ISGS President Column

It's Almost SPRING!

With the coming of Spring and a new beginning, the ISGS Governing Board will start the process of reviewing and updating our Bylaws. The final product will be completed in July and voted on at our Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 3, 2016 during the FGS Annual Conference in Springfield. If you have any suggestions or comments regarding our Bylaws or how ISGS can better serve you, please let me know – isgspresident@ilgensoc.org.

Dawn Carey Henry
President
Illinois State Genealogical Society

The ISGS Webinar series has become so popular that we've had to institute a "cap" on the number of registrations we can accept. Currently, we can accommodate 500 attendees for each webinar and we have set a limit of 650 registrations. The reason: a review of our past 50+ webinars shows that about 30% of those who register do not attend.

So what can you do if you want to see the current month's educational content from the ISGS webinar series?

- Register early and also LOG IN EARLY at 7:30 pm Central before the 8:00pm start time for the webinar. A registration does NOT guarantee a seat! Those who log in first will get the first 500 seats.

- If you are a member of ISGS, wait until the next day when the recording of the webinar will be added to our library of over 50 webinars!

- And if you are not a member of ISGS, what are you waiting for? Join today and you will always have access to the educational channel that ISGS has built over the past four years.
Do You Have A Favorite Farm?

We are looking for photos of your favorite Illinois farms.

During the 2016 FGS Conference, co-host Illinois State Genealogical Society will showcase Farms and Families: Across the Decades. This event, Wednesday, 31 August 2016, 7:00 p.m. will celebrate farms in Illinois, especially Centennial and Sesquicentennial farms. ISGS also wants to celebrate the farms that are important to you. The farm could be one you drive by everyday, one your ancestors lived on when they first settled in Illinois, or one they farmed.

Send a photo, past or present, of a farm that matters to you. All photos received will be displayed at the Wednesday evening event.

To submit a photo, email it to conferences@fgs.org. Please only send photos you hold the copyrights to and put “farm” in the subject line. Include your name, the location of the farm (county or township is fine) and any additional information you may have.
Conference Countdown – 5!

We are just over 5 months away from the FGS 2016 conference. In case you haven’t heard, ISGS is the local host for this conference which will be held in Springfield Aug 31 to Sept 3, 2016. As the host, ISGS is involved in a number of activities. National conferences are a great way to immerse yourself in genealogy through speakers, workshops, exhibits and networking. It is also a wonderful time to support the genealogy community. Below are some of the ways ISGS could use your help in hosting this national event.

Local Host Reception

The reception event will be Wednesday evening, 7 to 9 at the Wyndham. The theme is Farms and Families: Across the Decades. Volunteers are needed to help create displays, set-up, host during the event and, of course, take down after the event is over. If you like to shop, see the bargain hunting request elsewhere in the newsletter for how you can help ISGS by shopping!

ISGS Luncheon

ISGS is sponsoring a luncheon during the conference: Old World to New: Memories Through Time, with Judy Russell, JD, CG, CGL as the speaker. This will also be our annual meeting and officers will be elected. Volunteers are needed to help with set-up and ticket-taking.

Favorite Farms Photos and Histories - Needed NOW!

With the Farms and Families theme of the reception, pictures of farms and families are needed for decoration. The goal is to fill the room with pictures of Illinois farms, families, animals, activities and crops. If you have one picture - or several - send it in so we can share it! See page 2 of this newsletter.

Volunteer

A conference this size need a lot of volunteers to help be successful. Room monitors, technology troubleshooting, registration, assembling materials, etc. As the registration window opens, please consider volunteering in one of these spots. Information on all the opportunities will be online with the dates and times. Check the ISGS or the FGS websites for more information, or page 9 of this newsletter.

Attend!

Successful conferences need enthusiastic attendees! I hope you take advantage of having this national conference in our backyard and come to Springfield. Even if you can only make it for part of the conference, I encourage you to put it on your calendar now.

Any questions, please let me know. Contact me at isgsrecsecretary@ilgensoc.org.

Laura Kovarik,
2016 Local Host Chair, Recording Secretary
Reserve your HOTEL rooms NOW!! for the Federation of Genealogical Societies 2016 CONFERENCE in Springfield, Illinois

Main Conference Hotel
WYNDHAM SPRINGFIELD CITY CENTRE
700 E Adams St., Springfield, IL 62701
+1 (217) 789-1530

The conference rate is $129/night, available from August 27 to September 6, 2016. Reserve your room by August 6, 2016 to receive the discounted rate. There is a courtesy bus provided from the Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport and Amtrak station.

To reserve your room online: Wyndham Group Events: FGS or visit https://www.fgsconference.org/. Phone reservations will be taken after January 1, 2016, while online reservations are currently being accepted.

SOLD OUT! PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN SPRINGFIELD
(a DoubleTree hotel by Hilton)
701 E Adams Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701
+1 (217) 544-8800
FAX: +1 (217) 544-9607

The conference rate is $129/night, available from August 30 to September 4, 2016. Reserve your room by August 3, 2016 to receive the discounted rate. There is a connected walkway from this hotel to the Prairie Capital Convention Center. In addition, there is a courtesy bus provided from the Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport and Amtrak station.

To reserve your room online: Doubletree Hilton Group Events: FGS or visit https://www.fgsconference.org/.

Stay Informed

Between now and August 2016, FGS will make certain that FGS members and conference attendees have the most up-to-date information about the FGS 2016 conference available through various channels:

• More details will be available in future issues of FORUM as well at the conference website, http://www.fgsconference.org.

