

THE GENIE BUG

NORTH CENTRAL IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
P. O. BOX 237 MASON CITY, IOWA 50402-0237
Volume 40 February 2014 Number 1



www.ncigs.org

The Manor Entrance



HISTORY of the BREWERY is shared by **Todd Von Ehwegen** on the **8th February 2014 NCIGS program at 1:30pm at The Manor, 4 Third St NW, Mason City.**



The old Brewery is a well-known landmark near Lime Creek Nature Center. Many volunteers and staff have been researching the history of the Brewery and recovering various artifacts on the site. This program will examine several facts and stories about this landmark and will include a display of artifacts found there.

Todd Von Ehwegen is the Conservation Education Manager for the Cerro Gordo County conservation Board. He is responsible for administrating the environmental education program for the agency and has been with the conservation board for 23 years.

Social Networking for Genealogy, [Facebook](#), [Pinterest](#) and [Blogs, Oh My!](#) Karen Van Deest, Information Literacy Coordinator and Network Analyst for the Waterloo Public Library will present this program. Plan to attend on **March 8, 2014 at 1:30 pm** at the Clear Lake Public Library. Did you know there are 1.19 billion monthly active users on Facebook, 70 million on Pinterest and millions of blogs in cyberspace? Have you ever thought about how you could harness the networking power of these social media sites to expand and improve your genealogy research?

NATURALIZATION RECORDS...WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU? Sandra Turner, NCIGS Librarian at 1:30 pm on **April 12, 2014** at The Manor, Mason City will be sharing some great insights. Naturalization records trace the path to US citizenship. Several forms had to be completed at different times during this process and usually took about five years, although time limits varied depending upon US law. When your ancestor obtained his citizenship, he might have supplied the following: full name, current residence, occupation, date of birth, place of birth, place from which he emigrated, whether or not he was married, spouse's name, birth date and birth place, spouse's current residence, number of children, their names, dates and places of birth and current residence, date since the immigrant continuously lived in the US, including all locations where he lived during that time, and, finally, the names, occupation, and addresses of two witnesses who swore the information was correct. Sometimes there is even a photo! Naturalization records represent a gold-mine of genealogical information about your ancestor and his family. Learn the details and handle the records during our April meeting!

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Vice-President's Notes:

To Every Valuable Member:

I hope everyone had a wonderful, joy filled Christmas and New Year holiday. We can thank our ancestors for the traditions we hold dear and enjoy so much. I call on each of you to carry on the good traditions that have been handed down to you.

One of those good traditions is the great work that others have done to establish the NCI Genealogy Society in order to save the historical records for future generations. Just look at the admirable things they have accomplished and passed on to our community and current members. A library full of local records, a website filled with local obituaries, programs to educate others about genealogy & local history and a good sized membership that supports these efforts.

While at Good Shepherd Health Center recently, I've visited with Ruth Umbarger and Art Fischbeck, who have done much to preserve our local history and genealogy records. My thought was "when they (and others) can no longer maintain the mission, who will step up to carry on the good work." Each of us has to become more involved in this great endeavor of saving our local history for future generations. Please contact me about your willingness to join others in using your talents to carry on this great and meaningful tradition. I know you will enjoy it.

Randy Opheim, Vice-President
641-512-0956

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### 2014 Executive Board Members - NCI GS

**President--** vacant

**Secretary** - Sharon O'Neill - [captain@netins.com](mailto:captain@netins.com)

**Librarian--** Sandra Turner -- [turnersd@mchsi.com](mailto:turnersd@mchsi.com)

**Research Chair** - Linda Faridi -- [research@ncigs.org](mailto:research@ncigs.org)

**Publicity Chair** - Sharlene Stoddard - [worthgen@mchsi.com](mailto:worthgen@mchsi.com)

**Vice-President--** Randy Opheim - [ropheim@masoncity.net](mailto:ropheim@masoncity.net)

**Treasurer-** Carol Tinkey - [twotinkers@mchsi.com](mailto:twotinkers@mchsi.com)

**Website Chair** - Jay Lehmann - [jay@ncigs.org](mailto:jay@ncigs.org)

**Membership Chair** - Lea Norlinger -- [lrprko@gmail.com](mailto:lrprko@gmail.com)

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North Central Iowa Genealogical Society, PO Box 237, Mason City, IA 50402-0237 c.NCIGS*



## Message from the LIBRARIAN

The NCIGS Library is located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Mason City Public Library, 225 2<sup>nd</sup> St. SE, Mason City, Iowa. The MCPL and the NCIGS Library are open M/T/W/TH 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.; F/SAT 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. If you need help from one of our library volunteers, remember our library is staffed M/W/F 9 a.m. – noon; 1-4 p.m.

