One of the most common questions about the ISGS website seems to be: Who are those people in the photos at the top of the page?

This photo and all the photos you see in the header of the ISGS Website were winners in our 2011 ISGS Ancestor Photo contest. ISGS is happy to announce the 2012 ISGS Ancestor Photo Contest and asks this question: wouldn't it be great to see your own ancestors' photos up there?

Between now and May 31, 2012, ISGS is asking members to submit photos of their own ancestors for use on the ISGS website. If your photo is selected, it will be displayed on a rotating-basis in the top banner of the ISGS website along with other member-submitted photos. You can view all the 2011 winners at http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=156.

Not only will you be credited with the photo submission, but you'll also be able to provide a brief biography of the person or persons in the photo.

Visit the 2012 ISGS Ancestor Photo Contest page at http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=71 and use the entry form to submit your photos. Or go to http://ilgensoc.org/upload/menu/ISGS_Photo_Release.pdf to print out the form and submit your ancestor photos today!

NOTE: You must be a member of ISGS to participate in the 2012 Ancestor Photo Contest.

Pass the word! Invite someone to join the Illinois State Genealogical Society!

Join or renew online at http://ilgensoc.org; click on Join ISGS!, select your membership type, then renew online or print your membership form and mail to:

Illinois State Genealogical Society
PO Box 10195
Springfield, IL 62791-0195

ISGS....Honoring Illinois Ancestors!

Congratulations to ISGS Board Member Karl Moore for being recognized by Secretary White for 35 years of service to the Illinois State Archives. Karl currently serves as the head of the Illinois Regional Archives Depository (IRAD) system.
Greetings,

Board updates: Jane Haldeman (Naperville) resigned as a 2012 Director and accepted the appointment as the 1st Vice President. Tony Burroughs (Chicago) will fill the remainder of the 2012 Director position. Becky Guymon (Mattoon) is the new chair of the Genealogy Committee and new to the committee Cheryl Budde (Bloomington). Cleta Jo Shirley (Cartersville) is serving on the Finance & Budget Committee. Leaving the Quarterly Committee are Editor, Oriene Springstroh and Layout & Design Editor, Jane Haldeman. Taking their positions are Judy Milde (Joliet) as Editor and Valerie Burd (Yorkville) as Layout & Design Editor, beginning with the Summer issue.

Thank you Oriene and Jane for providing the ISGS members with a top quality publication. Welcome to all the new members and thank-you for saying “yes”.

April 2 is the release of the 1940 census. Plan to help with the indexing. Go to <https://www.familysearch.org/> and follow the directions in the right hand column. When signing up, remember to mark “Illinois State Genealogical Society” as your group. If you are already an indexer, update your profile with ISGS as your group.

Mark your calendar: Oct 19 & 20, ISGS Fall Conference, Rockford Clock Tower Resort.

Something new to ISGS are the “Spring Forums”. ISGS (along with a host society) are inviting ISGS member IL society board members to one of five Forums that will be held throughout the state during April, May and June. The Forums will provide for a day of one on one communication between ISGS and their Associate members.

Together “Honoring Illinois Ancestors”,
Janice A. Fritsch
President, Illinois State Genealogical Society

Deadline date for article contributions to the ISGS January newsletter is April 30, 2012.

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

Advertising Committee Chair
Advertising is an important and vital function of ISGS and is an extension of the normal mission and business of ISGS. The Advertising Committee Chair acts as a central facilitator for advertising activities and potential revenue for ISGS.

ISGS 2012 Fall Conference
Volunteers will be needed to help with monitoring sessions, help with the Youth Workshop, and other essential tasks. The conference will be held October 19th & 20th at the Clock Tower Inn and Conference Center in Rockford, IL. Save these dates, and please let us know if you can lend a hand and be a part of our great conference team!

Website Indexing Committee
Indexing projects are based on member submissions, ISGS holdings or other resources. Items include annual reports for civic organizations, yearbooks, church records, and other record sets. Volunteers will scan images, upload images and/or data to be indexed.

Once projects are created, all ISGS members will be invited to assist with indexing so we can provide these records to ISGS members and other researchers. Let us know if you would like to be involved!
ILLINOIS STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
2012 FALL CONFERENCE

October 19th - Noon to 6:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m. Dinner & Speaker
October 20th - 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Rockford, Illinois

Featured Speaker
John Phillip Colletta, PhD

- Other Nationally Known Speakers
- 2nd Annual Youth Workshop
- Exhibitors & Genealogy Societies

Friday: Two Different Genealogy Tracks! Saturday: 12 Sessions!

Photo courtesy Rockford Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
ISGS Website Update

Member Forums

As mentioned here in the ISGS Newsletter, the ISGS Website Committee has decided to open the ISGS Forums to the public. Now, anyone in the genealogy community can read the ISGS member messages about genealogy research, or post a query, or even reply to an existing discussion. Just use the ISGS Forums located at http://ilgensoc.org/forum.php.

Also, help spread the word by posting the link on social media (Facebook, Twitter), telling your genealogy friends and also sharing the link in the newsletter, blog or website of your local genealogy society.