• The FGS Voice blog, voice.fgs.org, covers a wide range of conference news, updates, special events, details on speakers, lectures, vendors and exhibitors, luncheons, banquet, parking, travel, and research.

Visit https://www.fgsconference.org for the complete conference program or to register after February 1, 2016. You will not want to miss the FGS 2016 Conference as we explore Time Travel: Centuries of Memories!
National Archives at CHICAGO

Naturalization Petitions from the US District Court for the Chicago Division of the Northern District of Illinois NOW ONLINE!

Through a partnership with FamilySearch, a nonprofit family history organization, all of the Petitions for Naturalization from the U.S. District Court in Chicago have been digitized. The petitions cover the years 1906 through 1991 and are freely available at all National Archives facilities, many public libraries, as well as http://familysearch.org/collection/2212212. You can see a nice example here for Chicago hockey great, Stan Mikita, here https://familysearch.org/pal/MM9.3.1/TH-909-51026-33847-69?cc=2212212&wc=Q42D-SPD:1010138201.1583830901.

Currently, however, the collection cannot be searched by name – you will need to know the petition number. Don’t have the number? No worries. There are two indexes also available on the FamilySearch website: one covering petitions filed through 1950 (http://familysearch.org/collection/1838804) and one covering the years 1926-1979 (http://familysearch.org/collection/2040533).

from The National Archives at Chicago November 2015 e-newsletter, page 6,7.
2016 WEBINAR SERIES
Online Educational Opportunities for Genealogy

Schedule

All webinars start at 8:00 pm Central time

Organizing Your Genealogy Research Process
January 12, 2016, with Drew Smith

Reconstructing Black Community Life Through Benevolent Societies
February 9, 2016, with Angela Walton-Raji

Researching in Archives & Libraries: Do’s and Don’ts
March 8, 2016, with Melissa Barker

Letters, Ledgers, and Lodge Books: Finding Ancestors with Ethnic Resources
April 12, 2016, with Lisa Alzo

Polish Immigration to America - When, Where, Why and How
May 10, 2016, with Stephen Szabados

Using Social Media to Break Through Brick Walls
June 14, 2016, with Amie Tenant

Special Delivery: Using US Postmaster Documents in Family History Research
July 12, 2016, with Jean Hibben

Reconstruction of Black Community Life Through Benevolent Societies
February 9, 2016, with Angela Walton-Raji

Researching in Archives & Libraries: Do’s and Don’ts
March 8, 2016, with Melissa Barker

Letters, Ledgers, and Lodge Books: Finding Ancestors with Ethnic Resources
April 12, 2016, with Lisa Alzo

Polish Immigration to America - When, Where, Why and How
May 10, 2016, with Stephen Szabados

Using Social Media to Break Through Brick Walls
June 14, 2016, with Amie Tenant

FAQs

What is a webinar? A webinar is a live lecture/presentation that you can attend via a computer with an internet connection.

Is there a cost to attend an ISGS webinar? No, ISGS offers the live broadcast of its webinars to the public for free.

How do I sign up to attend a webinar? Visit the Webinars page at http://bit.ly/ISGSWebinars and click the “register” link for each session you want to attend. Fill out the short form to complete your registration.

How do I attend the webinar? After you sign up for a session, you will receive an email that provides instructions to join the live broadcast online at the scheduled date and time. A reminder email will be sent a few days prior to the scheduled webinar with the same instructions.

What if I cannot attend the live broadcast? We understand that the live broadcasts may not fit into your schedule. If you are an ISGS member you will have access to the recorded version of past webinars through the Members Section of the ISGS website, to watch at your convenience. Not a member? Join ISGS at http://bit.ly/joinisgs.

Learn More & Register

For a description of each webinar, or to register, visit http://bit.ly/ISGSWebinars.

2016 Webinar Sponsor

FamilySearch
http://familysearch.org

TOP ARCHIVED RECORDINGS

Recordings of all past webinars are available to ISGS members through the Members Section of the ISGS website. Some of our top webinars from the past include:

- Treasures and Hidden Secrets of the Illinois Regional Archives Luana Darby
- Hunting for Henry - A Case Study Using Collaterals Teresa S. McMillin, CG
- Land Records in Illinois Michael John Neil
- Using Canadian Records to Find Your Midwestern Ancestor Kathryn Lake Hogan
- Newspaper Research – More Than Obituaries Patricia Walls Stamm, CGL


Save $$$$ on Illinois Death Certificate Lookups!

Did you know that the Illinois State Genealogical Society offers a discounted lookup service for Illinois death certificates from 1916 to 1950? And this discount is available to ISGS members ($6) and non-members ($10)? Some counties, such as Cook County, currently charge $15 per certificate!


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Translations from German, Dutch, and French to English

Gordon Hartig
P.O. Box 2744
Evansville, IN 47728

Telephone: (812) 430-9117
Email: gordon@gartigtranslations.com
Website: [http://www.hartigtranslations.com](http://www.hartigtranslations.com)
Specializing in Old German Script

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Sandra Parker, Chair of Prairie Pioneer Certificates invites you to apply for this certificate.

To learn more about this application process and to see the Index of Certified Prairie Pioneers, go to [www.ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=20](http://www.ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=20).

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Charles Dobias, Chair of the ISGS Military Certificates wants to encourage you to apply.


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Correction: On page 18 of the January/February 2016 ISGS newsletter Charles Westervelt & Gayla S. Nieminen actually received the Individual Writers Award, not the Special Recognition Award.
Are you a bargain hunter? Do you like to shop?

