Loretto “Lou” Dennis Szucs receives UGA Silver Tray Award

It is with great pleasure that the Board of the Utah Genealogical Association announces the awarding of the UGA Silver Tray Award to Loretto “Lou” Dennis Szucs. Instituted in 1973, the award was initially given to an individual or organization for “Scholarly Contributions in the Field of Genealogy”. Since 1988 the award has focused on efforts in the field of publications.

Mrs. Szucs' untiring efforts as an author, compiler and editor of superior quality genealogical publications such as The Source and They Became Americans: Finding Naturalization Records and Ethnic Origins uniquely qualify her for this recognition. Her publications are considered "go to" resources for professional and amateur genealogists.

Loretto Dennis “Lou” Szucs, FUGA, holds a degree in history, and has been involved in genealogical research, teaching, lecturing, and publishing for more than thirty years. Previously employed by the National Archives, she is currently executive editor and vice president of community relations for MyFamily.com, Inc. She has served on many archives and genealogical boards, and was founding secretary of the Federation of Genealogical Societies. Currently, she serves as a director on the Board of the Federation of Genealogical Societies.

She has edited newsletters and quarterly journals for several genealogical societies, including the Federation of Genealogical Societies’ FORUM. She authored They Became Americans: Finding Naturalization Records and Ethnic Origins; Chicago and Cook County Sources: A Genealogical and Historical Guide; Ellis Island: Tracing Your Family History Through America’s Gateway; The Archives: A Guide to the National Archives Filed Branches (with Sandra Luebking), and Finding Ancestors in U.S. Census Records (with Matthew Wright).

Since 1980, Lou has lectured at numerous genealogy workshops and national conferences. She has presented at the American Library Association conference and has been interviewed for the Ancestor series, ABC News, CNN News, and most recently on the ABC show, The View. In 1995, she was awarded the designation of fellow of the Utah Genealogical Association and has received numerous other awards.

Randolph County Genealogical Society Suffers Storm Damage

The Randolph County Genealogical Society is housed in the First Bank building in Chester, Illinois. As a result of a storm a portion of the roof caved in. Because no one can enter the building for about 6 weeks the amount of damage to the books and papers is unknown. ISGS is sending an appeal to the genealogical community in the hope that there is a source for grant money that can be used to get this society up and running again.

2009 ISGS Fall Conference
October 24, 2009 - Elgin Community College
Hello Fellow Genealogists,

Have you ever been a member of a BOOSTER CLUB? Normally, that term is associated with sports – either high school or college. This year I’d like you to consider being a member of OUR “Booster Club”; the Illinois State Genealogical Society’s Booster Club. Now we are not asking you to bring refreshments to the game, or wear the society blue to all events, or even wave an ISGS banner (at least not in the literal sense). What we would suggest, however, is remembering to use your voice. Some of the loudest cheers at the game are from the boosters.

This should bring to mind a couple of things. There are times and places when you have an opportunity (there’s that word again that I like using) to talk to people at a meeting, seminar, workshop or conference. The opportunity that presents itself is a chance to speak with your fellow genealogists about belonging to a society. Genealogical societies CAN survive in this age of “everything’s on the internet”! Of course we all should know by now that statement regarding the internet simply isn’t true.

Have you supported your local county society by your attendance at their meetings? Have you thought of writing an article based on your genealogical finds for the newsletter or quarterly? How about offering to give a beginner class at your society or local library in order to “boost” interest in genealogy? Don’t forget to raise your little hand when your society officers ask for volunteers or for persons to take board positions. There are many indexing projects happening right now that are so exciting for the future of genealogy. Why not “get in the game” and volunteer to do that? Family Search Indexing and the Ancestry World Archives Project are two of the larger teams in the field. It’s time to get off the bench and lend a hand in any way you can. You will be the richer for it in ways that count towards the final score.

Warm regards,
Carole McCarty
President, Illinois State Genealogical Society

You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt, as young as your self-confidence, as old as your fear, as young as your hope, as old as your despair.

