MEET THE BOARD MEMBER—MARY ELLEN HUETSCH

By Lois Hanley

Mary Ellen is a Director on the Board of Directors of the ISGS and is also responsible for obtaining advertising for our publications. She has been a member since the 1970’s-80’s, stopped for a while to raise a family, and rejoined three years ago. She joined ISGS because she LOVES genealogy!

She is a member of the St. Louis Genealogical Society, Monroe County, IL Genealogical Society, St. Clair, IL County Genealogical Society, the Genealogical Society of Southern IL, Freeburg Genealogical and Historical Society and the Association of Professional Genealogists. She is researching the surnames Dannehold, Frank, Janson, Koenigsmark, Vogt, Scheller, Feldhaus, Schilling, Pohlman, and Hauptfleisch. She has traced her Arras line back eleven generations to a castle in Germany. Her “brick wall” is that she cannot find where her grandmother, Phillipine Gerber Doerr, died or is buried. Those who knew her said that she died while on a trip visiting relatives in Perry County. Mary Ellen would like to find a photo because she has a goal to collect photos of all of her great grandparents.

When I asked her what she would wish for that would benefit ISGS, she responded “an index of tombstones in cemeteries for each county in Illinois”. Her biggest genealogy concern is that more young people are not involved in local societies.

Mary Ellen and her husband live in Monroe County and have two sons. She taught school for 28 years and now works as a secretary in a law firm.
Greetings!

The Federation of Genealogical Societies just concluded its annual conference in Little Rock, Arkansas. The FGS Conference, a four-day event, was packed with informative sessions presented by nationally known speakers. We walked and sat, walked and sat and walked some more until none of the shoes I brought felt good anymore. The good news is the society help sessions I attended were very informative and energizing. The Ancestry classes brought to light so many new features I hadn’t known about much less tried. There will be many more hours spent on the computer in the near future trying out all the suggestions from the many classes that were offered.

On a serious note, I need to comment on a growing problem in the genealogical community. You may have heard about the difficulties surrounding the historical records at the Library of Michigan. The proposed legislation would abolish the Department of History, Arts and Libraries (HAL) at the Library of Michigan by Executive Order of the governor of Michigan.

In meetings held during the Federation of Genealogical Societies/Arkansas Genealogical Society Annual Conference in Little Rock this past week, the Records Preservation and Access Committee (RPAC) initiated a petition drive in support of the Library of Michigan. Please visit the www.fgs.org/rpac website to read their position. This is the first time they have exercised this option since 2006, something of an indicator of the seriousness with which the genealogical community views this situation. The decision may well have been made by the time you read this newsletter; however you will want to know what actions which affect genealogists are being taken by state governments.

Similarly, there was a problem surfacing in the state of Pennsylvania. The newly enacted (2008) Open Records Act became effective January 1, 2009. The law declared that all state, county, and local government records are public unless specifically exempted. The law created a new Office of Open Records for Pennsylvania. To read more about it: http://openrecords.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt. There was a huge outpouring of public opinion which resulted in this new legislation.

Finally, the World Vital Records Indexing Project is in full swing. ISGS adopted the Northern IL Naturalization Records to index and I’m pleased to announce we are over 70% finished with our project. If you have not yet begun to index, there is still time to sign on. You do not have to be a member of Ancestry.com to participate. To learn more, please visit www.ancestry.com/worldarchivesproject. At the FGS Conference, I learned the top 5 indexers nationwide are well over the 150,000 mark. In fact, one of them has indexed over 300,000 records. That’s truly remarkable! We are not expecting you to do that – but it all adds up, doesn’t it? So far over 22.4 million records have been indexed. All the indexes will be posted on Ancestry.com – free for everyone to view. Also, please note that ISGS will receive free copies of the images we have indexed so we can share them with our members online.

The Illinois State Genealogical Society Conference Committee is beginning to make plans for the 2010 fall conference which will be held in Peoria, IL on Saturday, October 23rd at the very historic Pere Marquette Hotel in the heart of downtown Peoria. As you know, this is a day-long conference with many informative sessions during the day. We are excited to announce this is the first time we have offered a Youth Workshop as part of the conference day!

We’d be interested in hearing from our membership regarding topics for the conference and some of your favorite speakers from past ISGS conferences or other conferences you’ve attended.

At the same time, we are anxious to hear from you if you are interested in being on the planning committee for 2010. These opportunities include publicity, hospitality, registration, exhibitors, door prizes and so forth.

Please send your suggestions or to volunteer to help to ISGSConference@comcast.net. Don’t hold back - we know there are ISGS members out there who are willing to help!

