ISGS Ancestor Photo Contest Winners

The Illinois State Genealogical Society is proud to announce the winners of its recent Ancestor Photo Contest held earlier this year.

Rotating Ancestor Slide Show Added to ISGS Website

There were 12 photos selected from the many images submitted by ISGS members and they are all available for viewing at the ISGS website. We’ve created a “rotating slide show” which will display two images when you click on a sidebar menu item. In addition, place your mouse pointer over an image to learn more about the person or persons depicted and which ISGS member submitted the photo.

Winners and Photos

(left) Frieda Hann Loe (1896-1979), 2nd from right in a Chicago sweatshop, abt. 1912. Submitted by Nancy Loe.


(left) Christian Kath (1812-1894) & Louisa Jess (1812-1849). They were both from Schleswig-Holstein, Germany. He was a weaver journey-man. They had 8 children, 2 of which emigrated to the U.S. and lived outside of Chicago in Niles, Cook County, Illinois. Submitted by Kim Kasprzyk.

Greetings,

While trying to think of a timely newsworthy topic for this letter I naturally thought of the upcoming conference. During the past year, you have seen many references to the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) in regard to the FGS 2011 Conference. I began to wonder if ISGS members know that the ISGS is a member of FGS and that led me to wonder what ISGS members know about FGS.

FGS is a society for societies with each member society providing a delegate who is the link between the member society and FGS. Founded in 1976 in Illinois the FGS’ mission is to provide innovative services and products to member organizations, marshaling resources and serving as the genealogical community’s collective voice.

I have highlighted below some of the ways FGS fulfills their mission which I think offers insight into who they are.

Every year FGS holds a national conference with one day devoted to society management workshops. Published by FGS is The Society Strategy Series. Each paper presents a multi-page article offering suggestions and instructions for the management of genealogical societies, historical societies, and family associations. These papers have been thoughtfully written and many are timeless classics to help societies and their leadership grow and prosper.

The Preservation and Access Committee (RPAC) is a joint committee of the FGS, the National Genealogical Society, and the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies. Their purpose is to advise the genealogical community on ensuring proper access to historical records of genealogical value in whatever media they are recorded, on means to affect legislation, and on supporting strong records preservation policies and practices.

Preserve the Pensions of the War of 1812 is an effort to digitize the War of 1812 pension applications held by the National Archives. There are more than 180,000 files or 7.2 million pages. These images will be available for free. For every dollar donated towards the project two documents can be digitized.

FGS has its own radio show! My Society airs every Saturday at 1:00pm CST. Past episodes are available for our listening pleasure at anytime. http://www.blogtalkradio.com/mysociety

Awards are presented by the FGS and are intended to serve two purposes. First, they recognize and thank member organizations and individuals of member organizations who make significant contributions. Second, they illustrate the many things that can, and need, to be done, and provide examples and ideas on how to accomplish similar goals.

The FGS website provides the FGS Voice (news from FGS and its members), webinars dedicated to society management education, Society Hall (an extensive directory of genealogical organization), and their Forum magazine.

Some of the endeavors of FGS provide support for the genealogical community at large while others are benefits to their members. Go to <http://www.fgs.org> for additional information and a complete list of member benefits.

Janice A. Fritsch
President, Illinois State Genealogical Society

Acknowledging our generous contributors to ISGS and ISGS Projects! Thank You

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<tr>
<th>ISGS General Fund</th>
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<td>John S. Campbell—Paris, IL</td>
<td>Kathy Schaffer—St. Peters, MO</td>
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ISGS Notes the Passing of Elizabeth Pearson White

The Illinois State Genealogical Society notes the passing of long-time ISGS Board member Elizabeth White, and offers its condolences to her family and many friends in the genealogy community. Betty helped found ISGS in 1968 and served as vice-President in 1976 and Associate Editor of the Quarterly Journal from 1977-1981.

Elizabeth P. White, FASG, FNGS, CG, died on January 3, 2011, aged 96 years, 8 months and 3 days in Wilmette, Illinois. Betty was a certified genealogist (certified in 1971), lecturer, and a published author in journals about Illinois and New England family history and books of documented genealogy. She was Chairman of the Howland Five Generations Project, John Howland the Mayflower passenger whose family became the largest from those who landed at Plymouth in 1620. Betty was a life member of the Illinois Society of the Mayflower, Descendants (William Brewster and Stephen Hopkins) and honorary member of the John Howland Society. Betty was also recognized as a Fellow of the American Genealogical Society (selected in 1976 as their 86th member) and a Fellow of the National Genealogical Society granted in 1986 for contributions to genealogy in many different ways.