If you said “yes” to these questions, ISGS needs your help! With the FGS conference coming up, I would like to begin getting the decorations for the reception ready. What I need is a small army of shoppers willing to hit thrift stores, garage sales - maybe your own basement - in search of items needed for the table decorations. If you are interested, please contact me at isgsrecsecretary@ilgensoc.org. I will send you more information on how your shopping prowess can help make this an amazing event!

Laura Kovarik,
Local Host Chair, FGS 2016 Conference

Proposals for individual papers or panels on any aspect of Illinois’ history, culture, politics, geography, literature, and archaeology are requested for the Conference on Illinois History. The Conference especially welcomes submissions exploring the upcoming bicentennial of statehood. We encourage submissions from professional and avocational historians, graduate students, and those engaged in the study of Illinois history at libraries, historic sites, museums, and historical societies.

Proposals for teacher workshops. Are you a teacher who has created an innovative, comprehensive, or timely curriculum on some aspect of Illinois’ history, culture, politics, geography, literature, or archaeology? Share your expertise with other teachers at the Conference on Illinois History.

The deadline for proposals is May 1, 2016. To submit your proposal for a paper, panel, or teacher workshop, send:

1. A one page summary of the topic, including a description of the major primary and secondary sources used.
2. A one-page resume of participant(s).

Send proposals to: Samuel Wheeler, Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, 112 N. Sixth St., Springfield, IL 62701, or samuel.wheeler@illinois.gov. For more information, call 217-557-8336.

Special THANK YOU! to volunteer Regina Quill who prepares the Special Events column for the CAGGNI newsletter. The ISGS newsletter is able to list more Chicago area genealogy events because of her research for CAGGNI. Thanks Regina!!

Stark County Genealogical Society is looking for volunteers for a new indexing project. Old Stark County weekly newspapers can be read online by googling Bradford, Wyoming, and Toulon public libraries and clicking on the newspaper link.

The Society would like to index the obituaries and death notices in these old papers. If you are interested, please contact Don Schmidt at skylark64@mcshi.com. Help them if you can!
Canada’s Perth Military Settlement Celebrates its Bicentennial

Throughout 2016, Canada’s Perth Military Settlement will celebrate its 200th anniversary. This area of eastern Ontario in Canada saw settlers arrive from all parts of Europe. Many of these early pioneers or their families subsequently moved to other areas in North America and abroad, including yours.

The Perth Military Settlement was founded in 1816, in what is now eastern Canada, at the end of the Napoleonic Wars. Concern for Canada’s military security following the War of 1812 triggered a strategic plan by the British Government to establish a settlement of loyal subjects in the wilds of Upper Canada. The ensuing years saw the arrival of thousands of immigrants from all parts of Scotland, Ireland and England, and disbanded soldiers from Germany, Poland, Belgium, and Italy. The present day military settlement now encompasses four eastern Ontario municipalities—the Town of Perth and the Townships of Beckwith, Drummond/North Elmsley, and Tay Valley—all of which are organizing major celebrations to welcome visitors interested in participating in this historic year.

More details on the 200th anniversary celebrations in the four municipalities can be found at www.2016.lanarkcountytourism.ca.

The development of an online mapping tool has been a key element of the preparations for the 200th anniversary year. This map showcases the original settlers, allowing the public to use the tool to locate ancestors who may have settled in the Perth Military Settlement Area. It can be accessed by visiting the MAPS page listed on www.2016.lanarkcountytourism.ca.
Welcome New ISGS Members

Richard DeLillo, Sun City, AZ
Robert Godare, Rockford, IL
Victoria Kinnear, Baltimore, MD
Richard Paul Applegate, Atlanta, IL
Linda Eichhorst, DeKalb, IL
Audrea Thomas, Rock Falls, IL
Maureen Lewis & David Bergquist, Bridgeview, IL
Brenda Barker, Greenwood, IN
Gloria Scullin, Camas, WA
Eileen Souza, Eldersburg, MD
Ann Seebach, Buckingham, IA
Gary Humphrey, San Antonio, TX
Sara Dragemuller Mahler, Lake Forest, IL
Pat Harmon, Simi Valley, CA
Pamela Ritchie, Litchfield, IL
Laura Hill, Roseville, MN
Stephen Francis Murphy, Champaign, IL
Julie Vogel, Moline, IL
David B. Clarke, Saline, MI
Sally Root, Taylorville, IL
Patsy Gibbs, Port St. Lucie, FL
Muriel King, Yachats, OR
Debbie Harrison, Ft. Collins, CO
Christine Burdick, New Lenox, IL
Tammy Hallstein, Powhatan, VA
Emily Moore, Indianapolis, IN
Jean Yager, Bremerton, WA
Katheryn Colberg & Douglas Holmgren, Moline, IL
Annmary Harris, Orlando, FL
Sheryl Zeringue, Raceland, LA
Kristi Jonaitis Blankenship, Springfield, IL
Linda Saraco, Groton, MA
Bonnie Gould, Calabasas, CA
Randall Nelson, Albany, OR
Michael Dennis Farmer, Baileys Harbor, WI
Teresa Sanofsky, Alpine, UT
Marlene Elster, Irvine, CA
Jan & Larry Emmons, Williamsburg, VA
Vivian Marion, Port St. Lucie, FL
James D. Owens, JR, Silver Spring, MD
Douglas Little, Ormond Beach, FL
Diane France, Des Plaines, IL
Rebekah Medina, Sacramento, CA
Gwen Shumway, San Diego, CA
Traverse Area District Library, Traverse City, MI
Julie Kirchner, Nashville, IL
William A. Cox, Austin, TX
Sue Taylor, Raleigh, NC
Paul Breit, Tinley Park, IL
Kay Patterson, Beardstown, IL
Allen Nemec, Macomb, IL
Tom Crowhurst, Canton, IL
Jeff Ford, Lebanon, IL
Jaymie Middendorf, Oswego, IL
Rosanna Hogarty, Chesterfield, MO
Nancy Krumpolz, Plainfield, IL
Sue Gibson, Boubonnais, IL
Connie Hodson & Rebecca Hale, Elburn, IL
Hearshal & Louise McKinney, Godfrey, IL
Michelle Swanson, Edwardsville, IL
Judy Hernandez, Parrish, FL
Kristen McCallum, Crystal Lake, IL
Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
Liz Siebenmal, Mishawaka, IN
Cindy Burian Thompson, Eads, TN
Carolyn Lysandrou, Bloomington, IN
Susanne M. Haenisch, Ashburnham, MA
Christine Smith, Des Moines, IA
Timothy Harris, Belvidere, IL
Carol S. Bennett, Elk Grove Village, IL
Haley Overbeek, Bloomingdale, IL
Vonda McCrae, Sterling, VA
Carol Burget, Beardstown, IL
Cynthia M. DeBock, Mount Prospect, IL
Catherine & Darryl Faye, Angola, IN
Terry Feinberg, Freeport, IL
Rita Marie Coleman, Schaumburg, IL
Regina Moore Banks, Mansfield, TX
Volunteer Opportunities: Join in the Fun!

