jeff, initiated the IGPP.

The story is archived here at:

[http://iavanburen.org/IGPP\\_Article.jpg](http://iavanburen.org/IGPP_Article.jpg)



DAVIS COUNTY FAIR 2012 RESULTS DAVIS COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

**Category A: Research Material**

1. Genealogical Collection: Vicki Houk, Red; Sheila Peterson, Blue; Naoma Homey, White
2. Compiled Research: Deb Barker, Blue; Shirley Willcoxson, Red
3. Genealogical Proofs: Deanna Pitman, Blue; Ione Friend, Red.
4. Two or more documents relevant to each other: Deb Barker, Blue; Ione Friend, Red; Sheila Peterson, White.
5. Genetic Genealogy: Deanna Pitman, Blue.

**Category B: Stories and Articles**

6. True Story: Deanna Pitman, Blue; Pat Howk, Red; Janet Peterson; White.
7. Storytelling Display: Deb Barker; Blue.
8. Article from publication other than local: Pat Howk, Blue; Naoma Homey, Red; Janet Peterson, White.
9. Written Davis Co History: Deb Barker, Blue.

**Category C: Charts**

10. Pedigree/Family Tree Chart: Deanna Pitman, Blue; Deb Barker, Red.
11. Straight-Line Lineage Chart: Deanna Pitman, Blue.
12. Collateral Lineage Chart: Deanna Pitman, Blue.

**Category D: Personal Documents**

13. Records: Vicki Houk, Blue; Janet Peterson, Red; Pat Howk, White.
14. Certificate: Vicki Houk, Blue; Shirley Willcoxson, Red.
15. Document or Certificate relating to Davis Co History: Deb Barker, Blue; Sheila Peterson, Red.

**Category E: Legal Documents**

16. Vital Statistics: Deanna Pitman, Blue; Sheila Peterson, Red.
17. Will or Probate: Deanna Pitman, Blue, Sheila Peterson, Red.
18. Land: Shirley Willcoxson, Blue; Vicki Houk, Red; Deanna Pitman, White.
19. Military Record: Deanna Pitman, Blue; Shirley Willcoxson, Red; Vicki Houk, White.
20. Misc. Court: Deb Barker, Blue; Deanna Pitman, Red; Vicki Houk, White.

**Category F: Photos**

21. Two people or less: Deanna Pitman, Blue; Vicki Houk, Red; Ione Friend, White.
22. Three people or more: Janet Peterson, Blue, Deb Barker, Red; Vicki Houk, White.
23. Pictorial Family History: Pat Howk, Blue; Sheila Peterson, Red; Vicki Houk, White.
24. Home: Naoma Homey, Blue; Deanna Pitman, Red.
25. Community: Deb Barker, Blue; Janet Peterson, Red; Deanna Pitman, White.
26. Photos depicting Davis Co History: Shirley Willcoxson, Blue; Deb Barker, Red.

**Category G: Miscellaneous**

27. Shirley Willcoxson, Blue; Deb Barker, Red.

**Category H: Junior Projects**

28. Immigration. Sonja Miller.
29. Family Tree or Pedigree: Sonja Miller, Blue; Destiny Barker, Red.
30. Art/Craft project depicting an aspect of family history: Cody McClure, Blue; Sonja Miller, Red.
31. Cultural or Historical Display pertaining to exhibitor's heritage: Sonja Miller, Red.

## RIBBONS & RELATIVES



SUCH GREAT QUALITY OF DISPLAYS THIS YEAR.

JUDGE JAY DEYOUNG "YOU WANT ME TO CHOOSE JUST ONE?"



WE WERE ABLE TO RETURN LOST & FOUND PHOTOS TO A VERY HAPPY FAMILY.

GREAT CONVERSATION AND COMPANY, DESPITE THE HEAT. COME SIT A COOL SPELL HERE, WE LIKE THE TOPICS. HISTORY & GENEALOGY GO HAND IN HAND.