Just a reminder, the safety of our volunteers dictates our availability during inclement weather. We look for guidance from the Mason City Community School system. If the schools are closed or have delayed openings, NCIGS volunteers are not expected to report for duty. If you decide to venture out, remember the MCPL closure decisions are not the same as the school system, so you may want to listen to the local TV or radio announcements to be sure the building is open.

Our volunteers are the life blood of our library. If you are interested, please call Sandra Turner at 641-380-0339 to sign up. Volunteering is a wonderful way to become familiar with our collection, share your interest in genealogy with other people and learn new research possibilities.

During the past three months a lot has been accomplished at the library:

- We completed the cataloging, encapsulation and storage decisions for the Map Collection. A list of our holdings is included elsewhere in this issue of THE GENIE BUG.
- Kay Mestad has undertaken the huge task of converting the information contained in the NCIGS library's Accession Notebook into an electronic format. The Accession Notebook is a record of all items incorporated into our collection since its inception. Often included, beyond title and accession number, is the format of the item, how the item was acquired (sometimes including cost if purchased) and any actions taken on the item since it was entered into our records. This notebook offers written proof of past generosity by society members as well as other supporters of genealogical efforts. It makes for interesting reading and some real AH! Moments.
- Kay Mestad, Lea Norlinger and Sandra Turner have completed the work on the Periodicals Collection. As you know the Periodicals Collection is a combination of 1) exchange newsletters (meaning Lea sends copies of THE GENIE BUG to various genealogical societies and they, in turn, send us a copy of their newsletter; 2) subscriptions paid by our society; and 3) donated subscriptions. Ruth Umbarger and I had begun this evaluation process when we were still on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the MCPL, but the work had not been completed. It is now done!
- The original Cerro Gordo County Naturalization Records review has begun. A written inventory of the holdings will be compiled; instructions on use of the materials written and questions regarding storage and accessibility of the collection will be resolved. The April 12<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting will feature the collection, detailing what is contained within this collection and offering suggestions on research techniques.

Society statistics for the year 2013 are as follows:

Researchers who signed our register totaled 446. Of those researchers 24 were from within the state but not from our nine county area, 60 were from out-of-state or out-of-country, and 251 were not members of our society. Documented volunteer hours totaled 3,455 at a cumulated value of \$76,493.70.

Sandra Turner, Librarian

**Additional volunteers** are needed at the library. Could you donate one 3 hour shift per month? Please consider this request.

## NCIGS Library Map Collection

All maps in the NCIGS map collection are now cataloged, encapsulated as needed and stored in their new locations. The gold filing cabinet (formerly held US Census microfilm) holds most of the bound, oversized items. The encapsulated and rolled maps are stored in a container on the North Wall of the Library. The folded flat maps of our nine country area are shelved in county boxes on the East Wall. Maps relating to counties/states other than our nine county area are stored within appropriate cardboard boxes on the regular shelves within the correct Dewey designation.

### Gold File Cabinet

- Drawer #3      Atlas of Allamakee County, Iowa – 1859-1990  
Atlas of Cerro Gordo County – 1912, 1967; 1978  
Atlas of Dickinson County, Iowa – 1935  
Atlas of Floyd County, Iowa – 1960, 1968  
Atlas of Franklin County, Iowa – 1984  
Atlas of Hancock County, Iowa – 1977
- Drawer #4      Atlas of Mitchell County, Iowa – 1910, 1968; 1977; 1987  
Atlas of Worth County, Iowa – 1960, 2000 - V. 1 & 2  
Mason City, Iowa Maps – 1875, 1884, 1928, 1976 (single sheets, encapsulated)  
Plat Book of Cerro Gordo County, Iowa – 1895 (copy 1 &2), 1935
- Drawer #5      Atlas of Fayette County, Iowa – 1916  
Plat Book of Hancock County, Iowa – 1896  
Atlas of Hardin County, Iowa – 1918  
Atlas of Kossuth County, Iowa – 1896  
Atlas of Marshall County, Iowa – 1946-47  
Plat Book of Winnebago County, Iowa – 1892  
Map of Chickasaw County Communities & Post Offices – 1996
- Drawer #6      Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Iowa 1875  
Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Iowa 1875 Reprint  
Index of Patrons in Historical Atlas of the State of Iowa  
Iowa Atlas & Gazetteer – 1998, 2004
- Drawer #7      Historical Atlas of Peterbough County, Ontario, Canada – 1825-1875  
Atlas of Ohio – 1868  
Atlas of Illinois – 1876  
Atlas of the German Empire - 1892  
Germany Map – 1900  
Cram's Atlas of the World – 1901  
Atlas of Crawford County, Wisconsin – 1930  
Goode's School Atlas (U.S.) – 1943  
Road Atlas United States/Canada/Mexico – 1979

