The ISGS would like to wish everyone a joyous, healthy and VERY genealogically successful NEW YEAR

The Honors and Awards Committee would like to extend an apology to Fred Katko for misprinting his name in the ISGS Fall Conference syllabus. It was printed as Kalko.
Greetings,

Carole McCarty’s words in her departing “President’s letter” mentioned some of the exciting things to expect during the forthcoming year. Be watching for them. In addition, several new people are joining the ISGS Board and committees. If you have a desire to join a committee you can indicate that when you renew your membership. We will be happy to have your assistance and ideas.

Since becoming the ISGS President, I have made numerous trips to the ISGS Office in Springfield, which is about a three-hour drive one-way. While driving in the car I listen to books on tape/CD and most recently, an acquaintance recommended _The Historian_ by Elizabeth Kostova because of my interest in family history. I didn’t read the jacket cover when I checked out the CD’s and as I began to listen I hoped the story was not going to be about vampires (it is and as far as I know there are no vampires in my family even though I do remember a toddler who liked to bite). Vampires aside, I found the book intriguing because the historians go to various libraries and archives looking for original documents. Now this is beginning to sound like genealogy and I think how truly awesome (in every sense of the word) it would be to hold an original document, from centuries ago, which includes some information relating to my ancestors (I am getting a genealogy adrenalin rush just thinking about this). Have you had this experience? If not, I would suggest you try finding an original document for your ancestor. If you have an original document, let other relatives know, so they too can share in the delight.

Many original documents have been microfilmed but there is always a chance not everything in the file was included. The same may be true when copies are requested so be sure to ask for the complete file. Don’t rely on the indexes. In most cases, not all named persons are included.

ISGS has a collection of microfilms that may include some original documentation of your ancestors. Included are various records from selected counties. Volunteers will be needed to create indexes.

When the weather is encouraging you to stay inside, step out of your home to discover an old original document, which is new to you or stay inside to help with an indexing project.

Wishing you the best in all ways, old and new,

Janice A Fritsch PLGCS
President, Illinois State Genealogical Society

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**Helpful Hints**

Did you know that you can link to the ISGS website through the Illinois Regional Archives Depository System’s webpage on the Illinois State Archives under Links to Other Sites.

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**Reflect Indian Influence—Continued**

**Lena-Loda-Ullin:** As the previously mentioned Irvington indicates, there were a surprising number of Illinoisans trying to escape the backwoods atmosphere by selecting literary and classical names for communities. The villages of Loda, Ullin and Lena were names after mythological characters and scenes in the poems of Ossian, an ancient Celt who enjoyed a great vogue during the 8th century and is today largely forgotten.

**Lincoln:** Illinois’ Number One hero is memorialized in Lincoln, Illinois. One source notes: This is the only town names for Abraham Lincoln during his obscurity, before his rise to fame. It was christened by Lincoln himself, in a ceremony in which he broke a watermelon on the ground...shortly after Aug. 24, 1853.


**Mississippi:** And Mississippi, says etymologist Vogel, does not mean father of waters, but is Algonquin for Great River.

To be continued.
ISGS Plays in Peoria!

Sixteen months of planning, it’s over in eight hours! The ISGS Conference was held in Peoria, IL. on Saturday, October 23, 2010. It all started with designing the conference flyer and later, the brochure by Tina Beard. Publicity began by e-mailing/U.S. mailing hundreds of flyers, brochures and information to genealogy and historical societies and libraries by Nancy Blackwell. A record number, 260 attendees from over the state of IL, WI, MN, IA, MO, NY, FL, IN, and MD gathered at the Hotel Pere’ Marquette for a day of learning and fellowship. Speakers included Curt Witcher, Larry Pepper, Jane Haldeman, Jeffrey Bassett, Tim Pinnick and Susan Kaufman.

