

FEBRUARY 2021

# Iowa Genealogical Society

I was notified last week of the passing of Hazel Demirjean. Many of you know Hazel from her many years volunteering at IGS. Hazel was a charter member and the first vice president of IGS. A couple years later she was president of IGS. She and other charter members traveled the state promoting IGS and family history.

Hazel also helped to design the logo that was used initially on the Hawkeye Heritage journal. She and Margaret Thomas also led many trips to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. In her later years she worked as the cataloger and catalogued thousands of books currently in the collection. She also trained the cataloger that replaced her. She'll be greatly missed.



Hazel Demirjean

Urbandale - Hazel Demirjean was born in Grimes, Iowa 13 May 1928 and passed on 18 January 2021 due to complications after a fall at the age of 92. She then moved to Urbandale at an early age with her family. Her family was active in the community most of her life. She graduated from Urbandale High School in 1945. She worked for Northwestern Bell where she met her future husband through friends. She married Hubert Kenneth (Ken) Demirjean 6 June 1950. They were in California while he was in the Navy, started their family and moved back to Urbandale. They had 5 children, Linda, David, Darla Whitmire (Robert), Lorie Kluesner (Grant) and Thomas.

Her passion was genealogy and she was one of the founders of the Iowa Genealogical Society First Vice President, then 2nd president of the society. Hazel worked for the Urbandale Public Library for 26 years and was a

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## IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

628 E Grand Ave  
Des Moines IA 50309-1924

Phone: (515) 276-0287

Email:  
[igs@iowagenealogy.org](mailto:igs@iowagenealogy.org)

Website:  
[www.iowagenealogy.org](http://www.iowagenealogy.org)

## LIBRARY HOURS

Monday, Wednesday,  
Friday & Saturday  
10 a.m.— 4 p.m.

Tuesday & Thursday  
10 a.m.— 9 p.m.

## IGS EXECUTIVE BOARD

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President  
Nancy Kirchner

1st Vice President  
Lois Trinity

2nd Vice President  
Liz Van Zomoren

Secretary  
Stacy Weaver

Treasurer  
Sheri Snodgrass

## IGS STAFF

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Administrative Assistant  
Debi Iseminger Chase

Librarian  
Debi Iseminger Chase

Assistant Librarian  
Susan Claman

Assistant Librarian  
Tony Cupp

Assistant Librarian  
Karen Voss

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## IGS EDITORIAL STAFF

*Hawkeye Heritage*  
Susan Claman

*IGS Newsletter*  
Debi Iseminger Chase

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*By Nancy Kirchner IGS President*

**SNOW!! SNOW!!** Who doesn't love fresh fallen snow, undisturbed and gleaming with freshness? Maybe not so much at one time. IGS has been spoiled the last few years with little snow or no charge for snow removal. We have already paid \$660 for snow removal this year. Although the farmers need moisture, I am ready for small amounts of snow now.

**Plowing starts at 2" or more.**

Library cataloging is moving along. We are about three quarters of the way through the Iowa books. We are finding many items not in the electronic database.

A tech committee is forming again. The initial goal is to understand our computer system. From there we would like to see updates to our website and other online offerings.

I am meeting with the Des Moines Public Library to learn about available resources and how to write grants. We are missing out on this valuable resource for funding. I would like to visit with anyone who has experience with grants.

Spring conference is in the final planning stage. Thomas MacEntee will be our speaker. You should be able to register for the conference now. Look for details on the website <https://igs.regfox.com/2021-spring-conference> and in this newsletter.

We are still in need of someone to clean our facility (or help pay for). This would include the 3 bathrooms, kitchen and vacuuming. A BIG thank you to Karen Vealau for cleaning a couple weeks ago. Bathrooms and kitchen look great. Also, need someone to take trash out every week (maybe even several people doing one week every month).

The Executive board discussed the volunteer position. We decided to have two – three people work together instead of just one person. Please consider helping. Contact me if you are interested.

Please forward any thoughts you have to me at [tkirch3921@gmail.com](mailto:tkirch3921@gmail.com).

Nancy Kirchner

## IGS CLASSES

Saturday March 6

Beginning Genealogy  
Instructor - Jennifer Ewing  
1:00 p.m.

Thursday March 18

Exploring Your Irish Roots  
Instructor - Theresa Liewer  
6:30 p.m.