Road Atlas/Atlas Routier/Canada/USA – 1983?  
North America Atlas – 1985  
National Geographic American Road Atlas & Travel Planner- 1998

## NCIGS LIBRARY Maps Collection – continued

Drawer #8 Hammond's Handy Atlas of the World – 1910  
New Encyclopedic Atlas & Gazetteer of the World – 1918  
New World Atlas & Gazetteer – 1920  
Collier's World Atlas & Gazetteer – 1940  
Home Atlas Special War Edition (world) – 1942  
Premier World Atlas – 1952  
Hammond's New Era World Atlas – 1954  
Hammond's Ambassador World Atlas – 1956  
Encyclopedia Britannica World Atlas – 1956  
Great World Atlas – 1963

**Rolled Maps** - These items are encapsulated and shelved upright on North Wall.

Map of Mason City, Iowa - 1907  
1912 Map of Mason City, Iowa  
Map of Mason City, With Old and New Street Names – 1916  
Mason City (Iowa) Map & Newcomers Guide – 1991  
Cerro Gordo County, Iowa – Landowners of Record & Tenants as of 1950  
Cerro Gordo County, Iowa Map – 1970  
Map of Cerro Gordo County, Iowa – 1999  
Map of Cerro Gordo County, with Mason City, Clear Lake & Ventura, Iowa – 2004  
Map of Franklin County, Iowa – 1882  
Official Map of Kossuth County, Iowa – n.d.  
Genealogical County Map – USA  
Postleitzahlen de Gerschaftsbereiche der Deutschen Bundespost (Postal Codes of Germany) – 1987

## Boxed County Plat Maps

The folded plat maps for our nine county collecting area (Winnebago, Hancock, Wright, Worth, Cerro Gordo, Franklin, Mitchell, Floyd and Butler) are filed in alphabetical order by the name of the plat map, within the County Plat Map boxes. These boxes are stored on the shelving attached to the wall above the computer/printer area on the South wall. Folded plat maps outside of this collecting area will be stored in the specific county's box on the East Wall.

Librarian: Sandra Turner



### 2014 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Thank you for your Renewals !

*Annual Membership: provides monthly programs, FEB, MAY, AUG, & NOV newsletters, and one free research query.*

*Renewal Membership dues are \$12.00 for this calendar year. January*

*2014 - December 2014*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter Emailed or Newsletter by Post Office  
Mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount enclosed is Cash \_\_\_\_\_ or Check \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date  
\_\_\_\_\_

## AMAZING WOMEN OF EARLY MASON CITY

Pat Schultz presented this topic at Jan. 11, 2014 NCIGS meeting

The histories of Cerro Gordo County include interesting biographies of the prominent men of Mason City's early years. Women receive only a brief mention as "the wife of." Pat Schultz decided that was a gap that needed to be filled.

As a member of the board of directors of Wright on the Park, the non-profit organization that restored Frank Lloyd Wright's City National Bank and Hotel, she was planning ladies' teas for the grand opening. She planned to impersonate a lady of 1910 gossiping about her neighbors and the things going on in the community. Finding information was the first step, and her interest developed into extensive research into turn of the century Mason City women.

Pat shared the result of her research with the North Iowa Genealogy Society on Saturday, Feb. 11, at the monthly meeting at the Manor.

