Volume 29, Number 4

July/August 2008

Welcome New Committee Chairs

Terry Reno Kruckeberg • Military Records Committee Chair
Kristy Gravllin • Family Bible Records Chair

Jane Haldeman has been actively researching family history for over 10 years. She is on the board of Fox Valley Genealogical Society and a member of the Israel Warner Commemorative Committee, commemorating a Revolutionary War soldier and his family.

Jane was in charge of design and layout for FVGS® cemetery book Calvary Cemetery in Aurora, Illinois® and is currently working on FVGS® Naperville Cemetery publication. She has worked on numerous other publications, published magazine articles as well as given talks on genealogical interests. She is a member of the Naperville Garden Club and helps decorate a house every year for their annual Cup of Cheer fundraiser. Jane has been a committee chair for various conventions including the Illinois State Genealogical Society® Fall Conference in 2003. Before all of this she was a stagehand for NBC-TV in Chicago and was the 2nd woman stagehand in the Chicago union.

Oriene Morrow Springstroh of Aurora is still excited about family history, even after forty years of research. A native of DuPage County, Illinois, who descends from many early Illinois residents. Oriene was the founder of Fox Valley Genealogical Society in Naperville in 1981. ISGS members will remember her as the editor of the ISGS Newsletter during 2007.

Inside this edition of the ISGS Newsletter!

⇒ ISGS Fall Conference Info
⇒ New Quarterly Committee Members
⇒ Genealogy Calendar
⇒ President’s Message
⇒ Prairie Pioneer Certificate Info
⇒ New Members
⇒ Local Society Spotlight
⇒ The Anniversary Quilt
⇒ Our Very Generous Contributors
⇒ Cook County Vital Records Index
President’s Message
from Carole A. McCarty

Greetings to all,

Finally, summer is upon us. It’s been a rough, rainy spring country-wide, but particularly here in the Midwest. I sincerely hope that as you read this, you are high and dry and smelling the flowers.

40 Years of Discovery – Portals to the Future is coming! It’s the 40th Anniversary of the Illinois State Genealogical Society and we are proud; proud of the accomplishments your society has made since 1968. You have only to go to the web site and look around. Try some of the links and see where they take you. www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs/

Whether you are somewhat of a beginner or an experienced researcher, there are ancestors waiting to be found. Start your journey of discovery now; don’t put it off. Your family history awaits you and we are ready and able to assist you when you walk in the door of the Fox Valley University and Business Center on the campus of Elgin Community College on Saturday, October 18th. In fact, this year, we have established the ISGS Help Desk to give conference attendees that assistance to help break through their proverbial brick wall or just to find out how to start this new adventure. How does this work? Knowledgeable ISGS members, led by Pat Ely, will be setting up 15 minute appointments throughout the day to guide you through the steps that will aid you in your search for those elusive ancestors. These appointments can be made as attendees check in at the registration counter.

You will also note in the conference flyer, we have added a computer lab to this year’s conference. However registration for the lab is limited. So if you have interest in participating, you will need to get your registration in very soon. Computers and comfy chairs will be provided.

Your ISGS Conference planning team is very excited about all the speakers and topics this year. Experts in their fields are anxious to impart the knowledge you need to make genealogical headway in your research in this age of technology. You WILL discover new and productive ways to help you find those ancestors we all so earnestly seek. You may have noticed we’ve kept the cost for our members the same as the previous three conferences. That would be our anniversary gift to you, our members.

On top of all that we have very special door prizes collected by Carole Magnuson and, as in previous years, our superb auction baskets assembled once again by Carol Sterr-Lehman. Linda Eder is on top of publicity and Larry Pepper is pulling together volunteers from the local host societies: Elgin Genealogical Society, Kane County Genealogical Society, Fox Valley Genealogical Society and DuPage County Genealogical Society. We are so pleased that these local societies accepted our invitation to assist us in our anniversary celebration. What a great way to get to know them better!

By now you should be eager to be a part of this special event. So, maybe it’s time to choose the Chicago area for your fall get-away. Take a few extra days and peruse the many research opportunities in this area. H. Washington Library, Arlington Heights Library, Rockford Library, IRAD facilities, Family History Centers, Federal Archives, Newberry Library and especially Springfield where you could easily spend 2-3 days of intense research for your Illinois ancestors in particular.

