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Hello friends of ISGS,

As we begin the New Year, you might find the links below helpful in your genealogical research. The following is information posted in a recent Dick Eastman Newsletter:

The *Genealogy In Time* web site has an article that lists the most popular online genealogy magazines, as measured by Alexa. Alexa is the world’s leading company for measuring internet traffic. The company monitors the web traffic of millions of internet sources, including thousands of genealogy sites. **This list is current as of December 2009.**

1. **Eastman’s Online Genealogy Magazine** – Not surprisingly, Dick Eastman’s ever-popular newsletter is the leading online genealogy magazine. This site contains both free content and subscription material. [http://blog.eogn.com/]

2. **Family Tree Magazine** – This is the online version of the print magazine of the same name. This site has some free content, although the emphasis is on getting people to subscribe to the print edition of the magazine. [www.familytreemagazine.com]

3. **Family Chronicle Magazine** – This is also an online version of a print magazine with the same name. There is some free content, with an emphasis on getting people to subscribe to the print edition of the magazine. [www.familychronicle.com]

4. **Journal of Genetic Genealogy** – This is a technical scientific magazine that covers DNA testing for genealogy. The site is free. [www.jogg.info/]

5. **The Global Gazette** – An online genealogy magazine and genealogy store. There is some free content and a considerable amount of content that you can buy through their store. [http://globalgenealogy.com/globalgazette/index.htm]

6. **Genealogy In Time™** – That’s us! It is nice to see that after publishing our free online genealogy magazine for a year, we have already moved into sixth place. [www.genealogyintime.com]

7. **Genealogy Roots Blog** – Officially classified as a genealogy magazine, this site provides links mainly to US web sites for vital records, obituaries, etc. [http://genrootsblog.blogspot.com/]

8. **Georgia Genealogical Society Quarterly** – This is the go-to genealogy site for anyone wanting to trace their roots in the State of Georgia. [http://www.gagensociety.org/]

9. **Genealogy Magazine** – This site is a mixture between a genealogy magazine and a genealogy store with books, databases and articles for tracing your ancestors. [www.genealogymagazine.com]

10. **Family Research** – This is a specialty online magazine targeted at people tracing English, Scottish or Irish roots. [www.lineages.co.uk/]

Announcement:

HELEN SCLAIR (The Cemetery Lady) – R.I. P. 1930-2009

Helen was a friend of ISGS and former ISGS Conference speaker. You can read about the influence Helen had on the genealogical community in the Chicago Tribune article below. She will be greatly missed by all who enjoyed her humorous presentations and contributions to cemetery research. [http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-obit-sclair-bddec20,0,6468565.story]

*If you don’t know your family’s history, then you don’t know anything. You are a leaf that doesn’t know it is part of a tree.*

--Michael Crichton

Happy New Year to all!
Carole McCarty
President, Illinois State Genealogical Society

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**Streep, Colbert set for PBS Genealogy Show**

PBS says its new show "Faces of America" uses the latest tools in genealogy and genetics to explore the family histories of 11 renowned Americans.

The series is to air Wednesdays from Feb. 10-March 3. Harvard scholar Dr. Henry Louis Gates Jr. will be the show’s host.
Illinois State Genealogical Society

Spring Tours and Workshops
Saturday, April 10, 2010
Springfield, Illinois

ARCHIVES TOUR
One informational tour of the Archives will be offered. You will see what is available on weekdays. Civil War Muster Rolls, Revolutionary War pension applications, WWI draft cards, original land records, census records, and much more!
9:00 a.m.____________

ALPL TOURS
Two tours will be offered at the ABRAHAM LINCOLN PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY. Find out what extensive resources are available for your genealogical research.
9:30 a.m.___________ 11:00 a.m.___________

WORKSHOP: MILITARY RECORDS
NEW this year! Tina Beaird will show us how to trace military records from the American Revolution to WWI with an emphasis on sources pertaining to the Civil War, available at the Illinois State Archives. Learn how to search microfilm reels and original documents including Adjutant General Records, Muster Rolls, and burial records.
11:00 a.m.___________

WORKSHOP: GENERAL LAND OFFICE RECORDS AND FEDERAL TOWNSHIP PLATS
Karl Moore, IASG-AD Supervisor, will cover the Public Lands Survey, the value of General Land Office records, how to locate and print the land tract an ancestor purchased. You will learn several ways to use records online with the Public Domain Land Sales Database and the Federal Township Plats of Illinois.
1:00 p.m.___________

