Get Ready!! The 1940 US Census is Coming Soon!!

The Illinois State Genealogical Society (ISGS) invites all of our society and individual members and friends to be part of a great indexing project. Family Search has the tools for us to use and the support we may need along the way. We will have the opportunity to make searching the 1940 census swift and easy without looking through page after page of images.

In an article on December 16, 2011, familysearch.org explains:

On April 2, 2012, the National Archives (NARA) will provide access to the images of the 1940 U.S. Census for the first time. Upon its release, FamilySearch and many top genealogy organizations, archives, societies, and individuals will coordinate efforts to provide quick access to these digital images and immediately start indexing these records to make them searchable online for free and open access. Through this joint initiative, the index and images will always be available for free on FamilySearch.org.

... If we all work together and get our friends and neighbors involved in indexing, we can all be searching these records in no time. Join ISGS in our endeavor to do our part and we’ll get this done and have some fun along the way. To be part of this, the first step is to create an account (free) at familysearch.org. Then go to indexing at familysearch.org – be sure you’re signed in – click on MY INFO at the top right hand corner of the screen, fill in required information and choose Illinois State Genealogical Society as the group and save. Now you’re ready to download the indexing software (under GET STARTED) and try your hand. Email me - Becky Higgins at bhiggins9@gmail.com – with the name of your local genealogical society and she will set you up with them as a subgroup. That way once we get going we can have contests and such. How about an indexing party? Sounds like fun to me! Let’s get fired up!!

NOVICE’S NOOK Part 1
by Dan Dixon

The basic tool used by genealogists is the pedigree chart or family tree. In order to use any tool you need to know how it works and what it looks like. Filling out a pedigree chart is not hard if you keep in mind that for every generation the amount of people doubles. The reasoning behind that is every person has two parents. Follow the steps listed below and you will be able to fill out a pedigree chart.

1. Your name goes in blank #1 with your birth and marriage date listed in the following order: Day, Month, Year such as (3 March 1964.) A separate pedigree is filled out for each spouse. On this chart your spouse is listed below your information. [Hint: Use pencil when you fill out the form until you have proven the event as a fact.]

2. Blanks 2 and 3 are for your father’s and mother’s information. Males are always listed on a pedigree chart with even numbers and women have odd numbers. [Hint: All females are listed by their maiden name.]

3. Blanks 4 and 5 are for your father’s parents. Blanks 6 and 7 are for your mother’s parents. The remainder of the chart is filled out in the same manner, with your father’s ancestors on the top of the chart and your mother’s ancestors on the bottom.

4. When you reach the part of the chart in which little information will fit, such as the fourth generation in a four generation chart, you will need to make a new chart for that person.

5. The following are a few of the abbreviations used in many different pedigree charts.
   b. = born, pl. = place, w. = where, m. = married, chr. = christened or baptized,
   pob. =place of birth, pod. = place of death
Greetings,

In addition to December 31st being the last day of 2011 it was also the last day that Larry Pepper was the ISGS 1st Vice President. His leadership, skills and devotion to ISGS will be missed. He is supported in his decision to resign and has the well wishes of the Board in whatever he pursues. A well-deserved thank you goes to him.

When the 1940 census is released on April 2, it will not be indexed. Be one of the many who will take part in the indexing project through FamilySearch. Watch for details in upcoming announcements.

The Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS), the National Archives, and the genealogical community have started a project to digitize the War of 1812 pension files—a fitting beginning to the bicentennial commemoration of this important war. This initiative seeks to raise $3.7 million. “Preserve the Pensions” seeks to raise the bulk of the funds before the bicentennial of the start of the war and finish digitization before the bicentennial of the war's end in 2015. With 7.2 million images in 180,000 files, there is much digitization to do. For each dollar donated two images are digitized. Contributions can be made through ISGS (indicate NARA) or FGS [http://www.fgs.org/1812/]

It is a time to plan how you will enjoy your hobby of genealogy throughout the year. Connecting with others is essential. There are plenty of ways and opportunities: Family Reunions, Conferences, Blogs, Webinars, Societies, Websites, and Books. The recent ISGS Webinar “10 Ways to Jump Start Your Genealogy” presented by Thomas MacEntee, is archived and can be seen at [http://www.ilgensoc.org] Click on the Webinar tab.

Enjoy each season for what it offers.

