

State Library Update

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- The State Library's **Iowa Publications Online** reaches the 10,000 item mark!
- If you are taking an "Iowacation" this year, **check out all of our resources**
- Follow the State Library on **FaceBook**
- Law Library webpage provides links to materials about **Iowa's constitutional conventions**
- State Library **receives materials** from the Rebuild Iowa Office

Iowa Publications Online (IPO) <http://publications.iowa.gov/>, the State of Iowa's online digital document repository, has reached a milestone. On June 30th the 10,000th digital state document was deposited into the online depository. The 10,000th document was deposited by David Teachout from the Office of Auditor of State and is titled *Report on a Special Investigation of the City of Stockton for the Period July 1, 2004 to October 31, 2010*. The office of Auditor of State deposits reports regularly into IPO and has deposited over 1,900 reports.

The State Library is mandated to collect state documents created by the government of Iowa for the citizens of Iowa. IPO was started in 2002 to gather digitally created documents and digital versions of paper documents. From 2002 through 2004 the digital repository went from an offline collection of digital documents to a searchable online digital depository. Documents are deposited into IPO by both library staff as they locate them on various state Web pages and by the state employees who create or are responsible for placing the documents online. The average number of digital documents deposited exceeds 150 per month. IPO will continue to grow as more information is created and disseminated as digital documents and as more legacy information is placed online in digital format. We're looking forward to collecting the next 10,000 digital documents!

New books about Iowa outdoors, Iowa travel, and weekend getaways have recently been added to the **State Library's Iowa Collection**. Covering a wide range of interests, the books reveal the Hawkeye State for travelers, explorers, and armchair adventurers alike: from quirky characters and roadside oddities to tallgrass prairies and

parklands; and from hiking, biking, and camping to architecture, ballooning, and exploring.

In *At Home in the Heartland: Midwestern Domestic Architecture*, for example, you can stop in Sioux City to see its amazing Woodbury County Courthouse by George Grant Elmslie or linger in Ida Grove, where well-known machinery manufacturer Byron Godberson was so taken with Gothic architecture that he paid for its use on a number of buildings, including a McDonald's. If you are looking for easy, short hikes (3 miles or less) in Cedar Rapids or Des Moines, the *Best Easy Day Hikes* books give concise descriptions of the best short hikes in the area, and detailed maps of the routes.

For trout fishers, there is *The Complete Guide to Iowa Trout Streams*. Author (native Iowan) Jene Hughes has fished many of the best trout streams in America, and knows from years of fishing and guiding that Iowa's creeks and rivers don't take a back seat to streams anywhere. Or, consider a tour of the state's wildflower heritage through *Wildflowers of the Tallgrass Prairie: The Upper Midwest* as shown by authors Sylvan Runkel and Dean Roosa, long-time prairie ramblers who know the tallgrass country and the native flowers to be found there.

For campers and RV enthusiasts, *Trailer Life RV Parks, Campgrounds, and Services Directory 2011* and *Woodall's North American Campground Directory* will give you the information you need to plan your route and overnight stays.

And for the wildest, wackiest, most outrageous people, places, and things the Hawkeye State has to offer, consider Iowa *Curiosities: Quirky Characters, Roadside Oddities & Other Offbeat Stuff* or *Iowa Off the Beaten Path: A Guide to Unique Places* – where else could you discover the rotating Squirrel Cage Jail, the only all-mule cemetery in Iowa, or the Matchstick Marvels museum, featuring the U.S. Capitol (made of 478,000 matchsticks)?

For more detailed information about these and other new books related to Iowa vacation getaways, go to <http://library.booksite.com/7168/nl/?list=CNL12>.

State employees may request that any of these items be sent to them. To do so, please fill out the Request An Item Form <http://tinyurl.com/6avrm7a>. Non-state employees with a State Library card may check out books in person or request them through their local public libraries.

Follow the State Library on **FaceBook** <http://tinyurl.com/3uffv7c>. We keep folks informed about State Library resources and activities, provide a forum for interactive communication with State Library customers, and provide information and discussion to supplement other State Library communication sources. We hope you'll visit us and post comments often.

Iowa has had three constitutional conventions, all held in Iowa City. The first was in 1844, the second constitution was drafted in 1846, and the third was in 1857, which drafted the document still used today (although greatly amended).

Each of the conventions had central disputes which were the subject of debate. Unfortunately, as the records of the 1844 and 1846 conventions are fragmentary, the full extent of the discussions is unknown. In the course of the 1857 convention there were many arguments over matters which may not be guessed by looking at the mere words of the document, including the role of race in all aspects of life in Iowa.

The latest constitution was drafted over 39 days from January 19, 1857 through March 5, 1857. It was narrowly approved at a referendum in August and went into effect by proclamation of the governor on September 3, 1857. Since that time, Iowa's Constitution has been amended 46 times but the basic document still remains. It is now one of the older state constitutions in America.

You can read and search the debates that took place during the drafting of the third constitution and also the fragmentary information about the conventions of 1844 and 1846 on the **Law Library's webpage** at www.statelibraryofiowa.org/services/collections/law-library/iaconst.

Contact the Law Library staff at law@lib.state.ia.us, 515-281-5124, or 800-248-4483.

The Rebuild Iowa Office (RIO) www.rio.iowa.gov/ was established to coordinate the state-wide recovery effort after the historic floods, tornadoes and severe weather of 2008. RIO worked with all local, state and federal recovery partners to encourage cooperation and communication and to ensure a successful recovery for Iowa. The office was closed on June 23 and, as part of their wrap-up, they contacted the State Library about their publications. State Library staff were happy to receive boxes of state government print publications and CDs with many of their digital state publications.

The digital documents were stored and made available to the public in Iowa Publications Online (IPO) <http://publications.iowa.gov/>. IPO received over a million hits last year, which shows that it's a great way for state agencies to make their publications available. The paper documents were stored in our extensive archives which are also available to the public <http://iowa.ipac.dynixasp.com/>.

If you produce state publications meant to inform the public, **contact us about archiving your materials today!** For an FAQ about depositing state publications and contact information go to <http://tinyurl.com/3jmyvcp>.

Other services that the State Library offers to our customers:

- Get your questions answered fast with our **online chat service**. Go to www.iowa.gov and click on “Live Online Support” in the top right hand side. State Library staff answered over 21,000 questions last year, especially in the areas of state government and Iowa laws and legal information. We can help you.
- The **State Data Center** offers demographic statistics about Iowa’s people, housing, the economy and government. In addition, we provide custom statistical profiles of Iowa communities and special population groups, thematic maps, and advice on appropriate uses of data. To access our data go to <http://www.iowadatacenter.org>, contact us at census@lib.state.ia.us or give us a call at 515-281-6618 or 800-248-4483.

The State Library is located in the Ola Babcock Miller Building at the corner of E. 12th St. and Grand Ave. in Des Moines. We are open 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. For more information call our information professionals at 515-281-4102, 800-248-4483, or email is@lib.state.ia.us.

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