## 1903 FARMER BIOGRAPHIES

A Weekly Series Found in the Bloomfield Democrat

### R. T. SONGER

Lives on the Millard F. Saunders first farm one mile south of town on the Pulaski road. In this farm there are 740 acres of good land, mostly prairie, with just enough slope for good drainage. The subject of this sketch is employed by Mr. Saunders. He was born June 8, 1883, in this county, and has lived here all his life. He has worked on the farm the greater portion of his life. He is member Bloomfield lodge A. O. U. W. He was married to Miss Julia Katherine Crist who was born and raised in Davis county. They were married at the home of his wife's parents north of Belknap, by M. Downing. They have one child, Anna Katherine, 8 months old. The house on the Saunders farm in which they live is a 5 room, two-story dwelling. On the place are two extra large stables, an immense orchard, 3 wells, 2 cisterns, 5 ponds, and in the lawn is a fine grove of stately evergreens, which add greatly to the appearance of this pretty country home. There are 140 acres in corn, 170 acres of meadow and the rest is pasture of the finest kind. On this place Mr. Saunders is feeding at present 125 cattle and 200 hogs, besides the land is well stocked.

### JAMES H. BECK

The subject of this sketch was born in Bartholomew county, Indiana, January 25, 1882. His parents died when he was quite young and he lived with his grandparents in Clark county until 23 years of age, and then moved to Bloomfield where he remained a short time, and moved from Bloomfield to Troy. He stayed in Troy until the spring of 1888, when he bought and located on the beautiful little farm where he now resides. He owns 30 acres of fine land situated on the Pulaski road, about a mile south-east of Bloomfield. On this farm is a two room house, barn 30x40, 3 wells, 1 cistern, 1 pond and a fine large orchard which furnishes all kinds of fruit. The land is farmed this year as follows: Ten acres in corn, 6 acres millet, 8 acres in meadow and remainder in pasture.

Mr. Beck was married February 25, 1886, in Clark county, Indiana, to Miss Marbury Ann Matthews. They have no children. Mr. Beck has the confidence and respect of all who know him.

### EVA HUBBART

Lives on Millard F. Saunders' "Second farm." He is a native of Missouri, having been born in Schuyler county, March 15, 1876, where he lived until January 14, 1892, when he moved on the farm where they now live. He was married August 17, 1892, to Miss Katherine Rowa of this county, M. Downing performing the ceremony. Mr. Hubbard is an industrious young man who is just starting out in life, and is fortunate in having a wife who is a good helpmate.

### A. F. SMOCK

Resides on the farm just east of the Bush farm, which is owned by A. B. Collins of Parry, Iowa. There are 100 acres in this farm all good land. Mr. Smock has lived in the county nearly all his life. He was born April 8, 1857. Before coming on the present place, he lived near Drakeville. He has always lived on a farm, and thoroughly understands his chosen work. He is a progressive farmer who tries the introduction of new crops. This year he has about an acre of alfalfa, which is now nearly ready for the second cutting, also some bromegrass which is doing fine. When we saw Mr. Smock he was busy engaged in sawing his live-oak orchard for millst. He has one of the nice young orchards we have seen so far on our trip over the county. He says he has one of the best prospects for oats he has had in years, that he didn't sow as pure as some.

On this farm they run 100 sheep and quite a few cotton stock. They have 15 acres in corn, 20 acres in oats, 45 in meadow, rest in pasture.

On November 16, 1889, Mr. Smock was married to Miss Carrie Gaston, of Drakeville, Iowa, Peterson officiating. They have 4

This series is being collected & indexed. And will be shared in future newsletters.



