

GRAVE NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE STATE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF
IOWA CEMETERIES

21813 170th St. Birmingham, IA 52535-8045
Volume #7 Issue #4

www.rootsweb.com/~iasapc/
October, 2002

The first SAPIC meeting of 2003 will be held at the Pinicon Restaurant; 2205 McCloud Ave. in New Hampton in Chickasaw County, Iowa on January 11 at 10:00 a.m. The bypass around New Hampton is now open, so you must take the bypass and exit at Exit 201, then go north on Business 63 to the restaurant. It is just a short distance. Coffee and rolls will be available before the meeting and lunch will be available after the meeting. Soup and salad bar with choice of sandwich for \$4.95 + tax and gratuity. Motels close by: Howard Johnson Express Inn; 2199 McCloud Ave. (right next to Pinicon); Phone: 641-394-4145 or Super 8 Motel; 825 South Linn Ave. (approx 1/2 mile north of Pinicon); Phone: 641-394-3838.

Contact persons: Julie Eckenrod; Phone: 641-394-3967 or Betty Tylee; Phone: 641-394-2940; E-mail: btylee@hotmail.com or btylee@iowatelecom.net

A MESSAGE FROM JOYCE WIESE, the new SAPIC president:

Dear Pat;

I was'nt sure what to put in "No Stone Unturned" this first time so will tell a little about myself.

I want to express my thanks to SAPIC for electing me to be President of the association. I've kept busy my entire life so here is a little of my history. My husband and I have four children of our own and have helped seven foster children who needed a home. Un til a year ago we had our granddaughter with us four fourteen years, most of the time. We do miss her, but want to tell you she is a lifetime member of SAPIC.

Our family ran three businesses over the course of twenty three years, grocery, sundry, service station and motorcycled shop. A good education. I have worked for the H&R Block Tax office here in Tama for many years having retired from there a few years ago. Since that time I have served as president of the Tama County Historical Society, Museum and Genealogy Library. President and founder of the Tama County Pioneer Cemetery Association, on the Board for the Tama County Courthouse Clock Restoration Project, have served in many positions for the State, District, and County organizations of Republican Women, serve on

SAPIC OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

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712-542-3864 chazstevens@hotmail.com

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Linda Sue Zintz, Board of Trustees
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thee_z@hotmail.com

WHERE TO GET PROBES

Agri-Drain
340 St.
Adair, IA 50002
1-800-232-4742
Sizes range from 4 1/2' to 8'. \$18.50 and up

WHERE TO GET EPOXY

GRANQUARTZ Stone Tools and Equipment
P.O. BOX 2206
Tucker, GA 30085-2206
1-800-458-6222
<http://www.granquartz.com>

3-M 1838 B/A TAN EPOXY
GENEX 1700 2nd Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50314
515-266-4656

GCT Stone Epoxy and Hardener
Granite City Tool Co.
PO Box 411 11 Blackwell St.
Barre, VT 05641 1-800-451-4570
granitecitytoolvt.com mkewinter@aol.com

WHERE TO GET SIGNS

Iowa Prison Industries
Box B
Anamosa, IA 52205
1-800-336-5863
Ask for Tammy Deseberg

VETERANS' HEADSTONES

See <http://www.cem.va.gov/hm.htm>
Or telephone 1-800-687-6947

STATE CEMETERY REGULATOR

340 Maple St.; Des Moines, IA 50319
Dennis.Britson@comm6.state.ia.us

SAPIC MINUTES – JULY 13, 2002

The quarterly SAPIC meeting was held at the Ft. Dodge Public Library in Ft. Dodge, Ia. Thank you to Jerry & Marva Rowe for making the arrangements. President Pat Shaw called the meeting to order, sign in sheets were then passed.

Minutes of April 2002 were read by Secretary Charly Stevens. Motion by Richard Boorum, to accept the minutes as submitted along with the spelling correction to Britson's name, second by Calvin McVay. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report for the 1st quarter, (April to June 2002) was given by Valerie Ogren with a review of income and expenditures. Refer to current newsletter for a complete accounting. This report is to be filed for audit. Bills from Pat Shaw and Mike Magee were also allowed.

Old Business included SAPIC bumper stickers, new mailing procedures for newsletters, as noted by Pat Shaw, this does involve additional work but she has received positive comments on the methods. Postcards have been sent to members whose dues were in arrears. Report form for neglected cemeteries was brought forth, need to include an estimated number of visitors, please refer to April newsletter. Pat Shaw suggests that we take the form from the newsletter and after it's completed make sure to send copy to Dennis Britson (Regulated Industries Unit) and also County Supervisors, Auditors, township trustee clerks. One done for each cemetery with 6 or fewer burials in the past 50 years. Awarding of grant monies; these are monies from lifetime memberships, donations and memorials that have been held in an account. SAPIC members are looking for guidelines to work with to meet requests to assist with fencing and/or other cemetery restoration needs. Larry Davis volunteered to draft a set of guidelines for the awarding of grants to be presented at the October meeting. The issue of the reporting form; motion by Valerie Ogren to have included estimated number of visitors and SAPIC addresses for bulk mailing to genealogy and historical societies within the state of Iowa, second by Molly Beason. Motion carried. Discussion of a video and/or CD of before and after of restoration work and distribution methods were mentioned, suggestions welcomed on this issue.