ILLINOIS DEATH CERTIFICATE ASSISTANCE
How to find and copy a death certificate from microfilm from the years 1916-1947
9:00 a.m.___________ 11:00 a.m.___________ 1:00 p.m.___________

***please select first and SECOND choice (where available) for each session you wish to attend.
Pre-registration is strongly recommended by April 1st. Checks should be made out and mailed to:
Illinois State Genealogical Society, PO Box 10195, Springfield IL 62791-0195

$12 non-member per session
$10 member of ISGS per session
Total amount enclosed

PRINT NAME__________________________________________________________
ADDRESS________________________________________________________________
CITY/STATE/ZIP _______________________________________________________
PHONE_________________________E-MAIL______________________________

Directions, parking, and confirmation will be sent to you.
MEET THE BOARD MEMBER—DAN KANE
By Lois Hanley

Dan Kane is the ISGS Local Society Liaison, which means that he keeps in contact with local societies in Illinois to let them know what ISGS has going on and find out what each society is doing. He has also served as the Co-Chair of the 2007 Fall ISGS Conference. Dan has been a member for 20 years and joined ISGS to receive a discount for the Fall Conference of 1990.

He is a member of the British Interest Group of WI and IL (BIGWILL), Chicago Genealogical Society, McHenry County, IL Genealogical Society, Winnebago and Boone Counties Genealogical Society, Tinley Moraine Genealogists, Fox Valley Genealogical Society, Historical Society of Montgomery County, PA, Kentucky Genealogical Society, and the Association of Professional Genealogists.

Dan is researching the surnames Whitehead, Crinklaw, Reaum(e)/Reaume/Rheaume, Benoit/Benway, Manley, Culver, Kane, Flannery, Sheehy, Stack, Vallely, Butterly, Harlin, McArdle, Banks, Burchall, Brigham, Linton, Morin, Demers, and Guertin/Yarter. His “brick wall” is that despite four trips to Ireland, he is unable to trace his own surname (Kane) any further back than the 1850’s in Frankfort, Kentucky.

If he could wave a magic wand for something that would benefit ISGS, he would want every historical, genealogical, and lineage society in IL (all 400+) to realize the benefit of belonging to ISGS and would preach the value of a personal membership in ISGS to each of their members. His biggest fear related to genealogy is that internet postings can lead to serious breaches of personal privacy. But, without the internet as a serious ally, the genealogical community will lose an important foothold in the minds of younger generations.

Dan lives in Cook County (Oak Park to be exact) and his hobbies are being an Alumni Recruiter for St. Edmund School in Oak Park, a Radio Announcer on WJJG-AM 1530, a film enthusiast/lecturer, and a member of the Oak Park/River Forest Chamber of Commerce. He wishes that more genealogists (himself included) would, “engage in health-related activities (proper diet, exercise, etc) as enthusiastically as we do in our research. That would not only add years to our lives but life to our years, ultimately allowing us to continue our research into our 90’s and be the “go to” person for our extended families on matters involving family history”.

ILLINOIS STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY FALL CONFERENCE
October 23, 2010 ~ 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Historic Hotel Père Marquette ~ Peoria, IL

New!
YOUTH WORKSHOP
We’ll teach students how to discover their own history!
A wonderful learning experience for ages 12-15
1:00-4:00 p.m.—Registration Limited

Will it “play in Peoria”? You bet it will!

Conference Email: ISGsonference@comcast.net
Conference Info: http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs/
Co-host: Peoria County Genealogical Society http://www.usgennet.org/usa/il/county/peoria1/
**FOUNDATION concept approved by ISGS Board !!!**

The ISGS Board approved the formation of an ISGS Foundation Committee to establish a Foundation. The Foundation concept originated from a workshop with the ISGS Long Range Planning Committee. The Foundation will be organized to benefit the genealogical community with the distribution of funds to nonprofit organizations to promote education, preservation and access concerning important genealogical and historical information and documents of Illinois.

Dr. Gary K. Hargis, Past President of ISGS, was approved as the Chairperson of the Foundation Committee which met for its first meeting on 24 October 2009 at the ISGS Fall Conference. Members of the committee include ISGS Past Presidents George F. Perkins (1982-1983), David Kent Coy (1986-1987), Josephine F. Moeller (1994-1995) and ISGS Past 1st Vice President Carl O. Reed. Committee consultants, non-voting members of the committee, include ISGS Treasurer Shirley A. Aleguas, ISGS 2nd Vice President and EA Michele Claypool and ISGS Secretary and Website consultant Julie Tarr. ISGS President, Carole McCarty, is an ex-officio member of the Foundation committee.