Warm regards,

Carole McCarty
President, Illinois State Genealogical Society
Proposed Slate – ISGS Officers for 2009-2010

President – Carole McCarty
Carole brings an organizational expertise to the job as she looks forward to her second full term as president. She is a member of Kane County Genealogical Society, Cook County Genealogical Society, Berkshire Family History Association, and McHenry Co. Historical Society. She is a trustee of the recently formed Goodrich Family Association. She chaired the 2005, 2006, and 2008 ISGS conferences.

1st Vice President – Janice Fritsch
Janice is a member of the Fox Valley Genealogical Society and the La Salle County Genealogy Guild. She recently completed her studies for certification with the National Institute of Genealogical Studies in Toronto (PLCGS). Janice has most recently served as the Finance & Budget Chair for ISGS and is the current 1st Vice President.

2nd Vice President – Michele Claypool
Michelle has served as treasurer of ISGS and is the current 2nd Vice President. She is active in many community groups, volunteering her services in the field of accounting. Michelle brings much knowledge to the ISGS board.

Treasurer – Shirley Aleguas
Shirley is a member of the Cass and Greene County Genealogical Societies, plus several others. She has served as secretary of ISGS and for the past several years has served as treasurer. She has a great understanding of the needs of ISGS and contributes her expertise to several committees. Shirley currently also serves as office liaison committee chair.

Recording Secretary – Julie Tarr
Julie is the owner of Design Write Communications, providing writing and graphic design services to medium sized businesses across the country. She is the editor of The Association of Graveyard Rabbits online journal, as well as webmaster for the Letitia Green Stevenson chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and is volunteer coordinator for the Fulton County, IL GenWeb Project.

2012 Directors

Jayne Cates
Having most recently served as a 2007-2009 ISGS Director, Jayne is a National Executive Committee member of the National Society of New England Women. She also serves in many capacities with National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, including work as a member of the Membership Task Force. Currently she is in the process of updating the book “Revolutionary War Soldiers Buried in Illinois,” which was published by ISGS in 1986.

Joan Kitchen Murray
Joan has served on the boards of Chicago Genealogical Society, Palatines to America Illinois Chapter, and the Illinois State Genealogical Society, and has co-chaired two ISGS conferences. She has been a volunteer at the NARA Great Lakes Region for seventeen years, as well as working for Ancestry.com for nine years as a regional representative. In addition to lecturing, she owns Roots2Leaves, her own archival business.

Susan Pope
Susan currently serves as Prairie Pioneer chair for ISGS. She is on the board of the McLean County Genealogical Society where she is editor of their journal, Gleanings from the Heart of the Cornbelt, and webmaster of MCGS.org. She is a member of several genealogical societies throughout the U.S. and has thoroughly enjoyed many research trips.

Filling Unexpired Term of 2010 Director Pat Ely
Vickie Anders
Born and raised in Jacksonville, IL Vickie has been interested in genealogy all her life and was a regular attendee of ISGS’ Genealogical Institute of Mid-America. She has recently retired after thirty-six years teaching elementary school for North Greene School District in Hillview, Patterson, Roodhouse, and White Hall, IL.

Submitted by Nominating Committee: Oriene Springstroh, Chairman; Mary Ellen Huetsch; Pat Ely; Annabelle “Junior” Bradshaw; and Ann Wells.
Acknowledging our generous contributors to ISGS and ISGS Projects!
Thank you!

ALPL Book Fund
Dr. Gary & Karen Hargis—North Aurora, IL
“In memory of Ruth Ann (Reiser) Stewart”

Angel Project Donors
Barb Griffith—Madison, WI
Linda Eder—Elgin, IL

New ISGS Members
Nancy Blackburn—Shorewood, IL
Erin Tomanek—West Hills, CA
G. Kevin Davis—Carol Stream, IL
Flora Public Library—Flora, IL
James L. & Karen Fyke—Eureka, IL
Diane Presta—Kenosha, WI
Kenneth L. Kirkland—Chicago, IL
Dr. William B. Thiel—Oconomowog, WI
Vickie Kilroy—Farmersville, OH
Theresa Altenberger—Advance, NC
Ainsley Wonderling—Lake Villa, IL
LaSalle County Genealogical Guild Local Affiliate—Ottawa, IL
Elisabeth B. Gatlin—Lincoln Park, NJ
Sharen S. Powell—Princeton, IN
Sandi McConnell—Ottawa, IL
John Weber—Chicago, IL
Penelope Kenney-Chase—Orion, IL
Karen Litrenta—Redondo Beach, CA
Richard E. Andresen Jr.—Woodstock, IL
Linda Wallin—Palatine, IL

Illinois State Genealogical Society Announces

2010 Spring Archives Workshops

April 10, 2010

Featuring

Archives Informational Tours
Land Records Workshop by Karl Moore
Military Records Workshop by Tina Beaird
Death Certificate Research Assistance

Watch for details and registration forms at the Fall Conference and in the Winter Quarterly
Piecing Together the Puzzle of Our Past
Conference Program – Saturday, October 24, 2009

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.
Determining Search Parameters and Really Tracking Your Online Research
Michael John Neill 1A
Online searching is more than mindlessly putting names into search boxes and hoping. This lecture will provide an overview of how to think about your online searching to help you maximize your results and organize your process.

