Registrations are coming in for the ISGS Fall Conference scheduled for October 23. Don’t forget to sign up now so you can be a part of the fun. It’s playing in Peoria this year. We have some wonderful speakers, lots of vendors lined up, to help you find just what you need whether you’re new at the hunt, or a seasoned veteran.

And the party is closer to you this year than it has been in a long time. And for those in the Chicago area, Peoria is closer than you think! If you have missed the conferences in recent years, take this great opportunity to access the exciting event. Come join us in Peoria on October 23.

The above photo shows what a nice facility the Bureau County Genealogical Society has. And to the right are the members of the 2010 ISGS Conference Committee meeting there. They are left to right: Nancy Blackwell, Donna Pond, Susan Pope, Sandy Olson, Carol McGee, Carol Sterr-Lehman, Barb Benner, and Karen Heinrich
President’s Message — from Carole A. McCarty

Today I was reminded yet again how quickly the years go by that have been filled with so many good intentions to organize photos, “search and destroy” in my genealogy room and PUBLISH! Many of us have the same excuse: “I’m not finished yet” or “I still have to find the parents of Moses and Asenath.” Is this an announcement that I have finally come to the point of publishing any segment of my years of family research? Mmmm…no.

Admittedly there are many distractions that are stalling our efforts to use the publishing methods that come with our genealogy software programs. Our email boxes are full everyday with newsletters informing us of one new database after another for the areas of the world in which we still need to research. The internet is bulging with new information every day. How can we put all those aside, possibly missing the one new website that has the information we have so earnestly sought for one of those brick walls? It’s a predicament, isn’t it? Aren’t you feeling overwhelmed?

There are internet links that we put into online folders years ago. When do we get the time to go back to see if those links still work? How about those wonderful genealogy magazines to which we subscribe that are chock full of useful information and have nicely turned-down corners of pages we think are important to read again. There is easily an 18 inch stack of those on the shelf. I can’t bear to toss them, so for the last two ISGS conferences I have put a bunch of them on the white elephant table. They are scooped up readily. Now there’s an idea for our readers to remember for the next ISGS conference on Saturday, October 23rd in Peoria: bring along some of those genealogy journals or magazines whose contents you have exhausted and drop them on the white elephant table early in the day for another genealogist to take home and enjoy.

The 1940 Census is due to be released in April 2012, already less than 2 years from now. In 1940 the U.S. had 130 million people, 7 million farms and 33 million homes. There were 120,000 census takers who were to complete their forms in one month. A lot of people are excited about this coming census, but alas, it will not help my brick walls since those blockades are decades back in time. Take a look at what the 1940 enumerators were trained to do in acquiring the census information. http://www.youtube.com/user/usnationalarchives#grid/user/9C64D8D2FD4C281D

This census asked questions we have not seen in previous censuses. The questions asked here of my relatives will serve to supplement their family information. See, I need to wait for this census release to fill in missing data in my family history!

Does any of this ring a bell for you? Are you stuck? What will it take to get you to break through your brick walls? I know, I heard you whisper “a miracle.” Here’s hoping that you find a link, read an article or get an email newsletter that opens doors for your research.

"Employ your time in improving yourself by other people's writings, so that you shall gain easily what others have labored hard for.” (Socrates)

Warm regards,
Carole McCarty
President, Illinois State Genealogical Society

2010—2011 Officer Nominations

The ISGS Nominations Committee seeks suggestions from the membership as a whole for officers of the Illinois State Genealogical Society for 2010-2011. If you are interested in a position or know of someone who may be, please contact one of the following committee members:

Michelle Claypool—michclaypool@gmail.com
Kim Kasprzyk—kimkasprzyk@yahoo.com
Susie Pope—susann.pope@yahoo.com
Cheri Hunter—cheritreehunter@comcast.net
Jean Jung—jjung66@gmail.com
ISGS Fall Conference Saturday, October 23, 2010

Youth Workshop

New This Year!
Youth Workshop
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Ages 12-15

Students will observe an oral interview; they will learn techniques for interviewing and for tracking their ancestors. An essay contest is being offered; winners will be announced at the Conference. Conference attendance is required to win.

Limited space; register early.
For more information visit:
www.usgennet.org/usa/county/peoria/1

New This Year
Our syllabus will be available on CD this year. Email addresses are required to read conference materials in advance.

Curt B. Witcher: Featured Speaker! Senior Manager for Special Collections at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, IN. Curt is a member of the Genealogy Committee of the American Library Association. He is former president of both the Federation of Genealogical Societies and the National Genealogical Society.