## 1903 FARMER BIOGRAPHIES

### CHARLES ELLENBERGER

The next place we came to is the farm of our genial and hospitable old friend, Martin Ellenberger. He is a native of Germany having been born in Platz, Bavaria, November 18, 1843, and came to America in 1867. He landed in New York, November 27, 1867, and came to Davis county in January 1868, where his sister, Mrs. John Dieffenbecker was living at the time. Mr. Ellenberger owns 240 acres in this county, 100 of which is on the home place, 2 miles southeast of town on the Pulaski road, and 140 acres lying in the eastern edge of Wyanonah township. He has been married twice, the first union being with Miss Leontia Kopf, April 21, 1873, married in Bloomfield by Amos Stockol. To this union three children were born, Lizzie, age 29, who is now Mrs. A. G. Jones; Jacob, age 25, living in Rock River, Wyoming, where he is running a large ranch and Anna, age 27, who lives at home and keeps house for her father. The first Mrs. Ellenberger died on February 18, 1877. On February 20, 1879, occurred the second marriage of Mr. Ellenberger to Miss Anna Myer, they were married in Bloomfield, Rev. Eubank officiating. To this union 3 children were born, Martin, age 27, Adeline, age 24, and Johnny, aged 17. Miss Adeline was married recently to Earl Bond; the other two children

are living at home. Mr. Ellenberger has traveled a great deal in his time, having made two trips back to the old country and traveled over the greater part of continental Europe as well as of this country. He made his last trip to Europe in May, 1900, and returned in October. He is quite a stock man, raises everything but sheep. On his place is a fine two-story, 9 room house, a fine barn 56x36 and 22 feet to the eaves, besides this, two other stables and any number of outbuildings. In water supply he has 5 wells, 1 spring and 1 pond, never known to be without water. Has a large orchard and one of the finest vineyards in the county.

**His land is farmed as follows:**  
 30 acres in corn, 10 acres in oats,  
 50 in meadow and rest in pasture.  
 He has one of the finest locations  
 and one of the finest farms in  
 Davis county. Mr. Ellenberger  
 is one of those whole-souled Ger-  
 man farmers, noted the world over  
 for their hospitality.

### JOSEPH ESSEX

Lives on the old Gams farm, now owned by F. C. Young. He moved here the first of March from Rock Island county, Illinois. He was born in Rock Island county, Illinois, October 30, 1850, and lived there all his life before moving here. He was married in Muscatine, Iowa, June 15, 1870, to Miss Etta Hood, a young lady living near that place. They have four children, three married. These married are: Fred, age 23, a traveling man living in Poles, Nebraska; James, age 24, a farmer near Muscatine; and Gertrude, age 21, wife of Eugene Malone, who lives 1 1/2 miles south of Drakeville. Abbie, age 16, resides with her parents. She is now visiting her brother, James near Muscatine, for two or three weeks. The home on this farm is a one-story structure of 4 rooms, good shade on place, 4 wells and 1 pond furnish an abundance of water. There is a fine large orchard and good outbuildings. Mr. Essex has 80 acres in corn, 30 acres in oats, rest pasture and meadow. He has at present 45 hogs on place, 4 horses and 5 cattle. He is a well educated man, and a practical farmer—the kind of a man we are glad to welcome among us. He seems to like the country and his neighbors and we trust he will have no cause to regret his having come. He employs two men all the time, Ed Hoffman and Lester Essex are now working for him.

### F. E. WARNER

The first farm on the east side of the K. C. tracks, the place where that beautiful grove is, is the "Maple Grove Farm," owned by F. E. Warner. There is no prettier laying land in the county than this. Mr. Warner was born four miles north of Lebanon, in Van Buren county, Feb. 27, 1863, and lived there until 24 years of age when he moved to Davis county. In this farm are 127 acres. He is one of those men who believe in raising nothing but the best, and everything on his farm is a thorough bred, from his chickens up. He is importer and breeder of Po and Clara hogs, Aberdeen Angus cattle, Delaine Merino sheep. Has 230 sheep on hand now. He showed us 70 head of rams that will shear him 14 pounds to the head. They were beyond a doubt the finest thing in the sheep line that we ever saw. And speaking of fruit, he certainly has it; a four acre orchard of everything imaginable in good things, apples, grapes, blackberries, etc. He has some of the finest red raspberries we ever tasted. On his farm is a large 14 room, two-story house, three barns, the largest of which is 32x72, stone foundation. Every building on the place is painted in buff or cream color. Has 3 wells and 1 pond. Mr. Warner says he has it arranged so that everything on the place can be sheltered and his fine outbuildings certainly prove the fact. He has 30 acres in corn and 23 in oats, says if good season from now on corn will be all right.