Genealogical Approaches as an Aid in Identification at Pioneer Cemeteries
M. Catherine Bird 1B
This presentation provides an overview of several local cemeteries and discusses the successful efforts to restore the names of the individuals buried within these “vacated” or vandalized cemeteries.

Digital Restoration of Photographs Using an Image Editing Software
Larry Pepper 1C
Larry provides basic instruction on how to use an image editing program to create digitally restored versions of damaged original photographs. Learn how to return clarity to faded images, fix blemishes and cracks, and repair missing or damaged parts of your images. Photos Welcome!

11:00 A.M.
Finding Cresche’s Girls and Barbara’s Beaus
Michael John Neill 2A
These two case studies from the 19th and early 20th century track two women through their seven marriages and six husbands. Locating them successfully required a variety of online and offline approaches, organizational techniques and problem-solving.

Organizing Genealogical Materials
Delray Palmer 2B
Learn a simple system for organizing pedigree charts, family group records, research logs, documents, notes, and research help. A genealogical filing system should be: 1) simple to set up; 2) well-organized; 3) flexible; 4) inexpensive; and 5) safe and understandable for future generations.

Using Railroad Records in Family History Research
Craig Pfannkuche 2C
Railroads were the largest non-farm employers in the United States between 1870 and 1930. A vast variety of jobs were filled by waves of newly arrived immigrants to the United States. Craig will cite examples from the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad personnel records and explain what types of information can be found in similar railroad records.

12:00 P.M.
LUNCH

1:30 P.M.
Establishing the Neighborhood
Michael John Neill 3A
Your ancestor did not live in complete isolation. This lecture provides some ways to determine both your ancestor’s physical and social neighborhoods in an attempt to better understand your ancestor and to learn more about him. Tracking the neighbors may help you track your ancestor.

Finding Your Roots in a Chicago Building
Lesley Martin 3B
An address in a city directory can tell you the street where your ancestor lived, but additional sources may help you uncover many more details. She will discuss how to use Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, photography files, and other resources available at the Chicago History Museum.

Using Maps in Family History Research
Craig Pfannkuche 3C
An ability to read and make use of a wide variety of maps, is useful toward putting together a history of one’s family. Craig will demonstrate how many different maps can be used to help the researcher understand the movement and history of one’s ancestors.

3:00 P.M.
What is Unwritten?
Michael John Neill 4A
In some cases, the document we locate only tells part of the story. Viewing a document in its historical, legal, familial, and chronological context is important in interpreting it correctly and harvesting as many clues from it as possible. Never read anything just once!

Finding Ichabod: Using the Federal Census Returns
Ann Wells 4B
Sometimes your ancestor is not in the census, but should be? With a little creative researching, you can probably overcome that brick wall. A case study in finding Ichabod between New York, Illinois and Minnesota over a 60 year period.

Preserving Family Heirlooms
Tina Beards 4C
Learn simple strategies and solutions for preserving your valuable family documents and photographs for future generations and get preservation dos and don’ts for modern scrap-booking.
ISGS Fall Conference Saturday, October 24, 2009

Directions to Elgin Community College
4 Miles south of I-90

From Interstate I-90 head south on Randall Road to South Street. Head east (left) to Renner Drive and turn right on Renner Drive. Follow Renner Drive to the Elgin Community College’s Fox Valley University and Business Center.

Headed north on Randall Road turn east (right) on College Green Drive (it’s a stoplight). Then make a quick left then right onto Spartan Drive. Follow to the Elgin Community College’s Fox Valley University and Business Center.

Conference Hotels
Conference Rate Deadline: October 5, 2009
Free shuttles available to conference
Comfort Suites - 847-336-9500
Country Inn and Suites - 847-426-6400

New This Year!
Are you puzzled about something in your genealogy? Bring your questions to the 2009 conference!

Michael John Neill, Featured Speaker, is a board member of the Federation of Genealogical Societies and contributor to Ancestry World Journal, a popular genealogical ezine. Michael has spoken frequently to genealogical societies across Illinois and conducts a week of computer genealogical workshops annually in Galesburg, Illinois. He maintains the website www.rootsdig.com.

Tina Beaird is a board member and Archivist for the Illinois State Genealogical Society. She is a Reference Librarian at the Plainfield Public Library. She has spoken locally and nationally on genealogy and preservation issues.

Dr. M. Catherine Bird is a Registered Professional Archivist employed by Midwest Archaeological Research Services, Inc. Dr. Bird is a member of the Illinois Archaeological Survey and Chair of the membership committee.