Janice A. Fritsch
President, Illinois State Genealogical Society

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**National Genealogical Society Hall of Fame Award**

Do you or your group know of a deceased genealogist who you believe would be eligible for the National Genealogical Society Hall of Fame Award? There are many worthy candidates, often they are best known to the regional societies but overlooked when it is time to file papers for this prestigious award. Our committee would be grateful if you would bring this to the attention of your group so that papers could be prepared and submitted by January 31, 2012.

Basically:

- A nominee must have been actively engaged in genealogy in the United States for at least ten years, must have been deceased for at least five years at the time of nomination, and must have made contributions to the field of genealogy judged to be of lasting significance in ways that were unique, pioneering, or exemplary.

- The National Genealogy Hall of Fame is an educational project in which the entire genealogical community is invited to participate. Affiliation with the National Genealogical Society is not required.

- The National Genealogy Hall of Fame Committee elects one person to the Hall of Fame annually. Those elected are permanently commemorated in the Hall of Fame at Society headquarters, Arlington, Virginia.

- Nominations for election to the Hall of Fame are due by 31 January each year. Official nomination forms are available from our website, [www.ngsgenealogy.org/Awards &Competitions](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/Awards%20&Competitions), or by contacting the National Genealogical Society, 3108 Columbia Pike, Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22204-4304; phone 1-800-473-0060.
Your membership with the Illinois State Genealogical Society (ISGS) may have expired on 12/31/2011. Don’t let this be your last newsletter. Please take time to renew now!

A membership application and renewal form may be found on our ISGS website at www.ilgensoc.org... just print and mail it to us with your membership fee, or click on “Join ISGS!” to complete your membership form and submit your renewal fee online.

Remember, as a member you have many benefits:

- Bi-Monthly Newsletter
- ISGS Quarterly
- Access to members-only section of ISGS Website, including a Members Forum
- Links to Illinois research resources
- Free member webinars (check out our website for the latest offering)
- Surname research list
- Discounts on ISGS Publications and Society events

Information and application forms are also available on the website for the following:

- Member Ancestor Chart Collection
- Military Certificates
- Family Bible Record Collection
- Illinois Death Certificate Program
- Society Publications
- Genealogical Resource Help

To continue our efforts in “Honoring Illinois Ancestors”, donations in any amount to our special projects or general fund may be included with your membership renewal.

Please take time to renew now! Questions may be directed to: isgsmembership@ilgensoc.org.

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**ISGS Website Update**

**New Additions to ISGS Website**

We’ve added the following pages to the ISGS Website:

**Education Committee** <http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=218>
An overview of the mission and goals of the new ISGS Education committee.


**Shop and Support ISGS** <http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=195>
Information on how you can support the programs at ISGS by shopping at online stores for your genealogy needs.

**Webinars** <http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=219>
Lists information on current and upcoming ISGS webinars.

**Have You Logged In At The ISGS Website?**

Did you know that over 600 of our 1,147 members have never logged in at our website? 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.
**ISGS VOLUNTEERS ALERT!**

Help ISGS achieve its mission to preserve and disseminate Illinois historical and genealogical materials, and to educate and aid those researching their ancestry. For more information, email: isgs2ndvp@ilgensoc.org

**Volunteer at our Fall Conference**
ISGS welcomes participation of volunteers at our annual conferences. Attendees can volunteer when they are not in sessions. This year’s conference will be held in Rockford, IL October 19-20. Updates will be provided as we approach the conference. Keep these dates in mind, and for more information contact: isgsconferences@ilgensoc.org

**Local Society Liaison Committee**
A few volunteers in the NEIU, UIS, and EIU areas in Illinois’ Regional Archival Depository (IRAD) districts are needed. They will communicate periodically with local societies and help coordinate ISGS meetings in these regions. For more information contact: isgslocalsocieties@ilgensoc.org

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**Illinois State Archives Update**

Work continues to go well on the Archon Search Engine which should be up in 2012. Archon will be easy to search for visitors to their website and will be a very up to date finding aid because it is updatable in real time by staff. It will also have key word search, so you don’t have to just rely on the words they choose.

In mid-January the next round of SNAP grants will begin. Guidelines will appear in mid-January on the Illinois State Archives website. Applications are due March 1 to March 15 (or so). These are grants of up to $5000 to small institutions that contain small archives. If you know of any please let them know about this. [http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/archives.html](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/archives.html)

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**Almost 600 Surnames In Surname Research Database**

Did you know that there are close to 600 surname entries in the ISGS Surname Research database [http://ilgensoc.org/surname.php]? The database allows any visitor to the ISGS website to view surname information and to contact researchers.

