Independent Researchers

The following persons utilize the facilities of the State Historical Society of Iowa and engage in professional genealogical (and to a smaller degree historical) research. Researchers are divided by physical location in the state or elsewhere in the country. Areas of expertise follow each listing.

All arrangements for research must be made directly with individuals on the list. Patrons and researchers should have a clear written agreement in advance as to the nature of the work to be done, whether the patron will be billed on an hourly or an all-inclusive basis (and at what intervals), and who will be responsible for the researcher’s expenses.

Patrons should bear in mind that researchers charge for their time and cannot guarantee the outcome of their research efforts.

This list is provided as a service to State Historical Society of Iowa patrons. The State Historical Society of Iowa neither endorses the researchers on the list, nor assumes responsibility for the researchers’ availability, schedule of fees, or research results.

Des Moines Metropolitan Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name &amp; Contact Information</th>
<th>Specialties/Background</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Denise Gripp</strong></td>
<td>Specializes in records/resources/research for/in Iowa and its contiguous states; large and small research requests welcomed. “Brick wall” resolutions are Denise’s main forte. Her past experience has included a two-year stint with Ancestry.com, via their since-defunct ExpertConnect program. Research and road trips are Denise’s two greatest passions! Possessing over 30 years’ experience in freelance research, Denise is well-equipped to solve your most pressing research problem. She served for two years as VP/Education Coordinator and Conference Planner for the Iowa Genealogical Society and for three years as President of her local (Warren County) genealogical society.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DBA Ever-After Enterprises</strong></td>
<td>500 S. Freeman St. Indianola, IA 50125 Email: <a href="mailto:denise@everafterents.com">denise@everafterents.com</a> Website: everafterents.com Cell Phone: (515) 306-0911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ricki King</strong></td>
<td>Roots to Branches Genealogy specializes in Forensic Genealogy cases involving identifying unknown or missing heirs, probate cases, and family history research. Most people want to learn about their family history but don't have the time or know where to begin. We research for you. Ricki holds a Bachelor of Arts in History from Drake University, a Certificate in Genealogical Teaching from Genealogical Associates, and is a member of the Iowa Genealogical Society and the Ancestral Quest, a local society in Windsor Heights, Iowa. Roots to Branches Genealogy also offers free genealogy classes at the Windsor Heights Library. Longtime residents of the Des Moines area, Ricki and I am available to work days or evenings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roots To Branches Genealogy, LLC</strong></td>
<td>950 65th St Windsor Heights, IA 50324 Email: <a href="mailto:ricki@rootstobranchsgenealogy.com">ricki@rootstobranchsgenealogy.com</a> Blog: <a href="https://www.rootstobranchsgenealogy.com/blog">https://www.rootstobranchsgenealogy.com/blog</a> Website: <a href="https://www.rootstobranchsgenealogy.com/">https://www.rootstobranchsgenealogy.com/</a></td>
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Research from Boston University's Center for Professional Education, and a Certificate of Completion in the ProGen Study Program. In addition, Ricki holds memberships in the Association of Professional Genealogists, National Genealogical Society, Iowa Genealogical Society, and various other genealogy societies. She is a published author and has given presentations as part of the State Historical Society of Iowa's Iowa History 101.

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<tr>
<td>Cris Nagla</td>
<td>Look ups for Warren and Polk Counties: cemeteries, funeral homes, family history, etc.</td>
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**Eastern Iowa**

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<tr>
<th>Name &amp; Contact Information</th>
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<tr>
<td>Karen Alderson</td>
<td>Pro bono (free) consulting on Missing Person searches (adoptees, birth families, heirs, lost loves, military friends, etc.); genealogical/history research and public records research only in Linn County, Iowa; M.A. in librarianship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richard Eugene Stimmel</td>
<td>Highways in Jackson County and information pertaining to Jackson County. Member, Jackson County Historical Society.</td>
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**Western Iowa**

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<th>Name &amp; Contact Information</th>
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<tr>
<td>Donna Marie Thomas</td>
<td>Specializes in Audubon County, but willing to do southwest Iowa and Omaha, NE area research.</td>
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**Outside of Iowa**
| **American Ancestors**  
| Attn: Frankie Davis  
| (202) 568-4557  
| americanancestors@gmail.com  
| http://www.americanancestors.info | Genealogical research specializing in Native American research. Look at our website or talk directly with our president, Frankie Davis. |
| **Geoff Gentillini**  
| Golden Arrow Research, LLC  
| P.O. Box 179446  
| St. Louis, MO 63117  
| info@goldenarrowresearch.com  
| https://www.goldenarrowresearch.com/ | Geoff specializes in genealogical and military records research at state and national archives, particularly researching military veterans whose records may have been lost in the 1973 National Archives fire in St. Louis. He offers affordable, personalized options for researching your family history, whether you need a simple record search or a more extensive investigation. Comprehensive, written reports are offered for all research projects, allowing you to document and preserve your family history for future generations. Geoff’s qualifications include an M.A. in History, a Certificate in American Genealogical Studies from the National Genealogical Society, and membership with the Association of Professional Genealogists. |
| **Josh Jenkins**  
| AncestorStalker  
| Columbia, MD 21044  
| www.ancestorstalker.com  
| services@ancestorstalker.com | I research all counties in Iowa; federal records; family trees; military records (i.e. Civil War, Revolutionary War); DNA projects; and Native American determination. Also location services, land, will/probate, and much more. Review my excellent customer testimonials available on my web site. |
| **James W. Petty, AG**  
| P.O. Box 893  
| Salt Lake City, UT 84110  
| (800) 570-4049  
| jwp@heirlines.com | Professional genealogy research services. Full-time career professional genealogist (degreed/credentialed/APG member).  
| | 50 US states, 150 international countries: Europe, Canada, Latin; Ethnic, military, lineage societies; Native American, Irish/Italian citizenship, LDS, Jewish; Brick walls, forensic genealogy, paleography, family reunions, certified Family Trees. |
| **John Taylor**  
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| info@taylorresearchgroup.com  
| www.taylorresearchgroup.com | Follow Taylor Research Group LLC on LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook. And check out our Blog and quarterly Newsletter for the latest at TRG. |