New Business; bills allowed and taken care of in Treasurer's portion. Camera donation for documentation of pioneer cemeteries, the camera is still available for use. Committee members requested to form a Nominating Committee for October meeting for board members and officers. Budget revisions may need to include a provision in the FY 03 budget for the awarding of grants. Richard Boorman, Bremer Co, discussed HB2024 in reference to the maintenance of cemeteries and the opposition by Real Estate Board, as well as "lost" stones and procedures to be taken for recovery (if stolen). October meeting will be held in conjunction with IGS conference. Recipient of the R.C. Award will be presented the award prior to the IGS banquet. Nominations were due to Phyllis Carter in July. Pat had no current legislation to discuss except that Dennis Britson will continue to work on legislative issues and reminded us that we need to contact our representatives.

January dues will be payable soon, and our next meeting is scheduled for New Hampton (Chickasaw County)

No further business to discuss, motion by Calvin McVay to adjourn for lunch and county reports, second by Betty Tylee. Motion carried.

A tour of the Oakland Cemetery was then available afterwards.

A message from Joyce Wiese, the new SAPIC president, continued from Page One:
the Resident Advocate committee at a local Care Center, and too many more to mention. I have a teaching Degree from the University of Northern Iowa. I also write news from the local county supervisors and South Tama County Board of Education meetings for the County newspapers as well as the Marshalltown Times Republican.

I'll bet you are already thinking you made a bad choice. I will try to do my best, and will appreciate any help anyone can give me.

Enough of that. I became interested in cemeteries when I was no more than eight years old. A family acquaintance was "Sexton" (at that time called) of a local cemetery and my sister and I used to help clip around the stones with scissors. This may seem boring but really was quite interesting to see the different shapes of stones and the names and designs on all of them.

About ten years ago I was visiting an old family plot, the Dunham (later called Butlerville) cemetery in Indian village Townshjp in Tama County. This used to be on a main road north our of Montour but now does not have a road directly to the cemetery, only up through a barnyard and a field. The cemetery i in a beautiful location, sitting on top a hill looking over the Iowa River Valley. You can see almost to Chelsea from this hill. When there it was an absolute jungle. This pushed me to get something done. It is still hard for me to understand how such disasters develop.

It amazes me the number of interested persons and supportere once you start talking of such a project as restoring these old pieces of history.

I think I have used my space so will quit for now.

SAPIC newsletter, October, 2002, page four

The quarterly SAPIC meeting was held at the College in Marshalltown, IA. President Pat Shaw called the meeting to order, sign in sheets were then passed.

Minutes of July 13, 2002 were read by Secretary Charly Stevens. Motion by Mike Magee to accept the Minutes as submitted, second by Calvin McVay. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report for 2nd quarter with a review of income and expenditures were given by Pat Shaw in absence of Valerie Ogren. Working balance of \$4,643.76 with \$2,563.39 (Reserve monies) for a total of \$7,207.15. Motion by Phyllis Rothlauf, to approve the Treasurer's report, second by Judy Swanson. Motion carried. It will be filed for audit. Refer to newsletter for a complete accounting.

Old Business included a revised Cemetery survey, form can be found in last newsletter, and SAPIC website. Needs to be delivered to county auditors, historical and genealogy societies. Grant application for awarding of grants (refer to July newsletter), was determined that a 20-25% percent of monies being held in SAPIC account can be awarded and that a committee is needed to oversee the grant process and guidelines will be made available to potential grant applicants. Motion by Judy Swanson to accept the grant application as presented in the July newsletter, second by Calvin McVay. Motion carried.