With the generous help of its volunteers, ISGS is poised for continued success. The positions listed below present some interesting and exciting opportunities for you! Please consider helping ISGS achieve its mission to preserve and disseminate Illinois historical and genealogical materials, and to educate and aid those researching their ancestry.

ISGS Board Volunteers Needed

- Legislative Chair: This committee monitors pending legislation in Illinois that could impact those with genealogical and historical interests, and keeps ISGS, and the genealogical community informed.

- ISGS Quarterly Design & Technical Editor: This position works with the Quarterly Managing Editor, and produces the layout design of the Quarterly. Skills in designing and working with graphics are required.

- Advertising Chair: This committee chair solicits advertising for various ISGS publications and fall conference syllabus.

- ISGS Archivist: The Archivist coordinates activities to properly preserve and maintain the private records of the Society at the Illinois State Archives in Springfield, IL. These records do NOT involve the society’s public genealogical holdings at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library.

- Long Range Planning: This committee considers plans for the improvement of the Society, solicits suggestions from members, makes regular reports to the Board, and presents projects for action.

- Website Committee Chair: This committee coordinates the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Society’s website. This position is not the website administrator.

- For more information or to volunteer, contact Susie Pope at isgs2ndvp@ilgensoc.org. Say yes if she emails or calls you!!

ISGS/FGS 2016 Conference

Local/Regional Marketing person needed. ISGS is serving as the Local Host society for this year’s FGS national conference in Springfield, IL, 30 August – 3 September. We have a special need for a local/regional marketing person to work with Thomas MacEntee, FGS’s National Marketing Chair. Contact Local Host Conference Chair, Laura Kovarik: laura.kovarik.2016@gmail.com to volunteer to help with the conference.

Indexing Project

The newest ISGS project is indexing ledgers from the IL Dept. of Registration and Education 1877-1952. Volunteers need a computer with CD drive, Microsoft Excel, and Internet. If you are not already in our database of indexers, please contact Clyda.

Clyda Ogle, Indexing Coordinator at isgsindexing@ilgensoc.org
Congratulations to the McLean County Genealogy Society 50th anniversary
23 January 2016

Above-L to R: Ruth Wilkerson, Director & Distribution Chair; Pat Perkins, President; Susie Pope, Director & Gleanings Editor; Below-Past Presidents L to R front: Judith Myers, Neil Sallee, Sara Cushing, L to R back- Mary Scott, George Perkins, Ardith Serpette
2nd Tuesday of every month, 8:00 PM CDT featuring some of the nation's best known speakers in the field of genealogy!

The following webinars are sponsored by FamilySearch.

8 March 2016– Researching in Archives & Libraries: Do’s and Don’ts
Presenter: Melissa Barker
Registration: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1846416843611494402

Registration: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3470676992813425922

10 May 2016 - Polish Immigration to America-When, Where, Why and How
Presenter: Stephen Szabados
Registration: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/9172454023411073281

Webinar descriptions are available on the ISGS website at http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=234

ISGS Quarterly

The Illinois State Genealogical Society Quarterly is read by over 1000 members and is held in many libraries throughout IL and the U.S. The Quarterly is published four times a year. The editor accepts original, unpublished submissions for inclusion in upcoming issues. If you would like to contribute, please refer to the ISGS website for submission guidelines. All inquiries go to isgsquarterly@ilgensoc.org

If you are interested in advertising in the Quarterly or the newsletter, please contact the Advertising Committee at isgsadvertising@ilgensoc.org

Contribution Match to ISGS

If you’re thinking about making a donation to the Illinois State Genealogical Society, please also consider checking with your employer to see if matching funds are available for employee charitable contributions. Many corporations offer this incentive to encourage their employees to contribute to not-for-profit programs; more than half of all Fortune 500 companies will match employee donations. Your contribution can have twice the impact in supporting ISGS by tapping into this source of funding that’s often overlooked.

The Illinois State Genealogical Society is a 501(c)(3) organization and contributions are tax-exempt to the extent of the relevant law.