First on the research list was Mary Church Emsley Adams who was president of the City National Bank at the time of the original opening of the bank in 1910. Pat felt her position was "amazing," given the customs of the period. She turned primarily to old newspapers online for information. "Mary was indeed amazing. She bought her own farm land before she was married, worked with her husband to buy more land and to open the first City Bank. After his death, she managed their resources on



her own, even when she remarried Charles Adams. She was a Unitarian, a Democrat and an ardent women's suffrage advocate, working on the local, state and national levels in the organizations.

From Mary, Pat's research led to Mrs. Adams' sister, Julia Church Dakin, who was superintendent of schools in Mason City for several years. That was just the beginning.

### Amazing Women, continued

From obituaries, other newspaper articles, women's club minutes, journals and other sources Pat found Mason City women were social, productive, and often had an impact well beyond their hometown.

"May Hanford MacNider is an excellent example," Pat said. "Her work with the public library and with conservation at the local, state and national level had a huge impact."



"I also found Grace Blythe and Dr. Stella Mason interesting," Pat explained. Grace was an officer in the state federation of women's clubs and very active in the DAR." Dr. Mason was the first female doctor in Mason City. She served as president of the local medical association, worked for women's suffrage, helped establish the Park Hospital, and actually traveled around the world three times.

The hardest stories to unravel were those of the earliest pioneer women, according to Pat. "Their stories are fascinating. Their trips to Cerro Gordo County, their early homes, the hardships they endured – all tell a story quite different from that of the men. I shook my head when I found Sarah McMillin cooked the food for 150 people at a street dance and celebration in 1856 and that Lorinda Owen sat with a rifle to guard her children and the livestock from wolves while her husband was gone."



The *Mason City Globe Gazette* ran anniversary editions several times. Among those interviewed were some of the pioneer women and/or their daughters. Pat found these helpful in piecing together the stories.

Pat's intention, when her research is finished, is to combine the stories into a soft-cover book and self-publish it, donating the copies to the Mason City Public Library as a fund raiser. "If they want them," she laughs.

## **NORTH CENTRAL IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

**By-Laws Revised 2014**

### **Mission Statement**

Founded in 1972 as a non-profit volunteer educational organization, the mission of the North Central Iowa Genealogical Society is to create and foster an interest in genealogy and to aid others in researching their family history.

### **ARTICLE I - NAME**

The name of this Society shall be the NORTH CENTRAL IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY.

### **ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this society shall be:

1. To create and foster an interest in genealogy.
2. To preserve genealogical and historical data.
3. To aid individual members in compiling family genealogies.
4. To establish and maintain a genealogical library.
5. To furnish the Iowa Genealogical Society information for publication.
6. To cooperate with any group or individual interested in furthering genealogical research.
7. To establish and maintain a society website.
8. To establish and maintain an electronic obituary file for the nine county area.

The society shall operate as a non-profit organization as required for tax exemption under the laws which apply.

### **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Membership in this society shall be open to all persons interested in genealogical, biographical, or historical research.

Section 2. Membership shall be issued upon application and payment of the annual dues.

Section 3. The dues shall be set by the **Executive Board** and recommended to the membership for approval. Dues shall become payable in advance September 1 and shall be paid on or before December 31 of the current year. Membership shall run for the fiscal year January through December. (See Article VI, Section 7.) Members not renewing prior to January 15 shall be dropped from membership.



Section 4. Paid membership includes copies of the newsletter *The Genie Bug* issued during time of membership. Another membership benefit is the publication of one free query per year in *The Genie Bug*.

#### **ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS**

Section 1. The officers of this society shall be **President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, Research Chair, Publicity Chair, Membership Chair, and Website Chair**.

Section 2. Membership of at least one full year is required for eligibility to office.

Section 3. Officers shall be elected to serve one year or until their successors shall be elected, and their term of office shall begin at the close of the December meeting after they are elected. (See Article VI, Section 7 for **Treasurer**.)

Section 4. No member shall be eligible to hold more than one office at a time.

#### **ARTICLE V - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

Section 1. At the regular meeting in the month of October the **President** will announce a nominating committee of three members. The membership will vote on the slate of candidates.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of this committee to nominate a candidate for each office to be filled at the Annual Meeting in November.

Section 3. Additional nominations from the floor shall be permitted.

#### **ARTICLE VI - DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS**

Section 1. The nine elected officers shall serve as the **Executive Board** and as the Budget Committee. (See Article VII, Sections 1 and 4).