New Business included FY03 budget; at this time no changes need to be made other than including an estimate for grants and therefore can't be approved at this meeting but should be on the agenda for January. Change of meeting time in conjunction with the IGS conference, this will need to be worked out with IGS personnel. Bulk rate stamp was again discussed as far as obtaining a stamp with SAPIC mailing address on it. Long range plans included an opportunity to receive information on a product endorsement and retail of materials to repair stones, no action taken. Next meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2003 at Chickasaw County in New Hampton. Cemetery legislation has a meeting with Dennis Britson on October 8, 2002 in Des Moines, SAPIC members are encouraged to attend. Copies of these legislative drafts are available from Mr. Britson. According to the Iowa Code neglected cemeteries must be reported. It was noted that the videos of Restoration 101 are still available. Mike Magee discussed the Realtors and their opposition to cemetery related issues including access and language including the term "caretakers." Robert Carter Award was presented to Pat Shaw at the Johnstontown cemetery in Jones County. Committee members were asked to begin to think about nominations for Robert Carter award for 2003. Fundraising items, t-shirts and bumper stickers, are still available for purchase from members Sherry Wiley and Charly Stevens respectively. Memberships and data base information available from Pat Shaw or Valerie Ogren. A Friends of Iowa Cemeteries certificate was given in memory of Margaret Tallman at Johnsontown Cemetery in Jones County, these certificates can be made for deserving cemetery workers or someone who has done some educational or publicity related work for a cemetery. It was noted that Gene Davis of Hardin County is part of the newly formed cemetery commission for that county, and begins with \$2500 in operating funds to start restoration work. Also mentioned was the camera, newsletters and including web page, being updated by Sally Youngquist. Nominating slate of officers were then given and voting proceeded. Officers for FY03 includes President Joyce Weise, Vice-President- Larry Davis, Secretary - Charly Stevens; Treasurer - Valerie Ogren. One Year term Board officers are Mike Magee, Phyllis Carter and Calvin McVay. Two Year Board officers are Jo Vernooy, Molly Beason and Linda Zinke. Third Year Board officers are Mary Dodson,

Pat Shaw and Julie Enckenrod.

County reports were then heard from Van Buren, Lee, Jones, Black Hawk, Mahaska, Chickasaw and Des Moines counties.

Question arose from current historian about continuing that office, since that appears to be an appointed position that will need to be discussed with the new President.

Motion by Calvin McVay to adjourn, second by Betty Tylee. Motion carried.

request form at the GNIS search page:

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis/web_query.gnis web query form

This is a very handy tool that every genealogist should know and use.

Life is not holding a good hand; Life is playing a poor hand well.

-- Danish proverb

From *American Profile* magazine, October 27 - November 2, 2002: Did you Know.... ILLINOIS -- A skull, coffin, and tombstone are hazards in the 9-hole miniature golf course in the basement of Ahlgrim's Funeral Home in Palatine. Games are free but are pre-empted by funerals.

ILLINOIS -- Oak Hill Cemetery in Lewistown (pop. 2, 522) is one of fiction's most famous cemeteries as the setting for *Spoon River Anthology* by hometown poet Edgar Lee Masters. In the 1914 classic, the dead relate episodes from their lives.

Contributed by Mike Magee

From the *Effingham Daily News* (Illinois), July 5, 2002: "Ways to prevent more damage sought after cemetery vandalized," by Andrea Donaldson. Two photos are printed with the story, one showing some of the 30 headstones that were overturned earlier in the week in Ramsey Cemetery in Green Creek and another of Sexton Paul Schmidt, along with Clem Kaufman and Dick Kinkelaar as they lift a headstone back onto its base. Schmidt says in the article that vandalism has happened several times in this cemetery and it is almost impossible to identify and punish anyone for the crime. After installing a guard rail to keep vehicles off the cemetery grounds, installing new posts for the fence, and a new sign, he is now proposing the installation of a surveillance camera. A plea to the public to report any information about the vandalism to authorities is made.

Contributed by Terry Altheide

From the *Chicago Tribune*, October 7, 2002: "Jewish group steps in to save an old cemetery Volunteers begin cleanup of 'sacred' site in north suburbs," by Lisa Black. Pictured is a gravestone at the site of the 112-year-old Jewish cemetery in Morton Grove and Niles and volunteers, Dewey Gallard, Igor Ayzman, Linda Haase and Sheri Marshall as they tackle a pile of rubble. The title to the site has recently been granted to the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago. Linda Haase, a spokeswoman, said, "It's a sacred task in the Jewish community to remember the people who have come before us and to honor their memories."

STATE ASSOCIATION for the PRESERVATION of IOWA CEMETERIES

Treasurer's Report for 3rd Quarter - 1 July 2002 thru 30 September 2002

Balance in "Working Account" 30 June 2002, Home State Bank, Jefferson \$4241.25

Income

| | |
|--|----------|
| Dues | 685.00 |
| Bumper Stickers | 35.00 |
| Donations | 20.00 |
| Interest 7/31/02 | 4.54 |
| Interest 8/31/02 | 4.16 |
| Interest 9/30/02 - - - - no bank statement yet | ??? |
| Total Income | \$748.70 |

Expense

| | |
|--|----------|
| Ck #131 - Patricia Shaw - newsletter | 78.61 |
| Ck #132 - Mike Magee - copies | 3.73 |
| Ck #133 - Patricia Shaw - copies | 14.84 |
| Ck #134 - Patricia Shaw - mileage \$120.00, newsletter 124.40 | 244.40 |
| Ck #135 - Patricia Shaw - postage | 4.61 |
| Total Expense | \$346.19 |

Balance in "Working Account" 30 September 2002 \$4643.76

Balance in Reserve Account 30 June 2002, Home State Bank, Jefferson \$2463.39

Income

| | |
|------------|----------|
| Carol Dale | \$100.00 |
|------------|----------|

Balance in "Reserve Account" 30 September 2002 \$2563.39

I am keeping an accounting of the amount which had been held in savings and have added Life Memberships and Memorials to it; however, all the money is in one account at the bank.