On October 30, 1875, he married Abigail Deming, a young lady of Van Buren county. They have five children—V. G., age 27, married, who lives just east of his father; Orpha Gentry, who lives in Perry township; Alice, age 21, who recently married Will Downing and now lives in Des Moines; Fred Otto, age 17, who lives at home. Mr. Warner is a good christian gentleman, a member of the Christian church, and an influential man in the neighborhood.



# HERITAGE SHOWCASE

COME EXPLORE YOUR HERITAGE. . . .  
AND LEARN HOW TO SAVE IT

October 20, 2012

Sponsored by the

**Davis County Genealogical Society**

P. O. Box 94, 200 West Locust Street, Bloomfield, Iowa 52537

dcgs@netins.net



OPEN TO ONE AND ALL. . . .

JOIN US AT THE

Disciples of Christ Christian Church

107 N. Davis St.

Bloomfield, Iowa 52537

**Cover Fee of \$15.00 per person includes Lunch**

**And, places your name in the hat for the Main Door Prize Drawing!  
Beautifully framed Davis County Court House by P. Buckley Moss**

**Pre-registration is encouraged to ensure adequate supply of  
handouts and lunch.**

*Bring your items to share*

*Wanted—Pictures, documents and such of Davis County to view*

COUNTY HERITAGE  
SHOWCASE

OPEN TO ONE AND ALL

Pre-registration is encouraged to ensure

adequate supply of handouts and lunch

Bring your treasures

OCTOBER 20, 2012

9 AM

Registration begins at 8:30 AM

JOIN US AT THE

Bloomfield

Christian Church

107 N Davis

Bloomfield, IA

52537



- Doors Open at 8:30 AM
- Presentations start at 9 AM
- Displays by Local Groups
- Lunch Served, included with registration fee

Be sure to join Us !

*Bring your items to share*

*Wanted - Pictures, documents and such of Davis County to view*

COUNTY HERITAGE  
SHOWCASE

BLOOMFIELD  
CHRISTIAN  
CHURCH  
OCTOBER 20, 2012

COUNTY HERITAGE  
SHOWCASE

OCTOBER 20, 2012

Sponsored by the

DAVIS COUNTY

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

# OPEN TO ONE AND ALL

## LIFE AND TIMES IN OUR GENEALOGY

John Archer, West Liberty, Iowa

Born in Centerville, Iowa, John's father's family all come from Troy, Iowa in Davis County.

Prepare to share with John your ancestor's history and learn as he demonstrates how genealogical research reveals events, occupations, religion and cultural changes in their lifetime.

### YOU'RE FROM WHERE?

Ray Fort says, "It might be a Ghost Town, but they surely didn't scare EVERYBODY away."

### EXPLORE YOUR HERITAGE

Mike Lemberger, Ottumwa, Iowa

Noted artist, photographer, illustrator, author, historian and lecturer will present ideas for preservation of our ancestor's old photos, along with deriving at timelines from them.

## BUILDING GENEALOGY IN IOWA

Dorothy Goldizen, former President of the Iowa Genealogical Society will share her experiences on the building of a genealogical society.

### RURAL SCHOOLS

Dee Altheide has a wonderful presentation to share with each of you. The Rural Schools of Davis County.