Section 2. The **President** shall be the presiding officer at meetings of the society and serve as chairman of the Executive Board. S/he shall appoint committees and shall be an ex officio member of committees (except the Nominating Committee). S/he will serve as Liaison Officer, maintaining an on-going relationship with the Director of the Mason City Public Library.

Section 3. The **Vice President** shall assume the duties of the **President** whenever necessary. The **Vice President** shall serve as Chairperson of the Program Committee and shall be responsible for making reservations for meeting places and for program arrangements for all regular meetings and special workshops of the Society.

Section 4. The **Secretary** shall keep and read the minutes and shall provide a copy of the same to the **President**. S/he shall keep a record book in which all bylaws, special rules of order, standing rules, any amendments, committee assignments and copies of committee reports are entered and shall have the record book available at each meeting. The **Secretary** shall be responsible for the courtesy correspondence and such other outgoing correspondence as the **President** may direct.

Section 5. The **Treasurer** shall serve as chairperson of the Budget Committee. (See Section 1 above and Article VII Section 4).

1. The **Treasurer** shall receive all monies of the Society and shall deposit the same to the checking and savings accounts of the Society.
2. The **Treasurer** shall pay all bills falling within the approved operating budget.
3. Unbudgeted major expenditures shall be recommended by the **Executive Board** and approved by the membership.
4. No unauthorized bills shall be paid.
5. The **Treasurer** shall keep up-to-date records of the financial condition of the Society, shall report to the Society at regular meetings, and shall make the records available upon request.

6. The **Treasurer** shall be issued a key to the Society P.O. Box and is authorized to pick up and distribute the mail. When payments for research or member dues are received, the Treasurer will, in a timely manner, notify the Membership or Research Chairs.

7. The **Treasurer** shall close the books as of December 31 and prepare the yearly report.

8. The books shall be audited prior to the January meeting. Upon completion of a satisfactory audit, the treasurer's records will be transferred to the new **Treasurer**.

Section 6. The **Research Chair** shall serve as chairperson for the Research Committee and shall, with the assistance of committee members, undertake to answer requests for research help.

Section 7. The **Publicity Chair** shall send announcements of meetings, programs, workshops, and newsworthy events to the media in time for publication or broadcast before each such event. S/he shall promote the Society and its projects.

Section 8. The **Librarian** shall serve as Chairman of the Library Committee.

1. The **Librarian** shall be responsible for marking the society's library acquisitions, for cataloging, and for shelving or filing.
2. The **Librarian** shall recommend purchases to the Library Committee and shall keep the membership informed of acquisitions.
3. The **Librarian** shall train persons to assist genealogical researchers in the use of the collections and shall schedule volunteer assistants.

Section 9. **Membership Chair** shall serve as chairperson of the Membership Committee. The Membership Chair shall be issued a key to the society P.O. Box and is authorized to pick up and distribute mail.

Section 10. **Website Chair** shall serve as chairperson of the Website Committee. With the assistance of the Website Consultant and the Website Committee, the **Website Chair** shall maintain the society's website and the society's on-line obituary project, reporting problems to the Website Consultant and **President**.

## **ARTICLE VII - BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

Section 1. The **Executive Board** shall be the nine elected officers enumerated in Article IV. The President shall chair the **Executive Board**, shall schedule regular meetings, may call special meetings, and must call a meeting upon written request of three board members.

1. The **Executive Board** shall recommend an operating budget for the year, prepared by the Budget Committee under the chairmanship of the **Treasurer**, which shall then be submitted to the membership for approval.
2. The **Executive Board** shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Society between business meetings and may make recommendations to the society.
3. The **Executive Board** shall be subject to orders of the society and none of its actions shall conflict with actions taken by the Society. Four shall be a quorum for regular and called meetings of the **Executive Board**. The quorum, including the President, shall be six when expenditures of over \$1,000 are to be discussed.
4. The **Executive Board** shall have authority to fill vacancies which occur during unexpired terms of office.

Section 2. The Program Committee shall plan programs for the meetings, workshops and special events of the Society.

Section 3. The Library Committee, under the chairmanship of the librarian, shall do such selection, preparation, processing and arrangement of library materials as will facilitate the development and use of the genealogical collection. They shall oversee the microform purchasing program. They shall assist researchers where possible. The committee shall respond to orders for the Society's publications and shall exchange our publications with other societies.