Written by Margaret Truax

Federation of Genealogical Societies FORUM is looking for genealogy and society related articles. Go to fgs.org for more information.
Registration is now open for the National Genealogical Society’s thirty-eighth annual family history conference, Exploring the Centuries: Footprints in Time, which will be held 4–7 May 2016 at the Greater Ft. Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Conference highlights include a choice of more than 180 lectures given by nationally known speakers and subject matter experts on a broad array of topics.

The conference will open with “Ordinary” People, Extraordinary Lives given by Connie L. Lester, Ph.D., Associate Professor in History, University of Central Florida; editor Florida Historical Quarterly; Director, RICHES of Central Florida.

Continuing NGS’s goal of providing quality educational opportunities to its participants, the lectures will cover a wide range of local, regional, and general genealogy topics which will help you build a solid foundation for your family history, fine-tune your research skills, and refine your methodology. Lecture topics covered at the conference will include: Across the Pond, African American, British Isles, Cemeteries, Changing Places, Context, Courthouse Research, DNA, Florida, Florida Military, Gulf Coast and Caribbean, Internet and Technology, Jewish, Land Records, Methods for Success, Military, New York Research, Organizing and Planning, Resources and Repositories, Sharing Your Research Stories, Starting Off, State Research, Tips and Techniques, and Women. The Board for Certification of Genealogists’ Skillbuilding track will again be an integral part of the conference and presented over the four days of the event.

Registration is currently open. To register online, visit the NGS website at http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/register and complete the registration form.

The online searchable program is available at http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/program/ and the PDF brochure is available at http://goo.gl/w40zSO. The brochure includes an overview of the sessions, tours, pre-conference events, registration times, and rates, as well as general conference and hotel details.

Attendees are urged to visit the conference blog at conferenceblog.ngsgenealogy.org, which will feature tips on local and regional research facilities as well as things to do in and around Ft. Lauderdale and updated information on hotel availability and local restaurants.

Founded in 1903, the National Genealogical Society is dedicated to genealogy education, high research standards, and the preservation of genealogical records. The Arlington, Virginia-based nonprofit is the premier national society for everyone, from the beginner to the most advanced family historian seeking excellence in publications, educational offerings, research guidance, and opportunities to interact with other genealogists.
Genealogy Events: for complete event information, go to ISGS website, events

9 March, St. Louis County Library, Larry Franke presents “Introduction to Fold3 and HeritageQuest Databases”, 2:00 PM, www.slcl.org

9 March 2016: Fountaintdale Public Library, Dr. Daniel Hubbard presents “Researching at Appomattox Court House”, www.fountaintdale.org


10 March 2016: Tall City Public Library, Ulster Historical Foundation presents “Want to Discover Your Irish & Scots-Irish Ancestors?”, newberry.org

12 March 2016: DuPage County Genealogical Society, 41st Annual Conference, NIU Conference Center, Naperville, IL, www.dcgs.org

12 March 2016: CAGGNI, Marti Swanson presents “Storytellers SIG”, 10:30 AM, caggni.org

12 March 2016: St. Louis County Library, Ann Fleming presents “The Path to Proving the Point”, 10:00 AM, www.stlgs.org

12 March 2016: North Suburban Genealogical Society, Dr. Daniel Hubbard presents “DNA, Behind the Scenes”, nsgsil.org

12 March 2016: Dallas Genealogical Society, Spring Seminar “Whence They Came”, dallasgenealogy.org

16 March 2016: St. Louis Genealogy Society, Dan Lilienkamp presents “Finding Your Ancestors In German Church Records”, 7:00 PM, www.stlgs.org

16 March 2016: Fountaintdale Public Library, Ulster Historical Foundation presents “Irish Genealogy-Resources for Success”, www.fountaintdale.org

19 March 2016: Swedish American Genealogical Society, “Let’s Visit Sweden”, genealogy@samac.org

19 March 2016: Wisconsin Historical Society, Jerry Paulson presents “Norwegian American”, 9-3, wisconsinhistory.org


19 March 2016: St. Louis County Library, Dan Lilienkamp presents “Introduction to Fold3 and HeritageQuest Databases”, 10:00 AM, www.slcl.org

19 March 2016: St. Louis Genealogy Society, Ted Steele presents “Beginning RootsMagic”, 1:00 PM, www.stlgs.org

19 March 2016: South Bend Area Genealogical Society, 18th Annual Spring Conference, South Bend, Indiana, www.sbaggs.org

22 March 2016: St. Louis County Library, Larry Franke presents “History and Genealogy in Newspaper Databases”, 2:00 PM, www.slcl.org

24 March 2016: Geneva History Museum, Melissa Barkert webinar, “Researching in Archives & Libraries…” 7:30 PM

26 March 2016: St. Louis Genealogy Society, Ted Steele presents “Advanced RootsMagic”, 1:00 PM, www.stlgs.org

31 March 2016: College of DuPage, Rose Lehne presents “Ancestry & FamilySearch”

31 March 2016: Decatur Genealogical Society, “Getting Started in Genealogy”, 7-9 PM, decaturgensoc@att.net

2 April 2016: NW Suburban Genealogy Society, Diane Dassow presents “Get the Scoop: Interviewing to Gather Family Stories”, 10:00 AM, Arlington Heights Senior Center, www.nwsgenealogy.org

2 April 2016: St. Louis Genealogy Society’s 45th Annual Family History Conference “A Whole New World for Genealogists” www.stlgs.org

2 April 2016: Chicago Genealogical Society, Michael Lacopo presents Spring Genealogy Seminar, 4 programs, 10-4, www.chicagogenealogy.org

5 April 2016: St. Louis County Library, Larry Franke presents “Beginning a Genealogy Research Project”, 2:00 www.slcl.org