Combined Balance on Hand 30 September 2002 \$7207.15

Respectfully submitted,
Valerie Ogren, Treasurer
108 N. Oak
Jefferson IA 50129-1841
Ph 1-515-386-4784
E-mail: <vjogren@netins.net>

In the last issue of *Grave News*, a reference to a product called Orvus was given as a cleaner for gravestones. SAPIC does not endorse products, but only presents information. The product is used by Save Texas Cemeteries, Inc. Before investing in the product, it is suggested that the Texas group be contacted for more information:

PO Box 202975; Austin TX 78720-2975
Phone: 512-258-5688
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~txstc/>

Or contact:

The Association for Gravestone Studies
278 Main Street, Suite 207
Greenfield, MA 01301
Phone: 413-772-0836
www.gravestonestudies.org

Thanks to the person(s) who nominated me for the Robert Carter Award, to Steve and Donna Story, Milt Luckstead, and the members of the Cascade FFA Chapter for planning the presentation ceremony and reception following, to Phyllis Carter for providing and presenting the award, the local news media, and to all those who attended and sent messages. Receiving this award was truly a great honor and a memory that I will cherish. Pat Shaw

It's exciting to anticipate new and fresh leadership for SAPIC! The slate of officers for 2003 presented by the nominating committee, headed by Ethel McVay was outstanding. Thanks, Ethel, for a good job! Organizations need to be invigorated by fresh ideas in order to grow -- the new leaders will provide that. Check on page 2 for their names and contact information and introduce yourselves -- better yet, plan to attend the next meeting in New Hampton on January 11.

A note from Pat Shaw:

The support that I've been given during the past 5 years that I've been president of SAPIC by so many individuals is appreciated so much. The progress we've made to save Iowa's pioneer cemeteries is due to their efforts and their passion. We have a great deal to do yet, so please work with Joyce Wiese to accomplish this -- she's a great team leader!

Two drunks were walking home from a pub late on Halloween night telling ghost stories as they went, and taking the shortcut through the old cemetery. In front of them they hear TAP TAP TAP and they see this spooky figure hammering away at a stone, but they assume it is just the caretaker working late -- until-- the figure turns toward them and says, "Danged fools! They didn't spell my name right!"

The SAPIC historian books that have been faithfully kept by Phyllis Rothlauf of Burlington for 5 years have been placed in the genealogical library of the Tama County Tracers at 200 N. Broadway Street in Toledo, Iowa. Telephone 641-484-6767.

Quote from Sue Silver, California, about the removal of remains from an cemetery in Ohio: "*Now Ohio has portable pioneer graves just like Indiana! I thought it was Rest in Peace, not Rest in Pieces.....*"

ssilver1951@jps.net

Remember:



It's time to pay your SAPIC dues for 2003!

COUNTY REPORTS

BENTON

Contributed by Gene and Frieda Davis, Mike Magee, and Steve Story
From the Cedar Rapids Gazette, Aug. 10, 2002: "Pioneer cemetery board nearly set Benton supervisors clarify funding," by Steve Meyer. The second hearing on an ordinance to create a pioneer cemetery commission resolved the question of maintenance of restored cemeteries and also that the supervisors would fund the project for 2002 by budget amendment. Any money donated for pioneer cemeteries would go to the cemetery commission's account and not the county's general fund.

From the Cedar Valley Times, Aug. 13, 2002: "Pioneer Cemetery Commission established in Benton County," by Steve Meyer. The Vinton County Supervisors unanimously adopted an ordinance establishing a Pioneer Cemetery Commission. Four of the commission's nine members must be township trustees or clerks. Gene Davis is pictured with the article. A photo of a fallen grave stone in a Benton County neglected cemetery also accompanies the article. Commission members were appointed on August 23.

From the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Courier, Aug. 26, 2002: "Benton County officials appointed." County supervisors appointed seven of nine members to the newly created Benton County Cemetery Commission. Gene Davis was named temporary commission chairman.

From the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Courier, Oct. 3, 2002: "Commission ready to repair old headstones." The article tells that the newly formed Pioneer Cemetery Commission will soon begin restoration on headstones in four pioneer cemeteries: Houghton, LaRue, Big Grove-Homer and Carlisle Grove. Chairman, Gene Davis, presented a budget request for \$2,500. In all, 99 headstones are slated for repair. A proposal to transfer \$1,000 from the county's historical preservation fund will be considered.

Note from "Dirt Digger," Frieda: In the Cedar Valley Times, Sept. 5, 2002 an article about Matthew Wrage, of Dysart, who completed a cemetery project to earn his Eagle Scout Award, was printed. He repaired and painted the chain link fence, the arch entrance way and flagpole at the Gragy Cemetery.