Section 4. The Budget Committee, under the chairmanship of the **Treasurer**, shall prepare an annual operating budget.

Section 5. The Membership Committee, under the chairmanship of the **Membership Chair**, shall maintain an up-to-date record of members who have paid their dues, based upon information provided by the **Treasurer**. The Membership Committee, prior to each meeting, will electronically or by U.S. mail, send out to society members a reminder of the up-coming meeting. The Membership Committee may maintain an attendance record for both members and guests at all meetings. The attendance record will include the month of the meeting and the name and address of the attendees. Also, at the time of registration, the members and guests will be offered name tags. A major emphasis of the Membership Committee shall be to increase membership and participation in the Society.

Section 6. An Editor shall be appointed for *The Genie Bug* newsletter. The newsletter be issued in February, May, August, and November. Copies of the newsletter will be distributed by mail or electronically.

Section 7. Publications Committee or committees shall be appointed as needed to collect, compile, and publish genealogical materials, either locally or in cooperation with the Iowa Genealogical Society.

Section 8. An Audit Committee shall be appointed by the **President** to audit the books and report the results of the audit to the membership each January meeting.

Section 9. Nominating Committee (See Article V)

Section 10. Website Committee (Obituary Project) will assist the Website Chair in maintaining the society's website.

Section 11. Other Committees may be appointed as deemed advisable for the growth and success of the Society.

## **ARTICLE VIII - MEETINGS**

Meetings of the Society shall be held on the second Saturday of each month (January through November) except as the **Executive Board** may make exception for a national holiday or to permit attendance at the State Conference or other genealogical event. There will be no meeting in December.

## **ARTICLE IX - LIBRARY**

Section 1. The genealogical library shall be a major focus of the Society.

Section 2. The library collection shall be housed at the Mason City Public Library and shall be available for use in the library by members and library patrons alike. The stamp of the society shall be upon society property. Books shall be cataloged and shelved by Dewey Decimal number. A society card catalog shall be maintained and additional finding aids created. All of the society's books, microform collection, publications, and Surname Index shall be available for use in the genealogy area. If items in the collection are stored off-site, retrieval of the requested items will be as timely as possible.

Section 3. In the event of the dissolution of the Society, its library property and all other assets shall become the property of the Mason City Public library.

## **ARTICLE X - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the Society in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Society may adopt.

## **ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS**

These by-laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Society by a two-thirds vote of those in attendance provided that the amendment has been submitted to the membership and a written copy posted in advance in the genealogical library for perusal by members.

## **STANDING RULES**

1. The first year of this Society will be from the time of organization until November 1973. All members joining the society during the first year shall be considered charter members.
2. Regular meetings of the Society shall be held at a location designated by the **Executive Board**. A temporary change in place may be designated by the **President**, if necessary. A permanent location change shall be approved by vote of the members.
3. The regular meeting shall begin at 1:30 p.m.
4. All members of the society shall keep filed with the Surname Index Chairman a copy of their ancestor charts.
5. Chairmen of committees shall be informed of meetings of the **Executive Board** and may attend but shall have no vote, with the exception of the positions named above in Article IV.

NORTH CENTRAL IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
PO BOX 237  
MASON CITY, IA 50402-0237  
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## Discover your family's First World War History

1914 marked a pivotal year in world history when war broke out in Europe following the assassination of Franz Ferdinand the Archduke of the Austro Hungarian Empire on June 28<sup>th</sup>. The ensuing four year "Great War" spread across the continent of Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, pulling in the US on April 6, 1917.

As the British website *First World War Centenary* ([www.1914.org](http://www.1914.org)) explains: “The First World War had a huge impact on all those who lived through it. By its end, there were very few people in the countries that took part who remained unaffected. Men enlisted, or were called up, in their millions. Children grew up in the shadow of battle, their fathers absent or lost. Women became directly involved, taking up work in industry and agriculture as the men went off to fight. In this way, almost all family histories will include someone who took part in the war. Now, one hundred years after its start, find out how your ancestors were affected by the war. Discover what they experienced and remember their lives.”

There will be many websites launched to commemorate this event. A good place to start is with this website. It provides useful information on upcoming events and website launches. It also has a very useful guide for genealogists wanting to research soldiers from WWI. Access is free.