As a member of ISGS, you can submit your surname information so other researchers can contact you. To submit your surnames, follow these steps:

- **Click Members Section** in the sidebar of the ISGS website and login with your login and password.
- **Next, under Members Section, click Edit Your Profile.**
- **Scroll down to the bottom of the screen and click Add Surname.**
- **Another option is to use our new online submission form at [http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=114].** Simply add your information and click SUBMIT.

Within a few days, your information will appear in the database so that any visitor to the ISGS website can contact you about your surname to share information. Your exact contact information is never displayed or given out! The database acts as a “message relay” system and lets you decide if you want to contact the other researcher!

**Note:** your surname data will remain in the Surname Research database as long as you are a member of ISGS. The Surname Research database service is a benefit of an ISGS membership.
Angel Project Donors
Karen Glass—Oak Park, IL
Grace Horner—Palatine, IL
Cherie Hunter—Decatur, IL
Genie Lerch-Davis—Lake Zurich, IL
Martha Ehlers—Bloomfield Hills, MI
Pattie Schultz—Zephyrhills, FL
Louann Sanchez—Ridgeland, MS
Maggi Andrews—Santa Rosa, CA
Alberta Stone—Mansfield, IL
Therese Kelly—El Cajon, CA
Wilma Gibson—Campbellsville, KY

Digitalizing Fund
Martha Ehlers—Bloomfield Hills, MI
Linda McCall—Glenarm, IL
Carol Wheeler—LaMoille, IL
Ruth Lepper—Jacksonville, IL
Mary Jo Vepley—Gurnee, IL
Kay Stein—Bend, OR
Dorothy Brown—Olympia Fields, IL

ISGS General Fund
Milton D. Forsyth, Jr—Chapel Hill, NC
Marlene Grover—Miami, FL
Martha Ehlers—Bloomfield Hills, MI
Patrick & Suzanne Crippen—Centerville, OH
James E. Byrne—St. Charles, IL
Patrick Pemberton—Oak Lawn, IL
Linda McCall—Glenarm, IL
Julia Settles—Hampton, IL
Josephine Moeller
In honor of Carole McCarty & her work on the fall conference
Barbara McGirr—Chino Valley, AZ
Carol Tyler—Flossmoor, IL
Betty Fisher—Los Angeles, CA
Marilyn Brasher—Long Beach, CA

ISGS Memorial Fund
Barbara Krehbiel—Charleston, IL

One of the Illinois State Genealogical Society’s goals is to help you in your search for your Illinois ancestors. For that reason, ISGS supports these prestigious State of Illinois repositories:

♦ Illinois State Archives in providing free online database information

♦ Illinois Regional Archives Depository (IRAD) system by purchasing vital records and genealogical material on microfilm from monetary gifts to the Angel Project

♦ Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library (ALPL) research collection through donations of family books and other genealogical publications to the ALPL Book Project

Donations to ISGS may be included with your membership renewal.

Welcome
New ISGS Members

Virginia Mills—Archie, MO
Karen Schall—Polo, IL
Karen Gallagher—Belleville, IL
Linda Walker—Rock Island, IL
Illinois Historical Society
Kathy LaBuda—Antioch, IL
Josephine Boehning—Oswego, IL
Rex & Norma Berry—Springfield, IL
H. Dean Clark—Glencoe, IL
Plainfield Public Library District—Plainfield, IL

George Schlosser—Pennington, IL
Rochana Feltman—Petaluma, CA
Pamela Treme—Land O Lakes, FL
Roger Knigge—Orland Park, IL
Karen Bellmer—Overland Park, KS
Robin Satterfield—Maryland Heights, MO
Chris Hill—Pekin, IL
Janice Haynes—Everett, WA
Jane Hoffman—Highland Park, IL
Pamela Smith—Denver, CO
Membership Application

An online membership application is available on the society's website with the opportunity to use PayPal for dues payment. If applying by mail, please send this completed application and your check in the correct amount payable to ISGS at the address above. Direct questions to isgsmembership@ilgensoc.org.

Please check one:  □ New Membership    □ Renewal Membership
Membership is for one year based on application date.