Saturday March 27

FamilySearch Family Tree  
Instructor Stacy Weaver  
1:30 pm

### FamilySearch RootsTech Connect: A Free Online Conference Experience 25–27 FEBRUARY, 2021

**For the first time ever, the world's largest family celebration event will be entirely virtual and completely free.** Get ready to celebrate shared connections with people from around the world. Connect with friends, your family, your past, and your heritage and homelands - all from the comfort of your home and in your browser.

Register online at <https://www.rootstech.org/?lang=eng>

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member of the Urbandale Lioness Club for many years. Besides genealogy her hobbies included rock hunting/collecting, Hull pottery and Barbershop music. In later years she relocated to Conrad Iowa near Darla then to the Oakview Nursing home in Conrad. Preceded in death by her parents, Harry and Maude Hull, her brother, Haxel Hull, sister, Hilma Biddle, her husband, Ken, her sister-in-law Wanda Lu Kauzlarich, daughter Linda, sons David and Tom. Surviving are daughters Darla Whitmire and Lorie Kluesner, 2 grandchildren, Bryan Hester and Penny Hester, nephews, Rick Biddle and Dana Kauzlarich, niece, Gayle Myers, 7 great grand-children and 2 great, great grand-children and a lot of cousins.

Graveside services and burial will be at the Hartford Cemetery in Hartford Iowa at a future date. Any memorials may be sent to either the Iowa Genealogy Society or the family.

## FAMILYSEARCH CLASSES

Want to improve your use of FamilySearch.org? IGS is offering monthly classes that follow the book: *Unofficial Guide to FamilySearch.org: How to Find Your Family History on the World's Largest Free Genealogy Website* Revised Edition.

You may purchase the book on [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) if you wish a copy for reference.

It is not required for the class but is the foundation for the class.

Each month a new chapter from the book will be taught/discussed. Registration is \$6.50 for members and \$16 for non-members

27 February 2021 @ 1:30 pm

FamilySearch Series – The FamilySearch Wiki

<https://igs.regfox.com/familysearch-series-the-familysearch-wiki>

27 March 2021 @ 1:30 pm

FamilySearch Series – The FamilySearch Tree

<https://igs.regfox.com/familysearch-series-familysearch-family-tree>

24 April 2021 @ 1:30 pm

FamilySearch Series – Searching and Browsing Historical Records

<https://igs.regfox.com/familysearch-series-searching-historical-records>

22 May 2021 @ 1:30 pm

FamilySearch Series – Searching Genealogies, The Catalog, and Books

<https://igs.regfox.com/familysearch-series-searching-genealogies-the-catalog-and-books>

26 June 2021 @ 1:30 pm

FamilySearch Series – US Census

<https://igs.regfox.com/familysearch-series-us-census-records>

24 July 2021 @ 1:30 pm

FamilySearch Series – US Vital Records

<https://igs.regfox.com/familysearch-series-us-vital-records>

28 Aug 2021 @ 1:30 pm

FamilySearch Series – US Immigration & Naturalization Records

<https://igs.regfox.com/familysearch-series-us-immigration-naturalization-records>

25 Sep 2021 @ 1:30 pm

FamilySearch Series – US Military Records

<https://igs.regfox.com/familysearch-series-us-military-records>

23 Oct 2021 @ 1:30 pm

FamilySearch Series – US Probate & Court Records

<https://igs.regfox.com/familysearch-series-us-probate-records>

20 Nov 2021 @ 1:30 pm

FamilySearch Series – European Records

<https://igs.regfox.com/familysearch-series-european-records>

18 Dec 2021 @ 1:30 pm

FamilySearch Series – Global Records

<https://igs.regfox.com/familysearch-series-global-records>

## SNOW DAYS

I hope all of you survived the latest January 2021 snow storm. Most of the state received 10 to 14 inches. My son does sidewalk and driveway snow removal. My driveway builds up by the street and that, with the snow the city plows share with me at the end of my drive, make it difficult to get in and out. He removed snow Monday evening, again at 5 am, and then another 6 inches at 11 am. We were so grateful for his help and that he had a snow blower because my husband needed to get to a doctor's appointment. Not the way I wanted to spend my snow day but you do what you have to do.