The Cedar Valley Times also ran an article on Oct. 11, 2002: "Pioneer Cemetery Commission up and running following months of debate," by Steve Meyer. Four goals of the commission are listed.

BLACKBARK

Contributed by Mike Magee

Mike forwarded a copy of a letter from Dennis N. Britson, Director; Regulated Industries Unit; Iowa Insurance Division, containing recommendations regarding the Mount Zion Cemetery. A court order in 1991 granted title to the land containing the cemetery to two individuals, but ordered the owners to recover the grave markers and restore the cemetery property. Mr. Britson suggested that efforts should focus on the enforcement of that court order. He quoted Section 566.33, "Protection and preservation of burial sites" from the Iowa Code.

Mike forwarded this E-mail report about the Melrose Cemetery:

MELROSE CEMETERY "SPRUCES UP"

May 19 was the scene of much activity at Melrose Cemetery. Volunteers and paid helpers worked hard to repair stones, clear away brush and install a new sign which reads: MELROSE CEMETERY - FOUNDED 1875.

A debt of gratitude is owed to Michael Magee from Waterloo, Iowa. Michael is a member of SAPIC (State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries) and as such made his second trip to repair, realign and rebase some of the stones badly in need of help. He promises to return after Memorial Day and try to finish the job. Michael volunteers to work on stones throughout the state.

Board members Larry Callaway of Whitten and Harry Callaway of Marshalltown assisted in the repair of the stones and made headway in removing dead brush and trees. Larry brought his two grandsons with him and they were a great help to everyone. They were Eric and Jake Callaway of Whitten.

Vice President Opal Dunn Brown and her husband Don stopped briefly on their way to Iowa City. They promised to work next week clearing the brush on the west of the cemetery.

A huge thank-you to all who have done so much. The task is not complete, nor will it be in the near future, but everyone involved is working hard to try to bring the cemetery back to its original beauty. The original prairie on the east and west will be preserved.

From the *Water/Cedar Falls Courier*, Oct. 20, 2002:

"Participants walk in shoes of the past...Grout's cemetery walk brings local history alive," by Kelsey Foutch. For the past four years, the Grout Museum in Waterloo has made Halloween both fun and educational with "Strolling with the Spirits," an interpretive cemetery walk that introduces Cedar Valley citizens to the history of the area through its past residents. Area actors are called up to recreate the lives of persons who once called Waterloo home.

BLACKHAWK, continued

The site of the Oct. 18, 2002 walk was the Calvary Cemetery, the resting place of famous residents such as Alleta Sullivan, mother of the five Sullivan brothers.

BUTLER

Contributed by Mike Magee

From the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Courier, Oct. 24, 2002: "Township trustees wary of giving positions to county," by Jessica Miller. Pictured is Pete Jensen of rural Butler County who has served as a township trustee for about 20 years. He's opposed to the notion that people in those positions should be appointed rather than elected. He's shown in front of the Antioch Cemetery near Clarksville. Holly Fokkena, Butler County auditor, is advocating to do away with the trustee system that she sees as an antiquated, confusing system based on history rather than necessity. She says it's been quite some time since there has been an actual competition for a seat on a township office and wants the county to appoint rather than elect persons to fulfill those duties. Trustees are responsible for negotiating fire protection, caring for cemeteries and settling fence disputes. They set township tax levies. Grundy County voters eliminated township elections about 10 years ago. Buchanan County appoints more than half of its trustees instead of electing them.

From the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Courier, Oct. 20, 2002: "Library, students join for tour of cemetery." Interpretive tours of Lynwood Cemetery in Clarksville was a free program organized by the Clarksville Public Library and the Clarksville Community School Talented and Gifted students presented on Oct. 27.

CLAYTON

Contributed by Myra Voss and Ronald Harris

Received July 8, 2002 from Myra Voss, Clayton County Pioneer Cemetery Commission:

The Commission meets regularly. Have documented 98 pioneer cemeteries in Clayton Co.

Next meeting will be to clean, repair, and mark the Pioneer Cemetery: Duff Cemetery. Also plan to purchase a sign - large sign with name over a gate style. Cemetery located in SW Clayton Co.

The next cemetery scheduled is Eastman Cemetery -- usually called "Virgin Em" Cemetery. Emma Eastman had 9 husbands. 6 are buried in this cemetery. Man from Wisconsin is researching and documenting the 'stories'. Boy Scouts planning to do the cleaning. Commission to purchase gate and fence and repair stones. Cemetery located in NE Clayton Co.

Myra Voss
Secretary

We are in existence since January 2000. We have identified 98 pioneer cemeteries and located them on a map.

CLAYTON, continued

The Supervisors have appointed (and the members have then elected officers):

Pres: Lawrence Fox, Clayton Center

V-P: Herbert Kann, Guttenberg

Sec: Myra Voss, Elkader E-mail address: vossrlty@alpinecom.net
Don Sass, Luana

Gene Ruegnitz, Garber

From Ron Harris, Oct. 26, 2002:

Below is a forward of information from Nancy McClellan. If you wish further details, please contact her at the address attached to the message. I can provide historical background for the Eastman Cemetery if the website <http://www.wctc.net/~harris/> is not adequate.