### D.C. PIONEER CEMETERY COMMISSION

Dale Taylor

Davis County Pioneer Cemeteries have been in very bad shape for over 20 years. Some of the stones still exist, but many are gone, misplaced and destroyed. Dale will talk about the Commission's restoration and preservation efforts currently underway.

### GENETIC GENEALOGY

Deanna Pitman will discuss genetic testing and how it can be a useful addition to your research toolbox. Explore both the capabilities and limitations of autosomal DNA



Sign Up and Mail In

Pre-Register by mailing \$15 to Pat Howk 19923 Timber Ave Bloomfield, IA 52537

Ph 641.675.3490 To ensure lunch availability pre-register, by October 15.

Can also email [dcgs@netins.net](mailto:dcgs@netins.net)

### Sign Up and Mail In

Sign up for:	Time 9AM	Price
<input type="checkbox"/> 1st Person		\$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd Person		\$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 3rd Person		\$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 4th Person		\$15.00

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

#### Method of Payment

- Check  
 Pay at the Door



## VISITORS & NEWS

Alice Hoyt Veen of Des Moines was in to visit in August.

She is in need of proof an ancestor is buried here in the county.

Josiah Martin. His wife is bd Dunnville. Another request for Church history.

Regardless, I think it will take a visit to the Courthouse, as Our records held NO proof. We did find he was listed as available Militias for Military duty on a roster. He according to folklore was in the 1812.

She currently is striving to be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Certified Genealogist in the state, and is the editor for the IGS newsletter. Her last edition is in November. She would like to showcase DCGS in that edition. She took pictures, and asked lots of questions.

Find her site here: <http://www.prairierootsresearch.com/> We might make her Blog!

Watch your edition of the IGS Newsletter for our headlines.

## CONVERSATION STARTERS

Do you happen to know for whom the community of Belknap is named? Did members of the Belknap family live there?

Many thanks for your help. John.starr@yale.edu

\*\*\*\*\*

I am in possession of a military Bible with the following inscription:  
Presented to: O.E. Burkholder Eldon, Iowa June 11-43 By His Mother.  
I am trying to track down the family to give this Bible to them. It looks as though O. E. Burkholder was a WWII vet since 1943 seems to coincide. I see the Moses and Selma gravestone in Eldon Cemetery and wonder if this might be his parents or other relatives. I grew up in Burlington and an elderly man in my church gave me this Bible in 1977. Thank you.  
Jolene (Huegel) Wise 1wisejolene@gmail.com

\*\*\*\*\*

I am trying to locate a cemetery called "Old Trace" because it was said to be near Floris and was on the Mormon trace or trail in Davis Co. (ancestors Harriett and Hiram Speer are said to be buried there). Do you know of such a cemetery? Is it Dunville Cem? I learned about it because of the recollections of Alfred Speer (1862-1946) given to my grandmother Myrtle Simons (1880-1967) both of whom were of Howard, Kansas. Alfred spent his early years near Floris, Davis Co., IA in Salt Creek Township. Can you let me know where this cemetery is? Please reply. Sincerely, Elwyn Simons

esimons@duke.edu

**DAVIS COUNTY  
GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY**

200 W Locust  
PO Box 94  
Bloomfield, IA  
52537

E-mail:  
dcgs@netins.net  
Ph: 6416641501



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



**REMINDER !!!**

2013 Dues = \$15 Per Person

Due now for Calendar Year 2013

Please send check or Money order to:

DCGS

PO Box 94

Bloomfield, IA

52537

**COME SEE US!**

Hours of Operation

Tue, Wed, Thurs, Fri

1—4 PM

Saturday 10A-2P

Monthly meetings the 3rd

Thursday of the Month, 7 PM at

200 W Locust St

Bloomfield

Open to the Public

Become a member!

Stay a spell!

iadavis@netins.net

2012 Officers

President & Newsletter Editor

Deborah Barker

Vice President

Karen Prosapio

Secretary

Vicki Houk

Treasurer

Pat Howk

Librarian

The Members