Sixty guests attended Friday’s evening dinner at Alexander’s Steak House, organized by Barb Benner, Hospitality Chair. Overnight hotel guests were given a gift bag, sponsored by Peoria County Genealogical Society and Barb Benner. Saturday morning, attendees were greeted by members of Peoria Historical Society, Dressed in Time, and directional signs printed by Susie Pope. William LaBounty kept busy throughout the day preserving memories in photography. Twenty volunteers were organized by Karen Heinrich while registration was coordinated by Shirley Aleguas. Fifty great door prizes were gathered by Carol McGee, twenty auction baskets created by Carol Sterr-Lehman, a “Donor Tree” designed and constructed by Sandy Olson held names of all donors and workers for the conference. The conference syllabus was published by Jane Haldeman and Janice Fritsch. The exhibitor hall was full of vendors and society displays, also organized by Tina Beard.

New this year was a Youth Workshop. Sandra Woest and her team: Barbara Kessler, Susan Campbell, Candace Summers, Carol Wheeler and Olivia Lawley presented genealogy research techniques to ten students. Volunteers worked Friday and Saturday, doing whatever chores needed included: Stephanie Carbonetti, Kim Kasprzyk, Rosalind Schaar, Patty Schmidt, Rose Bantz, Michele Claypool, Lori Ingersoll, Rita Marsh, Donna Schlatter, Jeff Schlatter, John Hartwig, Nancy Sheppard, Sue Swanson, Corinne Biersdorff, Marge Rice, Bill Leucht; in addition to the entire conference committee and many ISGS board members.

It took one great team to achieve the success for this conference. Without everyone listed above, Carole McCarty, Penny Todd-Ponsonby and the Peoria Area Convention & Visitors Bureau, (hopefully, I have not forgotten anyone) this would not be possible. THANK YOU!!

Donna Pond,
ISGS Conference Chair
ISGS 2010 Award Winners

Special Recognition—Fred G. Katko
Fred Katko, of Peoria, Illinois, for his work as a generous volunteer with the Peoria County Genealogical Society as well as other societies. With these examples: research bus trip organizer, program presentations, cemetery work copying and indexing, etc., gene classes, work on several society publications, volunteering for special events, ISGS conference vice-chairman 1994.

Youth—Christian Bender
As a student Christian completed a research project on The Cedar Point Cemetery, this project included researching the history of the cemetery, photographing the headstones, mapping the cemetery and writing a report on his research. This report received a rating of superior at the Illinois state history fair. Christian was very well respected by administrators, faculty, staff and classmates at his school. He remained consistently on the honor roll while active in many extra-curricular activities. Christian also has won awards from the Elks and the American Legion.

Community Service—Cheri Davis Hunter
Started genealogy when she saw an advertisement for a six week course. In 1974 she joined the Decatur Genealogical Society. She started working in the library the first week and has served as librarian for the last 18+ years. She’s also active in the Daughters of the American Revolution, Daughters of 1812, Daughters of Union Veterans and Daughters of the Union. She’s on the ISGS Board. She states “I still find it as enjoyable to find things for others as for myself.”

Selected by the Editorial board of the ISGS Quarterly
Co winner of the individual writer’s—Margaret J. Collins
Margaret worked for the Illinois State Library for 33 years as a professional Librarian and recently retired in 2009. She was a library program specialist in the Patent and Trademark depository library. She has compiled lists of early Illinois patent holders from 1818-1900, and provided the information to the appropriate local repositories. Additionally, Margaret has compiled a list of early inventors that Lincoln knew. Margaret is a board member of the Springfield Illinois African American History Foundation. She also was co-chair of If The Truth Be Told, which was a one day symposium on diversity in Springfield during the Lincoln era. Margaret is on a board that is working to establish an African American museum in Springfield.