Jeffrey Bassett: Has been working on Bassett Family genealogy for more than 30 years. To date, the Bassett project has grown to include more than 230 male Bassetts living in 7 countries around the world, making it one of the largest projects of its kind. He has presented the Bassett DNA project to more than a dozen different groups in several states. Jeffrey lives in Mundeine, Illinois with his wife and four children.

Jane G. Haldeman: Illinois State Genealogical Society board member and President of the Fox Valley Genealogical Society. She is co-owner of It's Relative a genealogical research company based in Illinois. Jane is a member of the Genealogy Speakers Guild and lectures frequently on genealogy topics.

Susan D. Kaufman: Manager of the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research at the Houston Public Library. A genealogy librarian for 23 years, Susan currently is a Director on the board of the Federation of Genealogical Societies, and President – Elect of the Texas State Genealogical Society. She began her career as the genealogy librarian at the Peoria Public Library.

Larry Pepper: Illinois State Genealogical Society board member, Owner of PepperPhotography.com, Larry has twenty years experience in a variety of areas of photography. He has combined his extensive knowledge of Photoshop and his love of genealogy to create exquisite family trees.


Become A Member
and Save!

Become a member of the Illinois State Genealogical Society 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 quarterly publications, 6 bi-monthly online newsletters, free queries in the ISGS Quarterly as well as discounts on ISGS publications. Visit www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs for more information about all the wonderful things our organization has to offer. Join today!

Registration Form
Mailed and Postmarked by Thursday, September 30th
☐ $35.00 for ISGS Members
☐ $45.00 for Non-Members
☐ $55.00 Postmarked after September 30th or at the door
☐ $30.00 Annual Membership to ISGS

Late registrations welcome, but we cannot guarantee lunch after this date or for walk-ins. Please, no refunds after September 30th

Please Indicate Conference Break-Out Session Choices Here:
9:30  □ 1A  □ 1B  □ 1C
11:00 □ 2A  □ 2B  □ 2C
1:30  □ 3A  □ 3B  □ 3C
3:00  □ 4A  □ 4B  □ 4C
Lunch Choices □ Lemon  □ Beef  □ Lasagna

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Phone:

E-mail Address (required):

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/~ilsgs
You Have Family You Have History
Conference Program – Saturday, October 23, 2010

8:00-8:45 A.M.
Registration and Networking

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

9:30 A.M.
**Using Military Records for Genealogical Research**
Curt B. Witcher 1A
An in-depth look at military records, from our country's earliest history to the present day. Discussed are the five major types of military records; where one can find such documents; typical data found in sample records; and a detailing of what one might call other "minor" military records.

**Newspaper Research: A Mirror of History**
Susan D. Kaufman 1B
Newspapers are the chronicles of the communities and the societies they represent. Finding that vital piece of information: a vital record, a list of immigrants, or even just the "gossips out" of the community your family was part of, offers a greater insight and a picture of (and into) their lives.

**Coal Dust in Your Veins:**
Timothy N. Pinnick 1C
Tips, Strategies, and Resources to Bring Your Coal Mining Ancestors to the Surface
Key resources in print, on microfilm and online, related to the coal mining experience in America will be highlighted and valuable tips and strategies on tracking coal mining ancestors will be provided.

11:00 A.M.
**Library Access: Getting More from the Internet for Your Genealogy**
Curt B. Witcher 2A
Library, archive, government, and GeneWeb sites have much to offer genealogists if they know how and where to look—and it's not as complicated or painful as it might at first seem. This lecture demonstrates sites and strategies for getting more meaningful data from the web.

**Basic Digital Image Restoration**
Larry Pepper 2B
Discusses the application tools plus demonstration tools used in real images. Example images will include problems such as faded or dark images, cracks, tears, holes and missing pieces. Discover basic techniques used towards creating amazing results with your own restorations.

**From Land Records to Google Earth: Mapping Your Family's Place in the World**
Jane G. Haldeman 2C
There are numerous records that give one's ancestors' legal land description. But where are they and what do they mean? Learn where to look for those records and discover how to convert sections and ranges into Google Earth to see what that property looks like today.

12:00 P.M.
LUNCH

1:30 P.M.
**Using Church Records in Your Genealogical Research**
Curt B. Witcher 3A
An up-close look at various types of church records, how to find such documents in the areas where one's ancestors lived, and strategies for accessing as many church records and church-created documents as possible. Some time is devoted to recognizing record keeping practices, archives and determining the address of archives for various denominations.

**Using Criminal Records for Genealogical Research**
Susan D. Kaufman 3B
Criminal records offer an insight into the darker side of our ancestors. They also show those individuals who did not commit the crime, but were victims, witnesses, jurors and more. An overview of resources created around criminal activity will be presented.