If you doubt you can accomplish something, then you can't accomplish it. You have to have confidence in your ability, and then be tough enough to follow through.

Our belief at the beginning of a doubtful undertaking is the one thing that insures the successful outcome of our venture.

-William James

2008 ISGS Fall Conference CDs
There is a limited number of 2008 Fall Conference syllabuses available on CD. These can be purchased for $5.00 by contacting the ISGS office.

ISGS Recording Secretary Needed
There is an opening on the Illinois State Genealogy Society Board for a Recording Secretary. Please contact the ISGS office if interested in volunteering some of your time.
The Reward of Doing Your Part

By Kristy Gravlin

If you’ve been doing genealogy for any length of time, you know how wonderful it is to be able to find things online. That’s so much better than having to write “cold” letters to strangers to ask if they just happen to know about your grandma.

But where does all that information come from? For the most part, it arrives online because someone volunteered to put it there. Some of it has taken months of work because it was such a big project. But some of it does not take all that long to do…it. It just takes an effort.

If you know something (and we all do—even if it is just Great-Grandma’s maiden name), all it takes is a short note to the right place. If you are new, you may not know that Genealogy Trails and GenWeb both have sites for every county in the US. Start there, find your county, and send them a note. (And read while you are there…someone may be working on your line!)

If you would like to be involved in a “big thing”…but don’t have the time and energy to take one on…consider the Naturalization project that the ISGS is working on now. Reports are that you can add a “batch” of info in five minutes! (They keep the batches small so that all will have the opportunity to participate.) Go to the ISGS website and look for the “Ancestry World Archives Indexing Project” to read more about it. The address: http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs/projects/ancestry.html will take you directly there. All involved report it to be easy and rewarding so give it a try! And the final database created will be available to all ISGS members.

ISGS Honors & Awards Committee

"GOOD DEEDS SHOULD BE REWARDED"

Help us find deserving people! ISGS Honors & Awards committee will be using certain criteria for selecting individuals or societies. Winners of the awards will be honored at the 2009 Fall Conference October 17th, 2009. Nomination forms are available from the ISGS Office and on the ISGS home page. Deadline for all submissions is July 1, 2009” To read about the criteria and print award applications: http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs/honorsexplan.html

Have You Spotted ISGS News in Your Local Paper?

If you see ISGS mentioned in a newspaper, genealogy, magazine, or other publication, Publicity Chair, Lois Hanley, would like to know where and when. Lois publicizes ISGS projects and activities all over the state and Midwest area, but needs our eyes and ears to help pinpoint where the news appears. If you see something, please send a scanned image to isgspublicity@gmail.com or send a photocopy of the piece with the date and place of publication to: Publicity Chair, ISGS, P. O. Box 10195, Springfield, IL 62791-0195.
Acknowledging our generous contributors to ISGS and ISGS Projects!

Thank you!

ISGS General Fund Donation
Anne Marie Fitzgibbons—Chamblee, GA
“In Memory of Thomas & Catherine Graham”
Margaret Wilton—Libertyville, IL

Angel Project Donors
David Joens—Springfield, IL

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

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.

New ISGS Members
Shirley Harris—Springfield, IL
Marilyn H. Kole—Walker, MN
Susan L. Clasen—Golden, CO
Barbara Manzi—Evansville, IN
Roberta Woosley—Pinckneyville, IL
Laura Hickle—Astoria, IL
Judith Milde—Joliet, IL
Linda A. Bloomfield—Silver Spring, MD
Diane Nelson Roberts—Indianapolis, IN
Diane Ginanni—Lansdowne, VA
Patricia Gourley—Chesterfield, IL
Darlene L. Smith—Woodbridge, VA
Rob Shillington—Elk Grove Village, IL
Carole Townsend—Montgomery, TX
Dennis Harmsen—Iowa City, IA
Norma Jean Janes—St. Louis, MO
Cara Akridge—Festus, MO

www.PEPPER-PHOTOGRAPHY.com
847-426-7377
Excellent Photo Restorations
ISGS member
NATIONAL ARCHIVES GRANTS *EXCELLENCE IN GENEALOGY* AWARDS
Essay contest celebrates 75th Anniversary of the National Archives

Washington, D.C. . . . Acting Archivist Adrienne C. Thomas has announced the winners of the National Archives “Excellence in Genealogy” Awards. The essay contest was held to celebrate both the 75th anniversary of the National Archives and the Fifth Annual National Archives Genealogy Fair. The awards recognize significant achievements in genealogy research, based on genealogical records from the National Archives. Acting Archivist Adrienne C. Thomas presented these awards at the Fifth Annual Genealogy Fair at the National Archives Building in Washington, DC, on April 22, 2009.