Subject: Eastman Cemetery renovation information

The renovation of the Eastman Cemetery is an Eagle Scout project of Chris McClellan of Troop 40 of Guttenberg Iowa. Members and parents of the troop that have worked on the project so far are:

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Chris McClellan | Brian Schmidt | Brian Johnson |
| Dane Schroeder | | |
| Colton Kuhlman | Marcus Susice | Alex Nieland |
| Clarence Bolsinger | | |
| Phil Rausch | Shea Ronek | Steve Rausch |
| Lawrence Fox | | |
| Ken McClellan | Nancy McClellan | Herb Kann |

The project was an idea that Herb Kann had suggested to Chris late in the summer. Herb is a member of the Clayton County Pioneer Cemetery Board, which is appointed by the Clayton County Supervisors.

From Ron Harris, Oct. 23, 2002: Ron forwarded an E-mail message with 2 photos of the work session on Oct. 19 at the Eastman Cemetery. Plans are to fence the cemetery and install an entrance arch. Ron can be reached at: harris@wctc.net

FLODD

Contributed by Mike Magee

From the *Waterloo/Cedar Falls Courier*, Oct. 1, 2002:
"Native leaves \$780,000 to Marble Rock causes," by Kristin Buehner. The will of Iva Boom, who died Jan. 24, 2001, at the age of 106, provided money for several Marble Rock community groups, including the West Side Cemetery. The cemetery will receive

**Lucas County Pioneer Cemetery Preservation Commission
% Chariton Public Library
803 Braden Avenue
Chariton, Iowa 50049-1742
September 26, 2002**

Dear Valerie:

I won't be attending the SAPIC meeting at Marshalltown as I am not coming to the IGS Conference.

We are keeping busy on the Pioneer Cemeteries. We are continuing to try to get them all cleared, cleaned up and all stones that need work reset. We have accomplished most of that kind of work in most of the 20 some cemeteries.

We have ordered a Bronze Plaque for the Douglass cemetery, with surnames found buried there. (copy enclosed). We are looking into getting a large field boulder placed in front of the "Memorial Area" where all of the surviving stones have been replaced to mount the Plaque on. Money for that was all donated by descendants of those families buried there.

One of our members is a past employe of Lucas Co. and drove a Maintainer for many years. He has been working with the county to get accesses graded to some of the cemeteries that are back into fields.

We have one cemetery which is in the corner of a farm field, is about an acre and has no surviving stones. The land owner, who is in his mid eighties and in poor health, has always just kept it mowed and revered as a burial ground. He has been wanting us to get it transfered to the county. This we just accomplished this past week by having a Quit Claim Deed with easement for getting to & from the parcel, made up by the County Attorney (with no cost).

We have a person contracted to place fencing around about six cemeteries yet this fall (at least as far as our appropriation for this year covers) and then to finish next year.

We are making progress but it all takes time. We do have a really good relationship with the County Supervisors, Trustees and other Officials, as well as the land owners around the cemeteries. And our commission gets along with each other really well.

Hello, to all from the Lucas County Cemetery Preservation Commission

Gwen Sims, Secretary



Gwen also enclosed the location of Douglass Cemetery, the date of the first burial (1852) and the last burial (1898), surnames found on the stones, and a photo of the plaque mounted on a stone boulder that they intend to install at the site. Gwen also contacted Dennis Britson, Regulated Industries Unit, asking to be placed on his mailing list and attended a meeting at his office on October 8. If you'd like to receive information on proposed legislation regarding cemeteries, request it from Dennis Britson (Address on page 2 of this newsletter).

MITCHELL

Contributed by Frieda Davis, Mike Magee, Clayt Schulz, & Charlotte Stober

From the *Mason City Globe Gazette* (North Iowa), Aug. 22, 2002: "North Iowan rescues fallen tombstones," by Michael K. Troyer. Jim Kramer, who has tended the Orchard Cemetery for nearly eight years, decided to do something about buried and damaged stones about 4 years ago. Kramer said one of the most rewarding things about the job was discovering stones with writing that has been covered for years.

From an article from the *Waterloo/Cedar Falls Courier*, dated Aug. 25, 2002: "Man finds history in restored tombstones," by Michael K. Troyer. Jim Kramer of rural Orchard has restored hundreds of tombstones in two Mitchell County cemeteries. Kramer has constructed new concrete bases for approximately 250 stones in Orchard and Stillwater cemeteries. Next year he plans to work at the Howardville Cemetery in Floyd County.