Lesley Martin has had a varied career in libraries, freelance editing, fact checking, and research. Since joining the Research Center staff at the Chicago History Museum in 1999, she has assisted thousands of researchers in their quest for information.

Deyra Palmer is currently the Director of the Crystal Lake Illinois LDS Family History Center. She has organized three local family history fairs where she has also presented tracing her roots has been a favorite pastime for 32 years.

Larry Pepper has 38 years of photography experience in a variety of areas. He is currently a board member of Illinois Genealogical Society and President of the Elgin Genealogical Society.

Craig Pfannkuche is the genealogical archivist for the Chicago and Northwestern Historical Society and currently is the Corresponding Secretary of both the Chicago Genealogical Society and the McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society.

Ann Wells has 25 years of professional genealogical experience and is owner of Wells Genealogical Research. She is a board member of the Illinois State Genealogical Society, director of the McHenry County Genealogical Society, board member of the Crystal Lake Historical Society and board member of the International Society for British Genealogy and Family History.

Become A Member
and Save!

Become a member of the Illinois State Genealogical Society now and save $5.00 off your conference registration fee. By becoming a member, you will receive discounts on ISGS conferences, events and tours, quarterly publications, bi-monthly online newsletters, free access to the ISGS Quarterly as well as discounts on ISGS publications. Visit www.rootsweb.ancestry.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
☐ $30.00 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

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.ancestry.com/~isgs
**Genealogy**

**September 2009**

[24th] Bureau County Genealogy Society
Barbara Draper will narrate a PowerPoint presentation created by her grandson, Shane Bohbrink, about his trip to Cirey, France, where his granduncle was killed in action on September 9, 1944. Included will be his interview with a resident of Cirey, as well as pictures and narration of his tour of the Normandy Beaches and the National Cemetery there. www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilbcgs/

[26th] Fox Valley Genealogical Society
will present its annual all-day conference “Colonial Connections,” featuring Lloyd deWitt Bockstruck, supervisor of the Dallas Public Library Genealogy Section. Lectures include: Colonial Migrations; Colonial Probates and Statutes; Surnames and Forenames; and The Scots-Irish in Colonial America. 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Grace United Methodist Church, 300 E. Gartner Rd., Naperville, Illinois. For more info, (630) 728-2624 or (630) 978-8444, or e-mail ilfvgs@gmail.com. Register online at www.ilfvgs.org.

**October 2009**

[9th–10th] Iowa Genealogical Society
“Mining for Your Ancestors.” West Des Moines, IA www.iowagenealogy.org

[14th] Genealogy Drop-In Group
Do you like researching your family's history, but need a little help? Join others who are interested in this popular hobby and stop by for an hour of sharing tips and techniques. No registration required. Bartlett Public Library Computer Lab, Bartlett, IL www.bartlett.lib.il.us/

[15th–18th] The Lincoln Colloquium 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.

[15th] St. Louis Public Library
Land Rich, Dirt Poor: the Use of Land Records in Genealogical Research - how the genealogist & historian can use land records at the Belleville Public Library, Belleville, IL. Call (314) 539-0381 for information.

2009 Annual Conference and Book Fair in Carterville, IL. www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilgssi/

[18th] Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois
will celebrate the completion of JGSI's latest project--the publication of the 3rd edition of A Translation Guide to 19th-Century Polish-Language Civil-Registration Documents by former JGSI president Judith R. Frazin. on Sunday, October 18, 2009 - 12:30 p.m. at Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster, Skokie, IL.

**Calendar**

60076 The presentation will be followed by a book signing. Go to www.jewishgen.org/jgsi/theguide.html for further information about the book or phone (312) 666-0100.

[24th] Illinois State Genealogical Society
“Piecing Together the Puzzle of our Past” Elgin Community College, Elgin, IL. www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs/

[24th] CSAGSI
Mike Karsen presents "Preserve Your Ancestor’s Legacy: Write Their Life Story" at 1:30pm in LaGrange, IL. info: www.csagsi.org

**November 2009**

[11th] Genealogy Drop-In Group
Do you like researching your family's history, but need a little help? Join others who are interested in this popular hobby and stop by for an hour of sharing tips and techniques. No registration required. Bartlett Public Library Computer Lab, Bartlett, IL. www.bartlett.lib.il.us/

**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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Carole A. McCarty</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Vice-President</td>
<td>Janice Fritsch</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Vice-President</td>
<td>Michele Claypool</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Shirley Aleguas</td>
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<td>Recording Secretary</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
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<td>2009 Directors</td>
<td>Jayne Cates, Susan Pope, Mary Ellen Huetsch</td>
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<td>2010 Directors</td>
<td>Ann Wells, Annabelle Bradshaw</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011 Directors</td>
<td>Karl R. Moore, Cheri Hunter, Jean Jung</td>
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**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).

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.*