7 April 2016: Decatur Genealogical Society, “Getting Started-Local & County Records”, 7-9 PM, decaturgensoc@att.net

9 April 2016: CAGGNI, “DNA with Alan & Michelle Wilson”, 11:30 AM, caggni.org

9 April 2016: North Suburban Genealogical Society, Tina Beaird presents “Mapping Your Migrating Ancestors”, nssil.org

9 April 2016: CAGGNI, “Reunion with Bruce Christopher”, 1:45 PM, caggni.org

12 April 2016: Bartlett Public Library District, Rose Lehne presents “Find a Grave Memorials” www.bartlett.lib.il.us/
Genealogy Events continued for complete event information, go to ISGS website, events

13 April 2016: Fountaindale Public Library, Caron Primas Brenan presents “Using Fold3”, www.fountaindale.org


14 April 2016, Decatur Genealogical Society, “Getting Started-State & Federal Records”, 7-9 PM, decaturgensoc@att.net


16 April 2016: CAGGNI, Sarah A V. Kirby presents “Mapping It: A DIY Tutorial”, 10:30 AM, caggni.org

16 April 2016: Wisconsin Historical Society, Mary Eberle presents “DNA & Genealogy”, 9-3, wisconsinhistory.org

16 April 2016: CAGGNI, “Family Tree Maker”, 12:45 PM, caggni.org

17 April 2016: St. Louis Genealogy Society, Carol Whitten presents “Beyond Parish Records: Other Useful German Records at Family History Library”, 1-3, www.stlgs.org

20 April 2016: DuPage County Genealogical Society, Robert Sliwinski presents “Genetic Genealogy”, www.dcgss.org

28 April 2016: Geneva History Museum, Mike Karsen presents “My Cousin, The Gangster”, 7:30 PM

4-7 May 2016: NGS annual conference, For Lauderdale, Florida, http: conference.ngsgenealogy.org

5, 12, 19, 26 May 2016: Decatur Genealogical Society, “Websites for Genealogy”, 7-9, decaturgensoc@att.net

7 May 2016: NW Suburban Genealogy Society, George Findlen presents “Researching at the Wisconsin Historical Society Library and Archives”, 10:00 AM, Arlington Heights Senior Center, www.nwsgen.org


7 May 2016: Northwest Suburban Genealogical Society, Teresa Steinkamp McMillin presents “Reading Between the Lines of the City Directory”, www.nwsgen.org

7 May 2016: St. Clair County Genealogical Society, Genealogy & History Book Fair, www.stclaireilgs.org

14 May 2016: St. Louis County Library, Larry Franke presents “Searching Special Schedules of the US Census”, 10:00, slcl.org

21 May 2016: Wisconsin Historical Society, Steve Szabados presents “Polish American”, 9-3, wisconsinhistory.org

26 May 2016: Geneva History Museum, Tina Beaird presents “Grandma Nellie’s Scrapbook” Identifying & Interpreting Historic Photographs, 7:30 PM


11 June 2016: Wisconsin Historical Society, Sheila Northrop presents “Irish American”, 9-3, wisconsinhistory.org

16 June 2016: Batavia Public Library, Thomas MacEntee presents “They’re Alive! Searching for the Living”

18 June 2016: CAGGNI, GeneaQuest 2016 Conference, Schaumburg, IL, caggni.org

23 July 2016: St. Louis Genealogy Society, Summer Speaker Series, Beth Stahr presents “Unraveling Genealogical Puzzles”, stlgs.org

28 July 2016: Geneva History Museum, Cindy Ditzier presents IRAD

9 July 2016: McHenry County IL Genealogical Society, Summer Conference, McHenry County College, registration now, mcigs.org


15 October 2016: St. Louis Genealogical Society, Fall Speaker Series, stlgs.org

**Governing Board Meetings: Open to Members**

**Saturday, May 21, 2016 at ALPL  Springfield, IL**
8:30 am Exec Committee Meeting  
9:30 am Exec & Gov. Social Time  
10:00 am Governing Board Meeting

**Saturday, August 20, 2016 at Fountaindale Library, Bolingbrook, IL**
8:30 am Exec Committee Meeting  
9:30 am Exec & Gov. Social Time  
10:00 am Governing Board Meeting

Everyone is welcome to attend any Governing Board meeting (10:00 AM).

**New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS): New web portal for African American research**

**Nancy (Minor) Washington**’s long life across three centuries contained great drama, hard work, resettlement, tragedies, and a network of family and friends—and, fortunately, many verifiable details. And unlike so many African American women, she had the means to tell some of her stories in her later years to a wide audience and, consequently, to preserve them.

In an article by Weekly Genealogist editor **Valerie Beaudrault**, featured within the New England Historic Genealogical Society’s new web portal created in celebration of Black History Month, you will gain considerable insight into the life of this African American woman in Boston, who was once the city’s oldest resident. The new web portal at [www.AmericanAncestors.org/AfricanAmerican](http://www.AmericanAncestors.org/AfricanAmerican) contains some key African American research databases that were open free to registered Guest Users on AmericanAncestors.org during the entire month of February.

This special African American gateway offers resources to help you find your African American ancestors or learn more about the important role of African Americans in our country’s history.