First place ($1,000 award) was awarded to Myron McGhee of Decatur, GA, who is a Library and Information Science Masters student at Valdosta State University, Valdosta, GA. Mr. McGhee's essay, "The Use of National Archives Holdings for Genealogical Research," traces his family's ancestry using Federal, state, and local government records.

Second place ($500 award) was awarded to Stephanie D. Smith of Richtor Park, IL, who is studying intellectual property law at the John Marshall Law School, Chicago, IL. Ms. Smith's essay, "Resounding Resonance: Heeding the Call of My Male Ancestors," details her use of Federal census, military service, and pension records to trace her family history.

The National Archives is known worldwide as a treasure chest of genealogical information. Each year, millions of people use Federal records in the National Archives to search for their family roots. Census schedules, ship passenger arrival lists, citizenship papers, military pension files, land patents, and court records offer detailed evidence to flesh out family histories. Information about National Archives holdings relating to genealogy can be found at http://www.archives.gov/genealogy/. This competition provided an opportunity for students to share their research "treasures" with the public.

A Little Genealogy Humor

A little girl asked her mother, 'How did the human race appear?'

The mother answered, 'God made Adam and Eve and they had children and so was all mankind made.'

Two days later the girl asked her father the same question.

The father answered, 'Many years ago there were monkeys from which the human race evolved.'

The confused girl returned to her mother and said, 'Mom, how is it possible that you told me the human race was created by God, and Dad said they developed from monkeys?'

The mother answered, 'Well, dear, it is very simple. I told you about my side of the family and your father told you about his.'

Newsletter Submissions
Please remember to submit any news that you would like included in the newsletter, i.e. conferences, seminars, meetings, to either the newsletter editor or to the ISGS office by JUNE 30th, 2009.
2009-2010 Officer Nominations

The ISGS Nominations Committee seeks suggestions from the membership as a whole for officers of the Illinois State Genealogical Society for 2009-2010. If you are interested in a position or know of someone who may be, please contact one of the following committee members:

Oriene Springstroh – orienespri@aol.com
Mary Ellen Huetsch – jhuetsch@aol.com
Pat Ely – pately@frontiernet.net
Annabelle “Junior” Bradshaw – frontpagebooks@aol.com
Ann Wells – ann@wellsresearch.net

Address Changes

If you have a change of either a mailing address or an email address or both it is important to let the ISGS office know. We cannot be responsible for resending out issues that were not able to be forwarded to a new address.

Ancestry World Archives Project

ISGS needs all of it’s members to contribute to the Ancestry World Archives Project. It takes just a small amount of our time to complete a set and if as many of us as possible put in those small allotments of time the amount that we do will add up quickly.

There was a more thorough explanation of this project in the Mar/Apr newsletter if you would like more information about this. Volunteers can go directly to the website (www.ancestry.com/worldarchivesproject) to sign up.

2009 ISGS NEWSLETTER
DELIVERY DATES!

JULY 15, 2009
SEPTEMBER, 2009
NOVEMBER 15, 2009

Deadline dates for Article

Missing ISGS Quarterlies

The Illinois State Genealogical Society Archives are missing the following Quarterlies:

1984
1989
1991

If you have copies of these please consider donating them to the archives.

Call 217/789-1968 or Email: ISGS office

Do you have a story to tell, transcriptions, genealogy research tips or information to share?

The ISGS Quarterly Editor is looking for you.