Please check selection(s) below:
□ $30 Individual Membership
□ $35 Joint Membership – 2 people at same address
□ $29 Charter Membership – joined prior to June 1, 1969
□ $30 Associate Membership – Illinois genealogical, historical, and related formal organizations
***Please complete the Associate Membership Application form***
□ $30 Subscription Membership – libraries, archives, or non-Illinois genealogical, historical, and related formal organizations
□ $5 Canadian mailing surcharge
□ $25 International mailing surcharge
□ $10 Surcharge – to have Newsletter mailed to your home instead of receiving it electronically

Giving Opportunities
□ Angel Project Fund (Microfilm for IRAD) $__   □ Digitization Fund $__
□ Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Book Project $__   □ General Fund $__  (donated in the name of __________) $__

ISGS is a non-profit, nonsectarian, educational organization. All contributions are tax deductible.

Total Amount Enclosed: $____

Name
Address
City     State     Zip
County
Telephone     Email

If Joint Membership, name of second individual

Please list any special interests, skills, or talents you are willing to contribute. Please see the website to learn of the many volunteer opportunities.

ISGS Membership Application Form, updated November 2, 2011
February 2012

[2nd–4th]
Rootstech
Family History & Technology Conference in Salt Lake City.
rootstech.familysearch.org/

[11th]
The National Archives
Hidden Treasures at Ancestry.com presented by Loretta “Lou” Szucx. Workshop is free and will be held at the National Archives, 7358 S. Pulaski, Chicago. Call 773-948-9010 or email kristina.maldre@nara.gov for reservations.

[25th]
DuPage County [IL] Genealogical Society
Tracking Your Ancestors Footsteps in St. Charles, Illinois.
http://www.dcgs.org/

March 2012

[13th]
ISGS Webinar
Desperately Seeking Susan: Finding Female Ancestors by Amy Johnson Crow.

April 2012

[14th]
Iowa Genealogical Society
Spring Technology Conference
http://www.iowagenealogy.org/events/conferences/spring-technology-conference/

[26th–28th]
The Illinois Historical Society
32nd Annual Illinois History Symposium
http://www.historyillinois.org/

[27th–28th]
Wisconsin State Genealogical Society
http://wsgs.wetpaint.com/

May 2012

[9th–12th]
National Genealogical Society
The Ohio River: Gateway to the Western Frontier will be the theme for the 2012

June 2012

[14th–16th]
Palatine of America
German Research Meets Methodology and Technology by Warren Bittner and Michael John Neill at Indianapolis Marriott East.
http://www.palam.org/

August 2012

[29th–1st]
Federation of Genealogical Societies
2012 Conference will be in Birmingham, Alabama. Check out the website for more info. www.fgs.org/conferences/index.php

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.

Do We Have Your Correct Email?
Periodically, ISGS will send “blast emails” to its members to communicate important news about our events and activities. In addition, we distribute the ISGS newsletter six times a year using email. Each time we send these emails, several emails are “returned” because the ISGS member has changed their email address or there is incorrect information in our database. Help us ensure that you get all the latest ISGS emails by checking your email address on the ISGS website:

⇒ Visit http://www.ilgensoc.org and click Members Section in the left sidebar.
⇒ Enter your login and password. Then click Edit Your Profile in the Members Section sidebar on the left.
⇒ Click the Contact Info tab and verify your email address. If your email address is incorrect or missing, please contact the ISGS Office at isgsoffice@ilgensoc.org with the correct information.

Translations from German, Dutch, and French to English
Gordon Hartig
P.O. Box 2744
Evansville, IN 47728
(812) 303-4169
gordon_hartig@alumni.iu.edu
http://www.hartigtranslations.com
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ISGS Executive Committee Elected Officers 2012

President: Janice Fritsch
2012 Directors—Becky Higgins, Jayne Cates, Jane Haldeman
1st Vice-President: vacant
2nd Vice-President: Susie Pope
2013 Directors—Ann Wells, Annabelle Bradshaw, Dan Dixon
Treasurer: Michele Claypool
2014 Directors—Cheri Hunter, Karl Moore, Jennifer Holik-Urban
Recording Secretary: Julie Cahill Tarr

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.

It’s time to renew your dues to the Illinois State Genealogical Society without missing an issue of the ISGS Quarterly
Renew online at http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=8 or mail your 2012 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

ISGS Office Hours

The ISGS Office is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 10am until 1pm.