From an E-mail from Wendy L. Renoux, Sept. 7, 2002:

Hi

I have found your site on several of the cemeteries you restored. What fun! My husband and I are just getting started and I am so excited about the prospect. I spent an hour with a Northern Iowan who cares for the Orchard Cemetery, has restored parts of it and Stacyville. He was a wealth of information as was your site. I have bookmarked it and now am searching for many of the details you listed. Just wanted to share - maybe its an "Iowan" thing as both my husband and I were raised in different parts of Iowa and now own land in 2 counties in Tennessee and in Mississippi which is where we have 3 pioneer cemeteries to work on. I have started a page on my website to help document it but looks like I have quite a bit of work ahead! Thanks for your site!

Regards, Wendy

Wendy L. Renoux, Owner

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From the *Mason City Globe Gazette* and the *Mitchell County Press-News*, Oct. 4, 2002: "Volunteers seek to locate, restore pioneer gravesites," by Larry Kershner. Pictured is the old Mona Cemetery as it sits amid brambles, weeds, and fallen tree branches. Many of the monuments are broken, lying on the ground, and some are sinking. The story tells of a fledgling effort that is underway to locate, record, and restore the gravesites of Mitchell County pioneer families. The effort is being spearheaded by Neal DuShane, an Osage native who lives in Fort Collins, Colorado. County residents, Steve Ham of Osage, Cheryl Jahnel of Osage, a county supervisor, and Eric Dralle, an Osage teacher, have stepped forward to undertake the restoration efforts. Dralle, who conducted a restoration of the Otranto Cemetery a few years ago, said he plans to take students to the Mona Cemetery to burn off weeds, remove fallen branches, trim trees, and record information on the markers. Audrey McKinley, an area historian, is supporting

MITCHELL, continued

the efforts. DuShane has listed a seven-step process for the restoration process that includes locating some of the cemeteries. Pictures taken by Steve Ham have been posted on the following web site: www.rootsweb.com/~iamitche/mcpcrp.htm

From the *Waterloo/Cedar Falls Courier*, Oct. 6, 2002:

"Organizers need help recording grave sites." The article gives an overview of the project to locate, restore and provide maintenance to Mitchell County's oldest grave sites. A plea is made to longtime residents to provide knowledge about forgotten cemeteries.

Contributed by Neal DuShane

In a series of E-mail messages from Neal DuShane, starting Sept 15, 2002 through Nov. 1, 2002, he outlines the organization of the efforts to restore neglected burial sites in the county. Local news media, including the newspaper and KIMT TV in Mason City, and volunteers have been supportive of the project. The media personnel indicate that they want to do more than single coverage, but wish to follow the progress. Mr. DuShane reported that a meeting will be held at the Osage Public Library on Nov. 12. Neal's E-mail address: n.j.dushane@attbi.com
Telephone: 970-223-5156

Friday, November 1, 2002

Page: 1

November 1, 2002:

Neal Du Shane wrote:

As a way of information, we are **NOT** taking the government route (County-Twp) with the exception of turning the cemeteries over to the Twp when finished for maintenance or finding a "Adapt A Cemetery" sponsor. We would accept Twp financial, labor, equipment assistance. As most Twp's have funding available to them for such purposes. Rather, at this time, we are relying on individual volunteers and business sponsorship. We have find this to be more flexible and expedient. We are relying in SAPIC for grant funding and local sponsorship through relatives, individuals and business sponsorships. This meeting is our first but not from an organization purpose. We are full steam ahead and are in the process of restoring the Mona, IA Farley Cemetery. Eric Dralle is the coordinator for two of these projects and has completed several cemetery restoration projects in the past. Cheryl Jahnel has volunteered to coordinate the restoration of Union Valley and Holbrook Corner Cemeteries. My mother has been invaluable with research and talking with local individual. The local historical associations have been of great assistance. We have an excellent staff of volunteers and it's growing each week. Public support has been tremendous and the Mitchell County Press-News support has really expedited our efforts. We have identified 56 cemeteries in the county of which 10 are elusive and we are still researching. Getting to the point where we believe the remaining were family cemeteries with no more than ten burials. We are on the trail of each location and we know the in a particular Section number. It's just a matter of physically locating the burial sight..

POLK

Dear Pat and Carl, Hear is a letter I picked up at IGS this week - they rec'd Aug. 14th.

Iowa Genealogical Society Library 6000 Douglas Ave Suite 145 Des Moines IA 50322-3300 Dear Sirs: Seven years ago I tried to find Wicker Cemetery. I stopped at Runnells for directions. A gentleman there insisted on taking us there and going through the cemetery with me. He was so embarrassed at the condition of the cemetery. This week I again visited Wicker Cemetery and what a wonderful surprise. The cemetery has been totally fenced, mowed and headstones reset. Thank you for all your hard work. It is much appreciated. Sincerely, Rae Ann Story Wirth 1706 Santee River Placentia CA 92870

VAN BUREN

Contributed by Pat Shaw

From the *Van Buren County Register*, September 19, 2002: "Cemetery Restoration Work of Van Buren County Genealogical Society," by Don Aldrich. The article tells of the activities of a group of volunteers who worked in the Holsworth and Winchester Cemeteries in August and September. Five visits to Holsworth are reported in which brush was cleared, 32 gravestones were repaired, straightened, and reset, and the area was sprayed by a county employee for undesirable plant growth. The cemetery was declared completed on September 11, with the county on Orange Alert. Don reports that no terrorists attempted entry and the group was able to work safely. The following day, five of the group repaired and reset seven gravestones in Winchester. They were thankful that the grounds at that site were well kept, mowed, and trimmed. However, many stones are in need of attention. Don makes a plea to readers to consider volunteering to work with the Society on similar projects in the future. He states, "Our cemeteries are our history, are the responsibility of all residents, and a very good source of learning of Van Buren County."