What do you remember from snow days in the past? Did you walk miles to school uphill coming and going? Did a snow day mean you had to do more chores at home or did you get to play in the snow or in my case drink hot chocolate and read books? Did you go sledding with a sled, inner tube or car hood? Did you build ice sculpture or go ice skating?

I grew up across from the John Deere plant in Ankeny and there were still open lots. The wind would blow around the house and we would have a five or six foot snow pile at the side of the house. We would tunnel in and then put an old army blanket on the ground and play. It was amazing how warm it was.

Write down some of your snow day stories and share them with your children and grandchildren. More than the names and dates of family history it's the stories that make it come alive. Don't let the stories of your life be lost. Write them down, put them on the memory section of FamilySearch so they can be preserved for future generations.



How my nephew Jerad spent a recent snow day

## IGS VIRTUAL SPRING CONFERENCE

Plant Your Genealogy So You Will Know What Will Grow

With Thomas MacEntee

Saturday, May 1, 2021

Zoom meeting Login begins 8:30 am Central

Session 1 (9:00 am Central)

How Do I Know What I Don't Know - Fast Tracking Your Genealogy Education

You have this sneaking suspicion that you're "missing something" when it comes to researching an ancestor. How do you know what's "out there" and whether it can help your research? And once you identify it, how can you quickly get up to speed to get the most out of that resource?

Break

Turning Genealogy Clues Into Genealogy To Dos      Session 2 (10:30 am Central)

Does your genealogy research get bogged down when you find new clues about an ancestor? Do you stop everything and chase after that BSO ("bright and shiny object")? Learn how to increase your research efficiency and still remember that new information for later investigation.

Lunch Break (11:30 am - 1:00 pm Central) Time to eat plus Tech Discussion with Thomas

One Touch Genealogy Research: How to Handle a Record Just Once      Session 3 (1:00 pm Central)

Do you get so excited when you find a new record for an ancestor that you forget to collect the information you need? Does that record shine and glitter so brightly that you are blinded to other vital clues you might need? Learn the "One Pass" approach to genealogy research and never get distracted again!

Break

Brick Wall Breakthroughs      Session 4 (2:30 pm Central)

Want to see first hand how to break through that persistent "brick wall" in genealogy? Using actual research problems submitted by webinar attendees, Thomas MacEntee will walk participants through a step-by-step research methodology process to find clues and possible solutions. Participants will have access to research logs, digital images and more during and after the webinar. Also included is a "habit recipe" to implement the same techniques used in the webinar on your own genealogy research.

Sessions will be recorded and handouts will be provided prior to the Conference with Zoom meeting details.

**Members \$55**

**Non-members \$75**

To register <https://igs.regfox.com/2021-spring-conference>

**Limited seating will be available at IGS for those that are unable to watch at home.  
For those that are unable to pay by credit card contact Debi at 515 276-0287**

# Genealogy and the New Year Year

by Diane Green

Many of us make resolutions for the new year. Beyond hoping for an end to COVID and planning to get back to normal with family and friends, consider what new things you might learn or projects to finish working on in regards to genealogy goals. Here's my suggestions (hum to the tune of "The Twelve Days of Christmas"):

## **During the Twelve Months of 2021, I'll do this for me and my family:**

1. Pay dues for the genealogical societies I belong to (including IGS).
2. Get those family recipes into a family cookbook.
3. Scan those family photos and share with family members.
4. Start evidence analysis and evaluation on sources I've done, and source those pieces of research I've left undone.
5. Add more members of family to my online trees (and add one to FamilySearch if you haven't already done so).
6. Get a DNA test for the oldest member of my family or other members who are curious to be tested.
7. Check out Cyndi's List for topics of interest (and consider giving a donation, she does a lot of work for free).
8. Look into a learning course(s), from those at IGS to some at places like *Family Tree Magazine*, NGS, and check Cyndi's List under education.
9. Go through one family at a time, and look into every piece of paper you've stashed in that notebook and find clues you've missed.
10. If your research is still all on paper, consider buying a program like FamilyTree Maker, RootsMagic, or Legacy.
11. Join one of IGS's many Special Interest Groups (German, Irish, Norwegian, Legacy, RootsMagic, Family Tree Maker, Ancestry, Publishing and Preserving, and DNA.) Many are holding meetings on Zoom.
12. And last but not least, backup all my research, photos, etc. and store off site or in the cloud!!"