Selected by the Editorial board of the ISGS Quarterly
Co winner of the individual writer’s award—Daniel W. Dixon
Dan is a Library Aide II at the Illinois State Library, where he also assists in scanning for the Illinois Digital Archives, an online archive. He was president of Sangamon County Genealogical Society from 1995-2008 as well as editor of their publication, The Circuit Rider, as well as Editor for The Circuit Rider during that time period. Prior to becoming President, he served as Second Vice President and Program Chair and as Registrar from 1992 to 1995 with the same society. During the years 1991-2008 he helped transcribe and produce four birth record books (1860-1887), three marriage record books (1890-1907) and one death record book (1877-1899) for Sangamon County researchers as well as several cemetery books and misc. other Sangamon related books. He is an honorary life member of the Decatur Genealogical Society and president of the Wimmer Cemetery (Auburn, IL) Association. I is a lifetime member of the Sangamon County Genealogical Society and a Life Member of the Bond County Genealogical Society. In 2009 he became a Honorary Life Member of the Decatur Genealogical Society.

Distinguished Service—Curt Bryan Witcher
Curt is the Senior Manager for Special Collections at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana where he manages The Genealogy Center, serves as general curator for that institution’s Rare and Fine Book Collection as well as the institutional archives, and is the Supervisor for the new Lincoln National Foundation’s Lincoln Library Collection. He received his B.A. in history and English, and his M.L.S. in Library and Information Science from Indiana University and has worked at Allen County Public Library for more than thirty years.

What Makes a Good Family Bible Entry

If the task of entering the family events into the special book has fallen to you...you will want to leave a document that your descendants will praise for its legibility. Choose an empty page if possible. Adjust the size of your penmanship so that the first entry will take one line, if possible. Sit in a comfortable “desk” position and relax. Use your best writing, or perhaps printing if you know that no one can read your writing. Put information in chronological order if possible. But most importantly be consistent...use the same format for each entry. Whether you choose 19 Sep or September 19, it will help the reader in 2110 to follow your faded ink if you can always trust it.

by Kristy Gravlin
Annual Reports now needed for Smaller 501 Organizations

Smaller 501 (c)(3) organizations that previously did not have to file annual reports with the IRS are now required to do so. Many are unaware of this. The IRS has recently granted a one-time extension until Oct. 1 for organizations to file. Below is more information about this and an url for the IRS Web Site. The Web site has a listing that you can access by state with organizations that will lose their tax-exemption if they do not act quickly. Perhaps you might let your members know of this. We were surprised how many were on the Illinois list. While the number of genealogical societies was not large, there were some on the list. It includes museums, historical societies, preservation groups, and lots of Friends of the Library groups.

Tax-exempt organizations that do not satisfy annual filing requirements for three consecutive years automatically lose their tax-exempt status. The IRS is providing one-time relief for such organizations that have filing due dates on or after May 17 and before October 15, 2010. The list includes organizations for which the IRS does not have a record of a required annual filing for 2007 and 2008, and whose 2009 return, due on or after May 17 and before October 15, 2010, has not yet been received.

The list, which was generated on June 30, 2010, includes only organizations with an annual filing requirement. Certain exempt organizations are exempt from this requirement. See Annual Exempt Organization Return: Who Must File The list may be incomplete, as certain organizations may be at risk of automatic revocation even if their names do not appear on these lists: http://www.irs.gov/charities/article/0,,id=225889,00.html

Patricia L. Miller, Executive Director
Illinois Heritage Association
602 ½ E. Green St., Champaign, IL 61820

"If you have already lost your 901c(3) non profit status, you will not be notified." From a society who had the experience. Jane Haldeman, President, Fox Valley Genealogical Society.
Acknowledging our generous contributors to ISGS and ISGS Projects!