**Oh, Soldiers Do Die, but Often After They Move!**
Timothy N. Pinnick 3C
A survey of the GAR (a national organization of Union Civil War Veterans) along with a look at some of the extant sources of that group presents a useful methodology which helps researchers accumulate important details on these veterans.

3:00 P.M.
**Genetic Genealogy and the Bassett DNA Y-Chromosome Project**
Jeffrey Bassett 4A
Genetic Genealogy is the latest technique being used as a tool in genealogical research. He will explain how he got started in genealogy, how DNA testing works, and examples of different case studies from the Bassett DNA project showing how DNA testing has helped in the research of different Bassett lines.

**Funeral Records: The Final Event**
Susan D. Kaufman 4B
Funerals generate many different records that can be utilized for research. Death certificates, obituaries, death notices, funeral cards, body transportation records, burial permits, and many more are sought after to prove evidence of a life.

**All That Other STUFF: Other Census Records Beyond Population Schedules**
Curt B. Witcher 4C
Focuses on the many other census schedules that researchers often overlook when using federal census records: agricultural, manufacturing, mortality, slave, social and statistical census are explored. Using all these schedules along with the population schedules can provide a significant amount of additional information about one's ancestor and his community.
Governor Quinn Signs Bill Making Birth Records More Accessible to Adopted Adults

CHICAGO—May 21, 2010. Governor Pat Quinn today signed a bill into law that provides adopted adults greater access to copies of their original birth certificates without having to get a court order. The new law will also help adopted adults learn more about their birth families, including medical histories.

“This new law provides adopted adults with the tools they need to obtain and review crucial personal information and background,” said Governor Quinn. “At the same time, this law respects all the parties involved in the adoption process.”

Under the prior law, it was difficult for an adopted person to access their original birth certificate because getting a copy of the document often required a court order.

House Bill 5428, sponsored by Representative Sara Feigenholtz (D-Chicago) and Senator A.J. Wilhelmi (D-Joliet), allows adopted adults to obtain copies of their birth certificates without going to court. Adopted adults born before Jan. 1, 1946, can immediately request copies of their original birth certificates, and those born after Jan. 1, 1946 can do so beginning Nov. 15, 2011. The law is effective immediately.

Information within an original birth certificate can also lead to background about an adopted adult’s birth family’s medical history. Such medical history can be accessed through the Illinois Adoption Registry and Medical Information Exchange (IARMIE) provided both parents have registered, and agree to make that information available.

As part of the new law, the Illinois Department of Public Health, which administers IARMIE, will launch a yearlong statewide campaign to inform and educate adopted adults and birth parents, which may prefer anonymity, about the change to birth certificate law.

Illinois Government News Network
Opportunity to Learn About Researching Family History in Knoxville

Each year thousands of people decide to look online to see if they can locate their family tree. Many find a tree and think, “Wow! It’s already done for me.” Now it’s time for a reality check. Where did the person compiling the tree get his or her information? Is it documented? Are there other sources that show differing information? What influenced the family who had children born in multiple states to move? Did anyone serve in the military? Where can you find records about the churches they attended? How did laws affect the records created?

You can find the answers to all these questions and many more at a genealogy conference. This year’s Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference is being co-hosted by East Tennessee Historical Society and Kentucky Historical Society on August 18-21, 2010 in Knoxville, Tennessee. Many leading genealogical speakers will be presenting a variety of talks on these topics and many more. The exhibit hall will be filled with materials and services helpful to your genealogical research.

Genealogy conferences are full of stories. “I sat next to a person who had my same surname and discovered that we are related.” “I had recently discovered what I suspected to be my ancestor in the Alsace region of France. One of the speakers used an example of a gentleman in the same town setting sail on the same ship to America. This led credibility to my theory.” “I met another researcher who is working on one of my families.” “I discovered a great book that will be a tremendous help in my research.” “My batteries have been recharged.”

Presentations cover topics such as how to research in Tennessee, Kentucky, and surrounding states, how to use various types of records in one’s research, methodology and strategies, using various databases and other types of technology, researching various ethnic groups, certification and accreditation, military research, using repositories such as libraries and archives, and even researching in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Full conference information and registration information is found at http://www.fgs.org/2010conference/.

The Family Bible

You may have read of instances where the Family Bible has been used to prove the date of birth for a person with no birth certificate. Henry Peters is someone who showed his mother’s Bible in order to prove that he was “old enough”. In fact he was two months older than the required sixteen years. Because he had the Bible in hand, he was allowed to get into the show at the Trent theater. Peters was from Trenton, NJ. The report was in the Fort Wroth (TX) Star-Telegram on 4 November 1909. But where and when he confronted the theater owner is not known.

Submitted by Kristy Gravlin

Acknowledging our generous contributors to ISGS and ISGS Projects!