If you have questions at all, please email me at ISGSConference@comcast.net.

Warm regards,
Carole McCarty
Acting President
Anniversary Conference Chair
Illinois State Genealogical Society

Cook County Vital Records Index Online

Some of the following indexes are online. They are not yet complete but are a work in progress.

- Birth Certificates: 75 years and older
- Marriage Licenses: 50 years and older
- Death Certificates: 20 years and older

Records date back to 1872. After creating a free account the documents can be downloaded for a fee of $15.00 each. For more information see http://www.cookcountygenealogy.com/Default.aspx.
Local Society Spotlight . . .

St. Clair County Genealogical Society
The SCCGS began a new project in 2008 to collect, preserve and make available for genealogical purposes, Funeral Cards for any persons whose birth or death occurred in the county. For more information see http://www.stclair-ilgs.org/deathcard.htm.

St. Louis Genealogical Society
StLGS is planning its 15th annual Family History Library-Salt Lake City Research Trip November 9-16, 2008. Online registration and flyer are available at: http://www.stlgs.org/saltLake.htm

The Woodford County Historical Society
Announces the reprinting of the History of Woodford County by Roy L. Moore. This was first published in 1910. Pre-publication price is $30.00 before July 30, 2008. Contact Woodford County Historical Society, 112 North Main St., Eureka, IL 61530 for more information.

New ISGS Members....
Jean Jung – Chicago, IL
Mary Ellen Marek – Huntley, IL
Loretto Szcus – Lockport, IL
Cary Stone-Greenstein – Glenview, IL
Terry Reno Kruckeberg – White Hall, IL
Jane Haldeman – Naperville, IL
Lori Handschin – Kirkland, WA
Ellen C. Hegeman – Evansville, IN
Pat Cederoth – Downers Grove, IL
Marge Rice – Joliet, IL

Acknowledging our generous contributors to ISGS and ISGS Projects! Thank you!

Angel Project Donors
Pat Ely – Lake Carroll, IL
Jeanne Larson – Fresno, CA

ISGS General Fund Donation
Loretto Szcus – Lockport, IL

Illinois State Archived Gift Fund
Loretto Szcus – Lockport, IL

Family Tree Magazine has named Illinois State Archives Databases to its annual 101 Best Web Sites for genealogy list for 2008. A synopsis of each winning site appears in the September 2008 Family Tree Magazine, which goes on sale at newsstands nationwide July 15.
Advertising Opportunity!
Take advantage of a fantastic opportunity to advertise your services and/or business or showcase your society in the Illinois State Genealogical Society Conference Syllabus for 2008! It is read by the attendees at the conference and many use it after the conference for the outlines and information from the presenters plus the notes taken by the attendees. For further information or ad reservation form, contact Mary Huetsch at 618-939-6125 or by email at jhuetsch@aol.com.

FGS Membership
ISGS members may subscribe to FORUM, the quarterly magazine of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) for a discounted price of $15 per year. The discount is available to ISGS members because ISGS is an institutional member of FGS. Each issue contains more than 40 pages of articles about sources, repositories, and research strategies, plus reviews of new books and CDs. More information is available at www.fgs.org.

The Anniversary Quilt—There’s Still Time
Windows on the Past is the name of the society’s 2008 Anniversary Quilt, which will be presented to a happy recipient at the ISGS Fall Conference in Elgin on Saturday, October 18. Tickets may be purchased, where available, at local society meetings for $1 each or six for $5. There will be ample time to purchase tickets on the day of the conference, where the quilt may be viewed before the drawing.

Measuring 77” by 91”, the anniversary quilt is 100% cotton and fully washable. It also has a hanging sleeve for display, if the recipient wishes to hang it as artwork rather than use it as a bed covering. A photo of the quilt is available on the ISGS website as well as on the cover of the 2007 ISGS Fall Quarterly.

Prairie Pioneer Certificates
There have been over 3,000 certificates issued to descendants of Illinois pioneers. Three categories of certificates are issued to descendants of pioneers who resided in Illinois (1) prior to statehood, (2) 1819-1850, and (3) 1851-1880. Documentation showing a date in Illinois is required. After eligibility has been determined there is a small fee for each certificate. Applications are available at http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs/projects/prairie-pioneer.html.