White was awarded the annual Lowell Volkel Medal of Honor by the Illinois State Genealogical Society in 1996. The late Dr. Volkel was for many years head archivist for the State of Illinois and the founding president of the Illinois State Genealogical Society at Springfield.

Here are some interesting highlights on the life and work of Elizabeth Pearson White (from Memorial Tribute – Elizabeth P. White FASG, FNGS, CG, The Mayflower Quarterly, Plymouth, MA, General Society of Mayflower Descendants March 2011, written by her son, Ronald White.):

“At Springfield, in the Illinois State Archives, she discovered that many letters in the Benjamin Godfrey collection had lost their signature. Who had written to our ancestor? She brought this problem to the senior archivist Lowell M. Volkel, and simultaneously they understood that the author was Abraham Lincoln.” (p. 25-26)

“Betty White was involved in creating the Chicago Genealogical Society (1967) and the Illinois State Genealogical Society (1968), serving as Vice-President in 1976 and Associate Editor of the Quarterly Journal from 1977-1981.” (p. 26)

“For the Illinois State Genealogical Society at Springfield my mother arranged for the esteemed Milton Rubin-cam FASG to be the featured speaker about genealogical research. Arriving at the hotel she discovered her name and her topic posted on the hotel’s marquee. My mother felt embarrassed, thinking that publicity should have favored the renowned elder of the American Society of Genealogists. Good that Milton was a true gentleman and the audience offered their enthusiastic applause.” (p. 27-28)

For more information on Elizabeth Pearson White, please see the extensive obituary complete with photographs at http://obits.dignitymemorial.com/dignity-memorial/obituary.aspx?n=Elizabeth-White&lc=2444&pid=147613854&mid=4502231. You can also leave your message for Betty’s family using the online Guest Book.

Visit the ISGS Booth at the FGS 2011 Conference

Be sure to drop by the ISGS Booth in the Exhibit Hall. In addition to a great display, we will have some goodies to hand out, including a fabulous book At Home with Illinois Governors: A Social History of the Illinois Executive Mansion, 1855-2003.

We are also offering a membership special for new members who join at the conference. Members who renew at the conference will receive a special gift.

ISGS board members will be working the booth, so this would be a great opportunity to ask questions or learn about the many ways you can participate in the society.
FGS 2011 Conference attendees are invited to take an informative behind-the-scene tour of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library. Tours include a visit to the following areas of the library:

- Closed Stacks
- Steve Neal Reading Room
- Newspaper/Microfilm Collection
- Manuscripts Collection
- Audio-Visual Collection
- Conservation Lab
- Microfilm Lab

FREE tickets are available at the Hospitality Table in the Convention Center beginning Tuesday, September 6. Space is limited.

**Tour Schedule**

**Wednesday, September 7**
10:00-11:00 AM
2:00-3:00 PM

**Thursday, September 8**
10:00-11:00 AM
2:00-3:00 PM

**Friday, September 9**
10:00-11:00 AM
2:00-3:00 PM

**ALPL is located at:**
112 N. Sixth Street, Springfield (a few blocks from the Convention Center)

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**Millie Yvonne Allott**
3 Feb 1923—11 Jul 2011

Millie was an ISGS Board Member and a former Chair of Ancestor Charts for a number of years. She was veteran of the U.S. Navy and served in WWII. She was also a charter member of the Will / Grundy Genealogical Society and Mensa. Her interment with full military honors will be at the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood, IL.

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**Conference Volunteers Are Priceless**

"Volunteers are seldom paid, not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless."

--Unknown

It takes a lot of willing hands and warm smiles to host a successful national conference, and this is certainly true for the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) 2011 Conference. In September, Springfield will be the site of “Pathways to the Heartland: A Conference for the Nation’s Genealogists.” Please help ISGS to be a gracious host by volunteering for some of the available opportunities.

We need to fill volunteer slots from Tuesday, September 6th to Saturday, September 10th. Complete details, including a list of opportunities, are on the ISGS website at http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=106. To volunteer, simply complete the form and you will be contacted to discuss potential assignments.

Just imagine that you’re a conference attendee who has traveled for hours to attend this event. You hope that your registration and goody bag will be ready and waiting. You hope that there is a friendly face to direct you to the proper meeting room. You hope to not only learn something new, but to enjoy yourself as well. Now repeat that scenario thousands of times, and you’ll realize how our volunteers keep things moving smoothly.