ISGS is a nonprofit, federal tax-exempt organization that provides education and preservation of historical information concerning the State of Illinois. The Foundation will be a major extension of this service and will dedicate the expertise and experience of its administration entirely as a means to acquire tax deductible gifts, contributions and donations to be used to benefit the genealogical and historical community of Illinois. The Foundation shall be a nonprofit, federal tax-exempt, state-chartered, educational organization. Donors may deduct contributions and the Foundation will provide for the collection of bequests, legacies, devises, transfers of gifts that would be deductible for federal estate and gift tax purposes. The Foundation will serve as a mechanism to provide financial support for the preservation, expansion, and education of genealogy and history in Illinois. It will facilitate the availability of funds for charitable and educational purposes.

Recently, a significant Memorial Donation in memory of ISGS Past President Martha Dever Pulliam was given by her husband and faithful ISGS member, James D. Pulliam. This donation provides an enduring gift in support of genealogy and a lifelong memorial to honor Martha’s life and the benefits she provided to the genealogical community through her leadership as President of ISGS. More gifts have since been received from others who want to promote the Foundation efforts and provide benefit to the genealogical and historical community of Illinois.

The genealogical and historical community of Illinois, including local genealogical societies, members and affiliates of those nonprofit organizations, students of genealogy and history will attain the benefits from the ISGS developed and implemented Foundation. Keep your eye on ISGS as the news of the Foundation gains momentum. Send your donations, contributions and continue to remember ISGS and the Foundation when you prepare your estate planning. Please contact the ISGS Foundation Committee through the ISGS Office if you have any comments or questions. We look forward to serving you and the genealogical community with resources provided by those who care about the future of preserving our history in Illinois.

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**Can You Believe Everything You Read?**

By Kristy Gravlin

Today, as I was thinking about Family Bibles, a friend sent a set of “jokes” from the Bible, simple word-plays that make one smile. One seemed particularly appropriate to this note:

Q. Which Bible character had no parents?

A. Joshua, son of Nun.

This reminds us that you cannot take everything you find in a Family Bible at face value. Even though we often think of such a document as “very trustworthy,” and indeed it may be so, there is no such thing as 100% accuracy in any field of research. One must always be watchful.

For example, if the ink and handwriting for the family births are all the same…and especially if you happen to notice that the Bible’s publishing date is twenty years after the dates listed…the listing was not done the day of the child’s birth. While the dates may be right, there may also be errors that will need more research. Memory sometimes fails us.

Names could be amiss too. If, for example, an elderly grandparent who thought s/he knew what the baby would be named made the entries, then Kathryn Elizabeth may in reality be Elizabeth Kathryn.

You just cannot be positive that everything in the Family Bible is completely right…but it does give you a clue, at least, for the possible answers you will find elsewhere. And most of the information is probably right, as this is a family about whom the writer cares greatly.
Acknowledging our generous contributors to ISGS and ISGS Projects!
Thank you!

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(Past ISGS Pres.)
Janice Frisch—Sandwich, IL

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“In Memory of John Henry Mannz, St.”
Reflect Indian Influence

Southern Illinois
The fascination with antiquity also led in extreme Southern Illinois to the selection of the names of the ancient Egyptian cities of Cairo, Thebes and Karnak. Residents say the whole lush area became known as Egypt when pioneers whose crops failed went there for gain “as did the Israelites of old in the land of Egypt.”

Aurora
Aurora is an Indian name in disguise. It’s a Latin translation of the name of a friendly chief, Waubonsie, meaning morning light.

Chinese Cities:
Canton, Pekin and Woosung.
Popping up in the list of Illinois place names are the names of these three Chinese cities. It’s said a retired sailor wanted to honor Woosung, a port he once visited. And less understandably, the names Canton and Pekin were supposedly picked because someone figured out the Illinois and Chinese cities were at exact opposite ends of the earth and therefore sister cities.

Chicago
There have been at least 11 different theories for the origin of the word Chicago. But Vogel, in his recently published “Indian Place Names in Illinois,” writes: “There is no explanation except carelessness for the proliferation of nonsense...There is overwhelming decisive evidence that Chicago means wild garlic, leek, or onion.”

To be continued in the next ISGS newsletter.

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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.