Remember
The newsletter is also available online at:
http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs/newsletterpage.html

Remember the Illinois State Genealogical Society in your will.

IROQUOIS COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

103 West Cherry Street
Watseka, Illinois  60970-1524
iroqgene@yahoo.com
www.rootsweb.com/~ilics
Phone 815 432-3730
Fax 815 432-2215

Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  Mon. thru Fri.
# Conference Program ~ Saturday, October 18, 2008

8:00-8:45 A.M.  Registration and Networking  ** Visit our vendor and society exhibits!!

8:45 A.M.  Welcome and Illinois State Genealogical Society Awards

9:30 A.M.  
**The Web, the World & You**  
D. Joshua Taylor  1B

*What are the “right” kernels of search engines? How are they ever so rarely not found? Your search engine is your most valuable research assistant. This lecture will cover the major search engines and how to use them to conduct efficient research.*

**Automated Search Tools**  
Beau Sharbrough  1C

*This lecture describes programs that give you research tips and help you with online searches. Are they the next great thing? This demonstration shows how you can get the most from Genealogy, Ancestry, and Google.*

**Restoring Documents with a Computer**  
Eric Basir  1D

*Learn the ins and outs of scanning and restoring documents for your research. Watch Eric demonstrate efficient techniques for restoring various types of documents. Files, software and other related issues are covered. Learn how to properly scan and enhance photographs, film, test pages, hybrid documents, and film negatives.*

11:00 A.M.  
**The Digital Revolution in Genealogy Research: The FamilySearch Vision – Part 1**  
Susan Anderson  2B

*FamilySearch boasts the largest collection of genealogical records in the world. This session will cover the following program and products from FamilySearch: Records Access, Family History Archives at BYU’s Library, FamilySearch Indexing, and Record Search.*

**City Smarts: Finding Your Ancestors in the Big Mauze**  
Lou Srucc  2C

*On your own, no one is as knowledgeable as you are about your family’s history. This session will cover the costs and benefits of urban research. This presentation is designed to guide you through the maze.*

**Online Resources for Colonial America**  
D. Joshua Taylor  2D

*Discover web sites, online databases, university projects, online archives, and other resources for researching your Colonial American ancestors.*

12:00 P.M.  
LUNCH

1:30 P.M.  
**A Dozen Ways to Instantly Your Family History Project**  
Lou Srucc  4B

*Learn to use what you already have to digitize your research and share it with others.*

**Tech Talk 101: Technology Terms for Genealogists**  
D. Joshua Taylor  4C

*Genealogists are confronted with abbreviations and technical terms daily. This session will explain the definitions of these terms and how they relate to genealogical research.*

1:45 P.M.  
**The Digital Revolution in Genealogy Research: The FamilySearch Vision – Part 2**  
Susan Anderson  4D

*Learn about two new web sites available from FamilySearch.org: New FamilySearch (a single-record repository and search engine for genealogical records); and FamilySearch Wiki (a collaborative, enhanced database of genealogical research information).*

3:00 P.M.  
**Technology Every Genealogist Should Own**  
D. Joshua Taylor  5B

*Genealogists do not necessarily need to be on the “edge” of technology, however they should be aware of new technologies that can further their research efforts. Come see the list of technology every genealogist should own.*

**DAR and Technology**  
Kathy Carey  5C

*This presentation will cover the DAR website and the information you can access online from the DAR Library including use of the Patriot Look-Up Service and the type of information you can obtain about the ancestor.*

**Footnote**  
Beau Sharbrough  5D

*Footnote has a focus on military records, immigration records, newspapers, and vital records digitized from collections within the National Archives in Washington D.C. This presentation will provide information about genealogy websites and how to use them.*

## COMPUTER LAB SESSIONS

9:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.  **It's All Online! Or Is It?**  
Basic  
Lori Bessler  1A & 2A

*This session will provide basic instructions to make your online research more successful and productive. It identifies types of web sites, how to document your online research and how to find the great sites.*

1:00 P.M.  **Digital Collections and Online Catalogs**  
Intermediate  
Lori Bessler  4A

*This intermediate level course covers current online resources and strategies for locating the expanding list of digitized collections available online. She will provide instruction about these collections as well as how to find those collections not online but still valuable to genealogical research.*

3:00 P.M.  **Ctrl/Alt/Simplify: Word Tips for Genealogists**  
Debra Miesczka  5A