Assisting with the conference is a way to “pay it forward.” You’re not just a volunteer; you’re a gem, with many facets: part goodwill ambassador, part “go-fer,” part traffic cop, doing whatever is necessary to make the conference a success. You’ll meet fellow genealogists from across the state and across the country as you help make the FGS 2011 Conference shine. Both FGS and ISGS appreciate our volunteers — our priceless gems.
ISGS Website Update

New Military Certificates Database
The Illinois State Genealogical Society is pleased to announce its new Military Certificates database at its website (http://www.ilgensoc.org). Just in time for Memorial Day, you can now search for your Illinois ancestors who served in various wars and military conflicts. Simply click Free Databases and then click Military Certificates (http://ilgensoc.org/cstm_militaryCerts.php) and use the search field to enter your surnames.

ISGS currently has several Military Certificate projects in progress covering various wars from the Blackhawk Wars to World War II. The purpose of these projects is to recognize the sacrifices made by the veteran’s valiant efforts and to record and preserve material submitted in support of the certificates so that it will be available for future generations of researchers.

For more information on how you can obtain a certificate for your Illinois ancestor who served in the military, visit Military Certificates in the ISGS Projects section of the ISGS website (http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=125).

Indexing Volunteers Needed
Our most pressing need is someone to chair the Indexing subcommittee of the Website committee. The chair will be responsible for tracking indexing projects, and making sure that volunteers have indexing work to perform when they are ready for a new project.

Several people have submitted suggestions and have been volunteering for ISGS’s new Indexing Initiative towards the creation of indices and databases for our website’s Members Section. Administered by board members Thomas MacEntee and Anabelle Bradshaw, this major effort aims to provide members with excellent and wide-ranging Illinois research resources. For more information and to access the Indexing Proposal Form (http://www.ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=111) on the ISGS website.

Updates to African-American Genealogy Databases
The Illinois State Genealogical Society (ISGS) is pleased to announce several new articles about African-American genealogy at its website. The articles relating to registers of slaves and emancipation of slaves in Gallatin County, Illinois, were originally written by Mr. and Mrs. H. Obert Anderson and published in the Illinois State Genealogical Society Quarterly in 1978. They include:

Register of Slaves (Indentures) and Emancipation of Slaves - Part 1
(Gallatin County) (ISGS Quarterly, Vol. 10, No. 1, Spring 1978)

Emancipation of Slaves and Affidavits, Gallatin County, Illinois - Part 2
(ISGS Quarterly, Vol. 10, No. 2, Summer 1978)

Emancipation of Slaves and Affidavits, Gallatin County, Illinois - Part 3
(ISGS Quarterly, Vol. 10, No. 3, Fall 1978)

These articles, along with several other similar articles published in the Illinois State Genealogical Society Quarterly during the late 1970s, can be found under Free Databases in the African-American Genealogy section.

Surnames include: BARROW, BIRD, BOWLES, CALDWELL, CARTER, COHSON, CREASY, CRENSHAW, DARNELL, DAVIS, DUNCAN, FORESTER, HARDIN, KEHMAN, LAFFERTY, MIFLIN, MORRISON, NORRINGTON, POSEY, RAWLINGS, RILLEY, RODES, SCOTT, STREET, STUBBS, SWAN, VANLANDINGHAM, WILSON, YORK, ZIMMERMAN and others.

Submit Your Surnames
The ISGS website has a Surname Research database (http://ilgensoc.org/surname.php) which allows any visitor to view surname information and contact researchers. As a member of ISGS, you can also submit your surname information so other researchers can contact you.

For complete instructions, please see Surname Research Help (http://ilgensoc.org/upload/menu/ISGS_Surname_Research_Instructions.pdf).

Do You Know Your Login Credentials?
If you have not received your ISGS Member Login Instructions, please contact the ISGS Webmaster at isgswebmaster@ilgensoc.org.

Questions? Comments? Suggestions?
If you have suggestions, questions or comments on the ISGS Website, you can use the Website Suggestion Form at (http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=87) or email the ISGS Webmaster at isgswebmaster@ilgensoc.org.
REMINDER: ISGS Annual Meeting, September 8, 2011

The 2011 Annual Meeting of the Illinois State Genealogical Society will take place on Thursday, September 8, 2011 during the Federation of Genealogical Societies conference in Springfield, Illinois. The meeting will take place during the ISGS Luncheon which starts at 12:15pm Central Daylight Time.

Vote on 2011 Officers and Directors
At this year’s meeting, ISGS members will be asked to vote on the appointment of the following ISGS members to their respective offices:

- President: Janice Fritsch
- 1st Vice President: Steven Black
- 2nd Vice President: Susan Pope
- Recording Secretary: Julie Tarr
- Treasurer: Michele Claypool
- 2014 Directors: Karl Moore, Cheri Hunter, and Jennifer Holik-Urban

Vote on Updated Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws Revision
Also at the meeting, ISGS members will be asked to vote on two items, 1) an amendment to the ISGS purposes (Section 5) listed in the Articles of Incorporation and 2) a Bylaw Revision.