NEHGS is the oldest and largest genealogical organization in the country. Headquartered in Boston, Massachusetts, it is the anchor location for the popular PBS-TV series “Finding Your Roots with Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr.” provided by Jim Power, Jr. NEHGS

*It’s unfortunate that the free February access has passed, but still this new web portal is a fantastic resource. To access, you will need to join the organization.* [AmericanAncestors.org](http://AmericanAncestors.org)

**March is Women’s History Month**

How will you participate in this national celebration?  
For more information, [womenshistorymonth.gov](http://womenshistorymonth.gov)

**Congratulations to the following ISGS presidential appointees:**

Angie McGee, 1st Vice President  
Dr. Cheryl Chamblin, Publications Chair  
Nominating Committee: Kim Hanks, chair, Darlene Hinkle, Tony Burroughs, David Kent Coy, Karl Moore  
Richard Chamblin, Finance Committee Member  
Thank you to Howard Manthei for his service to ISGS
Dallas Genealogical Society 2016 Writing Contest
Opens January 1; Closes March 31

The Dallas Genealogical Society announces that its 2016 Writing Contest opened for entries on January 1, 2016. This is the fourth year the Society has sponsored this contest, which comes with cash prizes.

The contest is open to both members and non-members of DGS, as well as hobbyists and professionals. Only original material not previously published elsewhere in any format is eligible. Entries will be accepted January 1 through March 31, 2016. Winners will be announced in May 2016.

While DGS has a goal of preserving Dallas history, subject matter for the competition may range beyond the local geographic area. Articles may include

• advanced methodologies and case studies (not limited by geography)
• family histories and genealogies, particularly those linked to North Texas, including those who came from or left to settle elsewhere
• transcriptions, abstracts or indexes of record groups (including family records) not yet filmed or digitized that relate to Dallas or North Texas
• ethnic, house, or military histories related to Dallas and surrounding counties.

Entries will be judged on accuracy, clarity of writing, and overall impact and interest. First prize is $500; second prize is $300 and third prize is $100. Complete Rules are available at: http://dallasgenealogy.com/dgs/publications/pegasus.

Winning articles are eligible to be published in Pegasus: Journal of the Dallas Genealogical Society. Past winning entries can be read in the 2013, 2014 and 2015 Research Issues of Pegasus, which members can access through the DGS website. Use them as examples of outstanding research and writing.

Send entries via email only, with “DGS Writing Competition” in the subject line to: pegasus@dallasgenealogy.org

About the Dallas Genealogical Society
Founded in 1954, the Dallas Genealogical Society (DGS) is the oldest continuously functioning society of its kind in Texas. The object of this Society is to educate by creating, fostering, and maintaining interest in genealogy; to assist and support the genealogy section of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library in Dallas, Texas; and to collect, preserve, copy, and index information relating to the Dallas area and its early history. The Dallas Public Library has been rated as one of the Top 10 libraries for genealogy research in the U.S. by Family Tree Magazine.

DGS is a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation and a member of the National Genealogical Society (NGS) and the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS).
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The International Society of Family History Writers and Editors (ISFHWE) is reminding writers IN ALL MEDIA (magazines, newspapers, journals, websites, blogs) that the 2016 Excellence-in-Writing Competition is now open for entries through 15 June 2016.

The competition is open to both MEMBERS and NON-MEMBERS of ISFHWE; both published and non-published authors may enter (see category list below). **Members of ISFHWE receive a discount on the entry fee (after logging in to the ISFHWE members’ corner; new members allow up to ten days to receive login information).**

The categories are:

**Category I – Columns.** This is for columns of original content, published on a regular basis, in any medium, published in 2015. Each entry must consist of 2,000 words or fewer. These are entries from the author’s regular column—not features. Note that these may be print or online columns (including blogs).

**Category II -- Articles.** These one-time articles (not part of the author’s column) must have been published in 2015 in a journal, magazine, newsletter, blog or website. Entries cannot exceed 5,000 words. Note that these may be print or online articles, including GUEST entries on a blog. Footnotes are not included in the word count.

**Category III – Genealogy Newsletter.** This category is for society or family association newsletters published in 2015. Entries should consist of two issues, each submitted as a single file in PDF format. The judging will be based on originality, content, visual appeal, writing and editing quality, and accuracy. The award is to the editor of the publication. These may be print or online newsletters. The once-a-year newsletters usually sent at Christmas do not qualify for this competition as two issues from the same calendar year are needed.

**Category IV – Unpublished Authors.** Entrants in this category aspire to be published writers or columnists in the field of genealogy, family or local history. The submissions in this category are original and unpublished, between 500 and 2,000 words. Since these are UNPUBLISHED, blogs are not eligible for this category. The articles should be unpublished at the time they were submitted to the competition.

**Category V – Unpublished material - Published Authors.** This category is for original unpublished genealogically related articles by previously published authors. Entries should be between 500 and 3,000 words. Since these are UNPUBLISHED, blogs are not eligible for this category. The articles should be unpublished at the time they were submitted to the competition.

**Category VI – Poetry.** This category is for original content (published in 2015 or unpublished), that is related to family history. Entries should be no longer than 1000 words and have a title. This may include song lyrics (music is not judged).

Winners (1st, 2nd, 3rd) in each category will be awarded a cash prize and a certificate. Emailed certificates may be awarded for Honorable Mentions. The awards will be announced during FGS Conference 2016.

Entries must be submitted in PDF, Word, WordPerfect, or JPG format by e-mail in time to meet this deadline. **Please note: Footnotes will not count toward word count.** Send entries to: Competition@ISFHWE.org

Appropriate entry fee(s) - and membership dues to receive the discount - may be paid via PayPal on the ISFHWE website at ISFHWE.org

**Full information on the competition is available on the ISFHWE website in the “2016 Excellence-in-Writing Competition - Information and Online Entry Form” link, which leads to: http://www.isfhwe.org/competition.php**

For questions, contact the Competition Coordinator at: competition@ISFHWE.org
Finding the Dead: Illinois Death Certificates Lookup Service at ISGS

Among the many services available to the public, as well as members of the Illinois State Genealogical Society, is the Illinois Death Certificate lookup service. Not only can ISGS members receive copies of Illinois death certificates from 1916-1950 at a discount, anyone using ISGS can save considerable money compared to county-based services.