*This advanced level course covers tips and strategies for using the powerful tool of Microsoft Word.*
ISGS Fall Conference Saturday, October 12, 2003

Directions to Elgin Community College
4 Miles south of I-90
For more information, go to "Driving Directions" then select "Elgin Campus".
From Interstate I-90 head south on Randall Road to South Street. Head east (left) to Remler Drive. Follow Remler Drive to the Elgin Community College's Fox Valley University and Business Center. Head north on Randall Road turn east (right) on Bowes Road to McClean Blvd, north (left) to Spartan Drive west (left) to the Elgin Community College's Fox Valley University and Business Center.

Conference Hotels
Request Conference Rate
Complimentary shuttle available to conference.
Comfort Suites (800) 424-6423
Country Inn and Suites (800) 456-4000

New This Year!
ISGS Help Desk
15 minute appointments available throughout the day. Visit the registration desk for times.
Anniversary Quilt Raffle
Visit www.rootsweb.com/~isgs to view the quilt. Quilt will be awarded at the conference. Winner need not be present to win.

D. Joshua Taylor, a nationally known and recognized genealogical author, lecturer, and researcher, is the Research Services Coordinator at the New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston, Massachusetts. He currently writes the "Essential Technology for Genealogists" column in Digital Genealogist.

Beau Sharbrough is presently a product manager for MyFamily.com. He is the founder of the FGS web site, the GENTECH web site, and the Lenox Working Group. Beau writes regularly on technical topics in family history, with an occasional overview of humor, and maintains the RootsWeb.com web site.

Lori Bessler has worked at the Wisconsin Historical Society Library Archives since 1988. She is a Reference Librarian and Outreach Coordinator. She has lectured throughout Wisconsin and the Midwest on genealogical topics for over 15 years and has been researching family history for over 20 years.

Loretto D. "Lou" Szacs is a genealogist and author of several books including The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy and is currently executive editor and vice president of GenWeb. Lou has served as a FamilySearch Program Advisor for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, serving parts of six states. She spends much of her free time traveling and teaching others about FamilySearch programs. She has been a genealogy teacher and lecturer for many years.

Susan Anderson serves as Area Family History Advisor for the FamilySearch Program of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, serving parts of six states. She spends much of her free time traveling and teaching others about FamilySearch programs. She has been a genealogy teacher and lecturer for many years.

Debra Mieszala is a Certified Genealogist and has been involved in genealogical research for over 20 years. She is currently President of the Lake County (IL) Genealogical Society. Other memberships include the Illinois State Genealogical Society and the National Genealogical Society.

Eric Basler is the owner of Photo Statue, a photo retouching studio in Evanston, IL. He serves the genealogical community as a teacher and author of "Ask the Retoucher," a column for genealogical publications. He recently published his first book "Digital Photo Restoration Book 1."

Kathy Carey has been Illinois State Registrar and State Organizing Secretary and has her Volunteer Genealogist Certificate from the National Daughters of the American Revolution Society. She has given numerous workshops on Genealogy and how to fill out the DAR Application.

Become A Member now and save $10.00 off your conference registration fee. By becoming a member, you will receive discounts on ISGS conferences, events and tours, 4 bi-monthly online newsletters, free quizzes in the ISGS Quarterly as well as discounts on ISGS publications. Visit www.rootsweb.com/~isgs for more information about all the wonderful things our organization has to offer. Join today!

Registration Form
Mailed and Postmarked by Friday, September 26th
- $35.00 for ISGS Members
- $45.00 for Non-Members
- $50.00 Postmarked after September 26th or at the door
- $25.00 Annual Membership to ISGS

Late registrations welcome, but we cannot guarantee lunch or printed syllabus after this date or for walk-ins. Please, no refunds after September 26th.