From the *Quill*, newsletter of the Van Buren County Genealogical Society: "Your Society at Work," by Don Aldrich, Treasurer. Don mentions that being on the Cemetery Restoration Crew is the most challenging of the duties that he performs for the Society, as well as being rewarding. He lists the problems of neglect, lack of maintenance, use of felt tip markers and wire brushes on family stones, growing tree roots, and failing to trim trees that damage stones in the county's cemeteries. The Society follows the guidelines of the Association for Gravestone Studies that were provided by SAPIC member, Beverly Bethune, at a workshop in the county two years ago. Also in the same newsletter is a mention of a \$100 memorial given in the name of June L. Hughes Craff to be used for the Cemetery Restoration Project and the printing of a poem, "Pioneer Cemeteries," by Merlin Begalske of Fayette County.

From the *Van Buren County Register*, November 7, 2002: A photo by Diana Goemaat showing the damage at Oak Lawn Cemetery on the north edge of Keosauqua caused by vandalism attributed to four pot bellied pigs that are known to be loose in the area. Much ground at the cemetery has been torn up as well as other areas in the north part of Keosauqua.

Note: *Hope they make those little rascals do community service!*

News from out of Iowa.....

Contributed by Betty Giese

From the *Chicago Tribune Travel* section, September 22, 2002: "Vice presidential haunts," by Brian Lamb. This story, best suitable for history buffs, takes the reader on a tour of twenty states and the District of Columbia that contain the burial sites of the 40 deceased vice-presidents of the United States. Mr. Lamb, the CEO of C-SPAN, is the author of a tour book of presidential grave sites, "Who's Buried in Grants' Tomb?" which will be reissued on President's Day -- Feb. 17, 2003 -- by PublicAffairs Books (\$19.95). Pictured is the grave of Levi Morton (1824-1920) located in Rhinebeck, New York. He was the twenty-second vice-president. New York state is the final resting place for 10 vice presidents. The C-SPAN Web site on presidential and vice presidential graves is at: www.americanpresidents.org

Contributed by Terry Althiede

From the *Chicago Tribune*, August 20, 2002: "Unearthing cemeteries School assignment becomes teen girl's personal quest; So what did you do this summer?" Pictured is 16-year old Melissa Fleming from Bethany, Illinois who has located and researched 50 cemeteries, many that are long lost and forgotten. As part of a junior high history class assignment four years ago, which was to report on something that might not be here 50 years from now, Melissa became intrigued by a forgotten cemetery 15 miles from her home. As a result, she has set a goal of locating every abandoned graveyard in Moultrie County. In addition, she has restored and maintains several of the burial sites that she has researched.

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Mail to SAPIC, c/o Valerie Ogren, Treasurer; 108 N. Oak; Jefferson, IA 50129

The discussion of copyright issues in genealogy has been very interesting. It's clearly a complicated matter, and there is a wide range of opinions.

I think it is important to distinguish between the kind of stealing that violates copyright law, and the kind that violates intellectual standards, even if technically legal. I think they are equally important for well-intentioned genealogists to keep in mind.

There are clear legal problems with the stealing of copyrighted information, such as redistributing data on a _____ CD Rom. This is breaking the law, and you can be sued. Web publishers have received cease-and-desist orders for putting copyrighted matter on their sites.

This includes, by the way, compilations of cemetery records, passenger lists, etc. If I compile an index of tombstone inscriptions, I won't own the tombstones, but I will own the rights to my index. It's the same principle if I am a professional photographer, and take a picture of the Grand Canyon for a post card. I don't own the Grand Canyon, but I do own the picture. You can buy my index or post card (or ask my permission to take it), or you can take your own picture and transcribe your own records.

Personally, I am more concerned with intellectual honesty. I do not do genealogy for profit, and doubt I will ever charge anything over cost for anything I produce. But I do expect anyone who uses my work to help in their own research to acknowledge their intellectual debt in footnotes or an equivalent method. This applies whether I publish my work in print or on the Web.

This is not just a matter of being polite, although that is reason enough. It also verifies the factual integrity of your work. If you note where you got your information (whether from the original sources or from another researcher), others will know it is based on solid data and interpretation, and not guesswork or wishful thinking.

Rob Harper, Columbus, Ohio <rharper@gcfn.org>