**ISGS General Fund**
- Norma Anderson—Woodstock, IL
- Les & Kathy Johnson—Peoria, IL
- Janice Fritsch—Sandwich, IL
- Stephen Black—Wood River, IL
- Jennifer Holik-Urban—Woodridge, IL
- John Kessler—Romeoville, IL
- Alan & Michelle Wilson—Long Grove, IL
- Patricia Vodick—Oak Park, IL
- Karen Sullivan—Poplar Grove, IL
- Robert Aumiller & Susan Ross—River Forest, IL
- Laura Friday-Alliss—Goodfield, IL
- Nancy Waller Thomas—Columbia, MO
- Keith Miller—Briarcliff, NY
- Joy Neighbors—Flat Rock, IL
- Ann O’Rourke—Pukalani, HI
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- John G. Torset—Hanna City, IL
- Mary Hawley Sasse—Carbondale, IL
- Jay Amaran—Derwood, MD
- Siobhan Kimminau—Omaha, NE

**Angel Project Donors**
- Mary Sasse—Carbondale, IL

**New ISGS Members**
- Sue Ridgley—Decatur, IL
- Dean & Mary Patton—Peoria, IL
- Sherry Diegel—Pekin, IL
- James & Karen Fyke—Eureka, IL
- Ann Tice—Champaign, IL
- Stephen Black—Wood River, IL
- John Kessler—Romeoville, IL
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- Jay Amaran—Derwood, MD
- Siobhan Kimminau—Omaha, NE

This is a new display in the Illinois State Archives lobby in Springfield
**Genealogy**

**December 2010**

[4th h]
Chicago Genealogical Society
Chicago Polish American Museum Tour & Presentation—Chicago, IL.
www.chicagogenealogy.org

[12th h]
The Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois
GSSI Annual Meeting at the John A. Logan College Library, Carterville, IL.
www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilgssi/index.html

**January 2011**

[13th h]
Great River Genealogical Society
How Illinois Counties Were Formed by Nancy Sanders at the Quincy Senior and Family Resource Center.
gr-gs.org/index.shtml

[15th h]
Computer Assisted Genealogy Group of Northern Illinois
Handheld Apps for Family Research by John Stryker. Schaumburg Township District Library. caggni.shuttlepod.org

**February 2011**

[5th h]
Kankakee Valley Genealogical Society
Mining Census Records by Stephen M. Szabados at the Kankakee Library.
www.kvgs.org

[26th h]
DuPage County Genealogical Society

**March 2011**

[15th h]
Federation of Genealogical Societies
ISGS will host Pathway to the Heartland in Springfield, IL.
www.fgs.org/index.php

**April 2011**

[14th-16th]
Illinois State Historical Society
Sacred Oaths, Shallow Graves: Illinois in the Civil War, Part I at the Morris Library, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale.
www.historyillinois.org

**May 2011**

[11th-14th]

**Calendar**

National Genealogical Society
2011 Family History Conference to be held in Charleston, South Carolina.
www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference_info

**September 2011**

[7th-11th]
Federation of Genealogical Societies
ISGS will host Pathway to the Heartland in Springfield, IL.
www.fgs.org/index.php

**October 2011**

[15th h]
Wisconsin State Genealogical Society
2011 Fall Seminar at Country Springs Hotel in Waukesha, WI.
wsgs.wetpaint.com/

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

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**The Federation of Genealogical Societies**

**Pathways to the Heartland**

A Conference for the Nation’s Genealogists
with local host The Illinois State Genealogical Society

September 7-10, 2011
Springfield, Illinois
You still have time to renew your dues to the Illinois State Genealogical Society without missing an issue of the ISGS Quarterly.
Renew online at http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs/memberform.html or mail your 2011 renewal to:
ISGS Membership Renewal
PO Box 10195
Springfield, IL 62791-0195

Individual/Society/Library: $30.
Joint (2 people at same address): $35.
Contributing: $55

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.

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ISGS Executive Committee Elected Officers 2011

President: Janice Fritsch
1st Vice-President: Larry Pepper
2nd Vice-President: TBA
Treasurer: Michele Claypool
Recording Secretary: Julie Tarr
2011 Directors: Cheri Hunter, Jean Jung, Karl R. Moore
2012 Directors: Susie Pope, Jayne Cates, Joan Kitchen-Murray
2013 Directors: Ann Wells, Annabelle Bradshaw, Dan Dixon