Please indicate:
[ ] Conference Break-Out Session Choices
[ ] Seating in the Computer Lab is limited to the first 50 lab participants registered
[ ] 9:30 1A 1B 1C 1D
[ ] 10:00 2A 2B 2C 2D
[ ] 1:30 4A 4B 4C 4D
[ ] 8:00 5A 5B 5C 5D

Name
Address
City, State, Zip
Phone
E-mail Address (preferred)

Register online using PayPal
Or make checks payable to:
ISGS
P.O. Box 10195
Springfield, IL 62791-0195
E-mail: ISGSConference@comcast.net
www.rootsweb.com/~isgs
Susan Anderson will present “What's Happening in Salt Lake: new Developments in Family Search” 10:30am.
<www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilcaggni/meetings/2008/>

[23rd] Missouri State Genealogical Association

August, 2008

[2nd] Kentucky Genealogical Society

[12th] Lake County (IL) Genealogical Society
“Cemeteries in Lake County, Illinois” by Phil Nensel.
<www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~illcgs/meetings.htm>

[14th] Madison County Genealogical Society
“Researching Your Roots in Germany” by Gerald Perschbacher.
<www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilmgcss>

[15th-16th] Indiana Historical Society
Midwestern Roots 2008 - Indianapolis, IN <www.indianahistory.org/midwesternroots/>

[17th-22nd] International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies
28th IAJCS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy® Chicago, IL <www.chicago2008.org/>

September 2008

[3rd-6th] Come to Philadelphia 3-6 September for the annual conference of the Federation of Genealogical Societies. Attractions of the multi-day event include more than 175 lectures, an exhibit hall that opens on Wednesday evening (check the online map at www.fgsconference.org/exhibits/exhibit_hall.php) and stays open throughout conference hours, a choice of luncheon speakers, a banquet, and an evening reception at the National Archives. Be ready to play some Genealogy Jeopardy® at the event. More information is at the conference podcast at www.fgsconference.org/blog/ If you have never attended a national conference this is the one to get started. If you are an experience conference-goer, you will not be disappointed in Philadelphia. Submitted by Sandra Luebking, ISGS Delegate to FGS.

[9th] Lake County (IL) Genealogical Society
“Genealogical Resources in the Lake County, IL Courthouse” by Sally Coffelt.
<www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~illcgs/meetings.htm>

[19th-20th] The Polish Genealogical Society of America (PGSA)
hosts its 30th Annual Conference “Honoring Our Ancestors” at the Meadows Club in Schaumburg, IL. <www.pgsa.org>

[20th] British Interest Group of Wisconsin and Illinois
“It Wasn’t a Cruise Ship—Immigrant Voyages” by Marian Richter Schuetz at Richmond, IL.
<www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wiilbig/meet.htm>

October 2008

“Ancestors on the Move” is the theme for the Fall Conference at the Ray Hancock Conference Center at John A. Logan College.<www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilgssi>

[11th] Wisconsin State Genealogical Society
The Fall Seminar® featured speaker will be Craig R. Scott, CG. <www.wsgs.org/>


Posting Genealogy Events
Please send notices of events well in advance to ISGS Newsletter Editor: <isgsnewsletter@yahoo.com>.
Include date(s), location, contact person, and the address or website to be used for additional information.
ISGS Executive Committee  Elected Officers  2007-2008

President: Carole A. McCarty
1st Vice-President: Vacant
2nd Vice-President: Michele Claypool
Treasurer: Shirley Aleguas
Recording Secretary: Sherry R. Austin

2008 Directors: Karl R. Moore
Cheri Hunter
2009 Directors: Jayne Cates
Susan Pope
Mary Ellen Huetsch
2010 Directors: Patricia Ely
Ann Wells
Annabelle Bradshaw

GOOD DEEDS SHOULD BE REWARDED

Help us find deserving people! The Illinois State Genealogical Society (ISGS) Honors and Awards committee will be using certain criteria for selecting individuals or societies to be honored by the ISGS Governing Board. Winners of the awards will be honored at the 40th Anniversary Conference on Saturday, October 18th, 2008. Forms are available from the ISGS Office or on the ISGS website. Be advised the deadline for submission is August 15th, 2008.

Use this link to read about the criteria and to print the award applications:
http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs/honorsexplan.html

Regards,
The ISGS Honors and Awards Committee

Memberships run from January 1 through December 31.

Dues:
Individual Member: New & Renewal $25.00
Joint Member or Canadian: New & Renewal $30.00
International: (outside U.S. & Canada) $50.00
Charter Member: (joined prior to June 1, 1969) $24.00
Contributing Member: $50.00
Individual Life Member: $3,000.00
Illinois Local Affiliates: New & Renewal $25.00

Please include a long SASE with correspondence requiring a reply.

Our 40th Year!