The current pricing for one certificate is $6.00 for ISGS members and $10.00 for non-members (you can order as many as you would like). Compare that to the current $15.00 rate at sites such as Genealogy Online for Cook County (https://www.cookcountygenealogy.com/).

Currently, only those certificates listed at the Illinois Death Certificates 1916-1950 database at http://cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/databases/idphdeathindex.html can be obtained through the ISGS lookup service.

Requesting a Death Certificate: The Process

To obtain non-certified copies of death certificates from the 1916-1950 timeframe, please follow these steps:

• Search for the individual death certificate(s) you want.
• After you find the correct certificates(s), print or copy down the information exactly as displayed on your screen.
• **Order Online**: To order online using a MasterCard, Visa, Discover, American Express or a PayPal account, use our shopping cart at http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=59. Your information is kept safe and secure by the PayPal payment service.
• **Order by Mail**: To mail your request, print out the ISGS Death Certificate Request Form (click here) and transfer the death certificate information to the form. Mail the form along with your check made payable to the Illinois State Genealogical Society to the address shown on the form. (Note: Credit card payments are only available online.)

If you have any questions, visit http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=59 for more information, email isgsoffice@ilgensoc.org or call (217) 789-1968.

Revenues Support ISGS Operations

In the past few years we have seen a marked decrease in income from the ISGS death certificate lookup service. Proceeds directly support ISGS office operations. So remember to take advantage of this service, whether you are a member of ISGS or not!
The Illinois State Genealogical Foundation was established in 2012 as a wholly non-profit tax-exempt corporation, organized and chartered under the laws of the State of Illinois, with charitable and educational purposes.

All donations to the Foundation are tax deductible per Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The purpose of the foundation is to

- Assist in developing and increasing educational opportunities for the genealogical and historical community of Illinois
- Provide service for students and organizations whose primary interest involves the study and education of genealogical and historical events in Illinois
- Encourage gifts of money, property, historical papers and documents, and other material having educational, artistic, scientific and/or historical value and by such other proper means as may be determined. The Foundation will receive, hold, and administer such gifts with the primary intent of serving the genealogical and historical community in Illinois.

The Illinois State Genealogical Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of nine members.

Shirley Aleguas, Waverly, IL  
Steve Black, President, Phoenix, AZ
David Kent Coy, Decatur, IL  
Michele Claypool, Champaign, IL
Mary Lou Delahunt, Galesburg, IL  
Gary K Hargis, North Aurora, IL
Jean Jung, Waterloo, IL  
Carole McCarty, St. Charles, IL
George F. Perkins, Normal, IL

An annual meeting of the Foundation is held each year according to the by-laws.

The Foundation is an opportunity for individuals, businesses, and other organizations to contribute to genealogical and historical research and educational opportunities relating to people and events associated with Illinois. Projects will be selected for funding based on specific criteria to be developed by the Board with the intent of making information available to researchers and genealogists. The initial strategy is to build the assets in the Foundation and then begin providing funding/grants for various genealogical research projects in the state.

For further information about the Foundation, contact any of the Foundation Directors or Steve Black, President at 623-466-3545 or steve.black531@gmail.com.

ISG Foundation address: 906 Switchgrass Lane, Champaign, IL 61822
Illinois State Genealogical Society
2015—2016 Governing Board

Officers
President: Dawn Carey Henry, Naperville
Vice President: Angela Cathey McGee, Chicago
2nd Vice President: Susan Scoville Pope, Normal
Recording Secretary: Laura Kovarik, Naperville
Treasurer: Margaret Truax, Aurora

Directors
2016 Directors: Darlene Hinkle, Amboy; Jackie Lyell, Marion; Donna Pond Hartwig, Peoria
2017 Directors: Karl Moore, Pawnee; David Kent Coy, Decatur; Tony Burroughs, Chicago
2018 Directors: Kristy Gravlin, Plano; Barbara McKean, Springfield

Immediate Past President
Jayne Cates, St. Charles

Standing Committee Chairs
Conference: Joan Kitchen-Murray, Peotone
Finance & Budget: Rick Shields, Ottawa
Honors and Awards: Linda Wallin, Palatine
Local Society Liaison: Sandra Barnett, Springfield
Long Range Planning: Open
Membership: Anita Boyd, Winfield

Ex Officio Representatives
Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library: Gwen Podeschi, Springfield
Federation of Genealogical Societies: Janice Fritsch, Sandwich
Illinois State Archives: Dr. David Joens, Springfield
Illinois State Genealogical Foundation: Karl Moore, Pawnee
Illinois State Historical Society: William Furry, Springfield
Illinois Secretary of State: Dr. David Joens, Springfield

Special Committee Chairs & Other Appointments
Advertising: open
Bylaws/Policy/Procedure: Angela Cathey McGee, Chicago
ISGS 50th Anniversary History: open
Church Records: Darlene Hinkle, Amboy
Education: Thomas MacEntee, Chicago
Family Bible Records: Kristy Gravlin, Plano
FGS 2016 Conference Local Host Chair: Laura Kovarik, Naperville
Genealogy: Dawn Carey Henry, Naperville
Website Committee: open

Office Secretary—Evelyn Edwards

Illinois State Genealogical Society