In 1969, ISGS became a non-profit corporation and as required, listed its purposes in their Articles of Incorporation. Since that time, ISGS no longer has a constitution and the purposes stated in the current Bylaws no longer match those in the Articles of Incorporation. For consistency between the two documents, the ISGS Governing Board will present a motion to amend the purposes to those listed in the Bylaws.

Due to the number of suggested changes, it was determined that the Bylaws would be completely revised. The Bylaws and Procedure Manual Committee has thoroughly reviewed and updated each section to reflect the current operations.

All ISGS members received a copy of the current Bylaws and the proposed Revision either in the mail or via email. Included was a listing of the ISGS purposes as stated in the Articles of Incorporation and the proposed amendment.

If you did not receive your copy via mail or email or you want more information on the Annual Meeting, please contact the ISGS Office at isgsoffice@ilgensoc.org or by calling (217) 789-1968.

The Fountaine Dale Public Library District is pleased to announce the debut of its new Genealogy Blog!

The Genealogy Blog is listed under the FPLD's 'Blog' tab at http://www.fountaineald.org, or you can visit and bookmark the direct link at http://fountaineallegenealogy.wordpress.com/

New ISGS Members

- Michael McCoy—Midwest City, OK
- April Nozicka—St. Charles, IL
- Kathy Schaffer—St. Peters, MO
- Michael Welton—Lena, IL
- Pauline Rutschow—Downers Grove, IL
- Jo Ann Beall—Las Vegas, NV
- Virginia Hodkinson—Westland, MI
- Lynda Kamaka—Irvine, CA
- Lincoln & Sandie Lockhart—Naperville, IL
- Sandra & Robert Barrett—Norland, WA
- Richard Carter—Marietta, GA
- Edith J. Fly—Dearborn, MI
- Susan Radke-Sproul—Kirkland, WA
- Philip & Dianne Luhmann—Chicago, IL
- The Newberry Library—Chicago, IL
- MD Payne—Diemen, Netherlands
**Genealogy**

**August 2011**

[6th]
Kentucky Genealogical Society  
*Clearing Your Genealogical Hurdles* by Elizabeth Shown Mills.  

[20th]
Czech & Slovak American Genealogy Society of Illinois  
*Facebook for Genealogists* presented by Thomas MacEntee at the 1st Presbyterian Church of LaGrange, IL.  
http://www.csagsi.org/

[25th]
Kane County Genealogical Society  
*It Wasn’t a Cruise Ship* presented by Marian Schuetz.  
http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilkcgs/

**September 2011**

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

[24th]
Fox Valley Genealogical Society  
Presenting an all day conference *Building a Better Pedigree* featuring Christine Rose at Grace United Methodist Church in Naperville.  
www.ilfvgs.org

[25th]
Decatur Genealogical Society  
John Beidler, the knowledgeable and official re-enactor, portrays Commodore Stephen Decatur, the hero of 1804 U.S. Navy raid on the Barbary Coast pirates of Tripoli.  
www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgs/~ildecgs/

[29th-30th]
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency  
Thirteenth Annual conference on Illinois History at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum in Springfield, IL.  
www.illinoishistory.gov/conference.htm

**October 2011**

[1st]
Polish Genealogical Society  
The PGSA presents its 33rd Annual Conference *Puzzled by the Past? Put the Pieces Together!* at the Hilton Garden Inn.

**Calendar**

Des Plaines, IL.  
http://www.pgsa.org

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

[15th]
Genealogy Society of Southern IL  
*Advanced Sources and Strategies for Tracking Pre-1850 Ancestor* by Mark J. Lowe, CG.  

[26th-29th]
Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International  
13th Genealogical/Cultural Conference in St. Louis, MO.  
http://www.cgsi.org/

**Posting Genealogy Events**

Please send notices of events well in advance to ISGS Newsletter Editor:  
isgsnewsletter@ilgensoc.org.
Include date(s), location, contact person, and the address or website to be used for additional information.
ISGS Executive Committee Elected Officers 2011

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

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.

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://ilgensoc.org/index.php>
Published in January, March, May, July, September, November.
**Newsletter Article Contributions due the 30th of the month prior to publishing.**
**Advertising options available**

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://ilgensoc.cpage.php?pt=8 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.
Charter (before 1969): $29
Contributing: $55

New ISGS Office Hours
Effective the week of March 14th the ISGS Office will be open on Mondays and Thursdays from 10am until 1pm.