The ISGS Quarterly Editor invites articles on research techniques, Illinois history and families, record transcriptions, and other genealogical material pertaining to the state of Illinois. The preferred method of submitting articles for publication is an electronic word processor file and photos submitted as jpg format. All submissions should contain references and a short biography of the author.

For more information or to submit an article please contact the ISGS Quarterly editor at:

E-mail: isgsquarterly@gmail.com
or
Quarterly Editor—ISGS
P.O. Box 10195
Springfield, IL 62791-0195

ORGANIZED IN THE SESQUICENTENNIAL YEAR...1968
June 2009

[13th]
Green County Genealogical Society
“Cemetery Art Workshop”
www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wigreen/

[14th]
Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois
proudly welcomes national lecturer and author Beau Sharbrough. He will be presenting "Jewish Research on Footnote.com" and "Automated Search Tools" Sunday, June 14, 2009, 12:30 p.m. at Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster Street, Skokie. Mr. Sharbrough previously worked as a Product Manager for tree products at Ancestry.com, and as Vice President of Content at Footnote.com. Beau writes regularly on technical topics in family history, with an occasional overdose of humor, and maintains the RootsWorks.com website. He is the author of Gene's Anniversary Scrapbook.

The lecture is free to JGSI Members; the charge for non-members is $10 (which can be applied to JGSI membership when you join by July 1, 2009). For more information and to reserve your seat, phone 312-666-0100 or e-mail rsvp@jgsi.org

July 2009

[24th & 25th]
The Federation of East European Family History Societies
“Super Conference 2009—A Journey of Discovery”
www.seeefhs.org/

August 2009

[8th]
National Archives-Great Lakes Region
Tony Burroughs will be presenting “African-American Genealogical Research.” To register call 773-948-9001 or email Chicago.archives@nara.gov.

[7th & 8th]
The Missouri State Genealogical Association
It’s 2009 annual conference will be held in Jefferson Co., MO. Julie Miller will be the featured speaker.
www.mosga.org

September 2009

[2nd – 5th]
FGS 2009 Annual Conference
“Passages through Time”
http://www.fgs.org/2009conference/

October 2009

[15th – 18th]
The Lincoln Colloquim comes to the Lincoln Home National Historic Site. This year the program focuses on the environment of the 1800s. For more information call 217-391-3241.

[17th]
The Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois
2009 Annual Conference and Book Fair in Carterville, IL.
www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilgssi/

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  2009**

President: Carole A. McCarty
1st Vice-President: Janice Fritsch
2nd Vice-President: Michele Claypool
Treasurer: Shirley Aleguas
Recording Secretary: Accepting Nominations

2009 Directors: Jayne Cates
                  Susan Pope
                  Mary Ellen Huetsch

2010 Directors: Patricia Newkirk Ely
                Ann Wells
                Annabelle Bradshaw

2011 Directors: Karl R. Moore
                Cheri Hunter
                Jean Jung

---

**Advertising Opportunity**

We would like to include any announcements your society has about upcoming conferences, seminars, and meeting information. Submit this information to the ISGS office either by email (isgs.secy@sbcglobal.net) or to the ISGS address listed below.

Also if your society is having a conference and there is an opportunity for ISGS to exhibit at the conference, please send the application for participation to Shirley Aleguas (saleguas@dtnspeed.net)

---

ISGS, P.O. Box 10195, Springfield, IL 62791-0195
Executive Office: Illinois State Archives Building, 2nd Floor
Business Office Telephone: 217/789-1968
Website: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs/>
Published in
January, March, May, July, September, November.
**Newsletter Article Contributions due the 30th of the month prior to publishing.**
**Advertising options available**

Newsletter Editor: kimzyk@comcast.net

Memberships run from January 1 through December 31.

**Dues:**
Individual Member: New & Renewal $30.00
Joint Member or Canadian: New & Renewal $35.00
International: (outside U.S. & Canada) $55.00
Charter Member: (joined prior to June 1, 1969) $29.00
Contributing Member: $55.00
Illinois Local Affiliates: New & Renewal $30.00

Please include a long SASE with correspondence requiring a reply.