## IGS INTEREST GROUPS

### IGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

All groups will meet virtually over zoom

German Interest Group meets on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m.

Ancestry.com User Group meets the second Sunday of the month, from 1:00 p.m.

Register in advance for this meeting by using this link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMudOitqDkoG9BfGLEo5elmzqZNFduv7M4p>

Family Tree Maker User Group meets the second Sunday of the month, from 3 p.m.

**Register in advance for this meeting by using this link**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkceCuqz8oH9Mx5XzznxCTKwCDwukCc03c>

Irish Interest Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

**Register in advance for this meeting by using this link**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlocuqggTguGdLruGGRQM1emDfmY9zD1ljf>

Legacy User Group meets the third Thursday of the month, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Norwegian Interest Group meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

RootsMagic User Group meets the fourth Saturday of the month, from 10 a.m. to noon.

Publishing & Preserving Family History Interest Group meets the fourth Sunday of the month, at 1:30 p.m.

Meetings in March & November of 2021 will be the 3rd Sunday of the month.

DNA Interest Groups meets the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

**Register in advance for this meeting: by using this link**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAudu6gqj4jHNMHHXCP\\_FoSNFTh-fJZXDy0](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAudu6gqj4jHNMHHXCP_FoSNFTh-fJZXDy0)

If you are interested in attending one of the zoom IGS special interest groups that do not have links or are not sure if we have your email send an email to me at [igs@iowagenealogy.org](mailto:igs@iowagenealogy.org). Or contact IGS at 515 276-0287.

## Iowa Genealogical Society Membership Application

### Membership Benefits:

- Free access to IGS research library
- Bimonthly Newsletter
- Admission discounts to all IGS classes & events
- Discounted hourly research rate

Individual: \$35    Family: \$45

New membership    Renewal

I would like to make a tax-deductible gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

My company has a matching gift program. Company name:  
\_\_\_\_\_

My gift is in Memory/Honor (circle one) of  
\_\_\_\_\_

My gift may be best utilized for:

Building Fund \$\_\_\_\_\_

General Fund \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Day phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed.

Please charge my credit card in the amount of  
\$\_\_\_\_\_ (+ \$2.50 credit card handling fee)

Visa       MasterCard       Discover

Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_      CCV: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Iowa Genealogical Society,  
628 E Grand Ave, Des Moines IA 50309-1924



### IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

February 2021

The Iowa Genealogical Society Newsletter is a publication of the Iowa Genealogical Society. Members receive the newsletter as part of their membership.

Individual members, member chapters, regional representatives and the public are invited to submit articles, reviews, chapter news and program information for publication.

Contact IGS for more information or to submit your article:

Iowa Genealogical Society  
628 E Grand Ave  
Des Moines IA 50309-1924  
515-276-0287  
[igs@iowagenealogy.org](mailto:igs@iowagenealogy.org)

*NOTE:* Please check the mailing label for your membership expiration date.

## IGS EVENTS



### IGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

All groups will meet virtually over zoom, central time.

German Interest Group meets on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m.

DNA Interest Groups meets the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Ancestry.com User Group meets the second Sunday of the month, from 1:00 p.m.

Family Tree Maker User Group meets the second Sunday of the month, from 3 p.m.

Irish Interest Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Legacy User Group meets the third Thursday of the month, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Norwegian Interest Group meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month (except December) at 7 p.m.

RootsMagic User Group meets the fourth Saturday of the month, from 10 a.m. to noon.

Publishing & Preserving Family History Interest Group meets the fourth Sunday of the month, at 1:30 p.m.

If you would prefer to receive an electronic copy of the newsletter please send an e-mail to [igs@iowagenealogy.org](mailto:igs@iowagenealogy.org). Include your name and e-mail address that you would like it sent to.

### Photo Scanning Basics

#### Zoom class

Are you thinking about scanning lots of pictures and documents? **Don't** know where to start?

Join us for this basics class to learn:

Why go digital

Understanding the scanning options and the differences

Basics of file formats and why it matters

How to scan a photo or document

Stacy Weaver will be the instructor

Join us on Thursday, February 11th at 6:30 p.m. Central Time to learn more.

To register <https://igs.regfox.com/photo-scanning-basics>

PRESERVING THE PAST & ENRICHING THE FUTURE