Angel Project Donors
Patricia N. Ely—Carroll Lake, IL

What Is The Angel Project?
The State Archives and ISGS ties were strengthened in 1988 when the ISGS moved its business office into the Archives building (now the Margaret Cross Norton Building). To demonstrate its support of the State Archives, the ISGS established the Angel Program, through which the ISGS purchases microfilmed county records for the State Archives’ Illinois Regional Archives Depository (IRAD) system. These records are available for research use in the seven IRAD facilities at state universities. Through the Angel Program, the ISGS has purchased several thousand reels of microfilmed records for nearly all the counties in Illinois. These include coroner’s records, birth records, marriage records, and soldiers and sailors discharge records.

Spring 2010 For the Record

New ISGS Members
Alanna M. Sablotny—St. Peters, MO
Robert Ash—Rockford, IL
Keith Dorn—Peoria, AZ
Michael J. Hall—Orem, UT
Ellen Hegeman—Evansville, IN
Kathryn Fitzpatrick—Farifax Station, VA
Tracy Tresner—Charleston, IL
Rita Bohmer—Popular Grove, IL
Cathy Parsons—Canton, IL
Debra Foster—Aurora, CO
Christina Bannon—Chicago, IL
Karen Limbrick—Sugar Grove, IL
Linda Melvin—Flowery Branch, GA
**Genealogy**

**July 2010**

[29th, 30th & 31st]

*Family History Expo*

This will be at the KCI Expo Center in Kansas City, MO. For info see Fhexpos.com

**August 2010**

[3rd]

*Elgin Genealogy Society*

[6th & 7th]

*The Midwestern Roots Family History & Genealogy Conference—Migration Then & Now*

To be held at the Indianapolis Marriott East in Indianapolis, IN. The host is the Indiana Historical Society. See [indianahistory.org/midwesternroots](http://indianahistory.org/midwesternroots)

[10th]

*Lake County (IL) Genealogical Society*
*Tools to Dig Deeper: Probate and Inquest Records* by Grace DuMelle
[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilcgs/meetings.htm](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilcgs/meetings.htm)

[18th-21st]

*Federation of Genealogical Societies*

**September 2010**

[25th]

*Fox Valley Genealogical Society*
*Ancestor Research: A Fresh Look At Classic Techniques*, a day-long conference featuring four lectures by noted genealogist, D. Joshua Taylor, at Grace United Methodist Church, Naperville, IL. [www.ilfvgs.org](http://www.ilfvgs.org)

[26th]

*Kane County Genealogical Society*
*When to Hire a Researcher* presented by Linda Bloom-DeGroot

**October 2010**

[1st & 2nd]

*Polish Genealogical Society of America*

[23rd]

*Illinois State Genealogical Society Fall Conference*

Featuring Curt B. Witcher of FGS and the Allen County Public Library. This year it will be held at the historic Hotel Pere Marquette in Peoria. [http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs/)

**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.

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**Reflect Indian Influence—Continued**

**Fulton:** Other communities named after famous figures: Fulton, after Robert Fulton, inventor and steamboat builder.

**Half Day:** Half Day is the English translation of Aptakisic, a Potawatomi chief so named because he could do in half day what other braves did in a full day.

**Homer:** One recorder tells us the classical name of Homer was put on the present village by two partner-founders, one a lover of the classics, and the other a tribe.

As they were discussing plans to build a hotel, the story goes, one said that would be very “homer,” meaning homelike. The other immediately proposed it as a name, and the first unwittingly agreed to commemorate the Greek bard.

**Illinois—Cahokia—Kaskaskia—Peoria—Tamaroa:** The name Illinois itself is the French derivation of Iiniwek, the once mighty confederation that occupied the state. They referred to themselves as Ininiwek, or the men, to differentiate themselves from all other Indians who they considered sub-human savages.

Peoria, Kaskaskia, Cahokia and Tamorao were the names of four of the tribes in the confederation. All are now the names of Illinois communities.

To be continued.

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**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](http://www.fgs.org).
ISGS Executive Committee  Elected Officers  2010

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

2010 Directors: Vicki Anders, Ann Wells, Annabelle Bradshaw
2011 Directors: Cheri Hunter, Jean Jung, Karl R. Moore
2012 Directors: Susie Pope, Jayne Cates, Joan Kitchen-Murray

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.

ISGS, P.O. Box 10195, Springfield, IL 62791-0195
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Business Office Telephone: 217/789-1968
Website: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs/>
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**Newsletter Article Contributions due the 30th of the month prior to publishing.**
**Advertising options available**

Newsletter Editor: kimzyk@comcast.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.

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 or the ISGS Office. (saleguas@dtnspeed.net)