New Additions to ISGS Website

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


**ISGS Webinars – Members Section**: for ISGS Members, the handouts and recordings for two more webinars *(Cool Tools for Publishing* by Lisa Alzo and *Desperately Seeking Susan: Finding Female Ancestors* by Amy Johnson Crow, MLIS, CG) are available in the Members Section.

Have You Logged In At The ISGS Website?

Did you know that almost half of our nearly 1,000 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.
The second most popular tool used by genealogists is the family group sheet. You need to know how to use this tool and what it looks like to understand how it works. Here is one example that is provided by Family Search: [http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Search/RG/pdfinfo.asp?pdf=images/31827_FamGrpRe.pdf](http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Search/RG/pdfinfo.asp?pdf=images/31827_FamGrpRe.pdf). There are many different styles but they all are very similar. Filling out this form is not hard if you keep in mind that the information is about one family unit. Follow the steps listed below and you will be able to understand the role of individuals in family units.

1. Always put the date, your name and address on the top of the form so that genealogists in the future may know who filled in the information on this form and how to get in contact with them. These identifying features also help you determine if the information is current.

2. As with a pedigree chart the husband’s information is on the top part of the form. The entire name of the husband goes in the space provided. His occupation and other vital statistics go in their assigned places. All dates are listed in the following order: Day, Month, Year such as (3 March 1964.) A separate family group sheet is filled out for each wife’s children. On this chart the wife is listed below the husband’s information. Be sure to list all females by their maiden name. [Hint: Use pencil when filling out the form until you have proven the event as a fact.]

3. Once you fill in the information on the parents, it is time to enter the children’s information. The children are listed by order of birth. Put as much detail as possible down for the location in which the child was born, married or died such as (Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois). A label such as (, , Illinois) is used when no county or town is known.

4. The place for sources of information is used to cite or prove your information is correct. You indicate where you obtained the information for this form in this location. There are many ways of indicating the sources that were used for each bit of information. It is up to you to decide how you will indicate the sources used in the main body of this form. Some people place symbols such as (*, #, +, -) by the statistical information to indicate their various sources.

5. On this form there is also a place for other marriages of the children. Just remember to indicate the child’s number when connecting them with a spouse. Separate family group sheets may also be made for these couples by following the steps above.

6. When the husband of the original family remarries, his new wife and any additional children are listed on a separate form. When the husband dies or a divorce occurs a separate family group sheet is made for the new couple or couples.

7. The following are a few of the abbreviations used in many different family group sheets.
   - b. = born, bur. = buried, pl. = place, w. = where, m. = married, marr. = married, chr. = christened or baptized, pob. = place of birth, d. = died, pod. = place of death

8. Remember, a family group sheet is made for every marriage that is listed on a pedigree chart. Play around with the different styles of this form until you find one that you are comfortable with and stick with that form.
ISGS Forums – Now Open to the Public

For the past few months, since their introduction on the ISGS Website, the ISGS Forums have been available to members only. In case you aren’t familiar with the forums, they can be accessed at http://ilgensoc.org/forum.php.

What does this mean? Only ISGS Members can post new messages and respond to existing messages; however, all the information is now available for the public to read. This will help get your query or research question to a wider audience.

What’s in the ISGS Forums? Here are some of the current topics:

- About ISGS Forums
- Brick Walls
- Free Lookups
- Illinois Genealogy Resources
- Queries
- Research Questions

You can learn more about the ISGS Forums at http://ilgensoc.org/upload/menu/ISGS_Forum_Instructions.pdf (opens in Adobe Reader).

Want to suggest a new topic? Simply contact the ISGS Webmaster at isgswebmaster@ilgensoc.org with your suggestion.

You can help spread the word by posting the link on social media (Facebook, Twitter), telling your genealogy friends and also sharing the link in the newsletter, blog or website of your local genealogy society.

Protecting Your Copyrights

Last November I received, as the ISGS Cemeteries Chair, an email from one of our Illinois Genealogy Societies regarding a copyright question. Beginning in the 1970s, this Society had walked its county’s cemeteries and over the years published several volumes of cemetery listings. The funds from these publications help keep the Society afloat.

To their surprise, members of the Society found this information posted on a popular website for Illinois research. The information was not just similar listings as though someone had gone out and read the cemeteries themselves but true copies, page by page. In addition, since the Society’s publications contained additional information from courthouses, obituaries, and even interviews, it was easy to see their volumes had been pirated.

The Society’s question to me was what should or could they do. I talked it over with others from the board of ISGS and gave the best answer we could. First, knowing we’re not lawyers we can only suggest some possible actions: contact (in writing is best) the website owners regarding the issue asking them to take that database down; contact the website as above but noting the next action will come from a copyright lawyer; contact a copyright lawyer for recommendations.

The Society chose the first option with great success. Since the website owners take donated databases, they were not aware of the infringement until they heard from the Society. After notification, the offending records were removed from their site.

The moral of this story: don’t be afraid to stand up for your copyrights. If your Society has publications and you find infringements to your copyright online, sometimes a simple letter or email will resolve the problem.

Submitted by Becky Higgins, ISGS Cemeteries Chair

We are looking for Suggestions for Nominees to the 2012-2013 ISGS Board

The ISGS Nominating Committee seeks suggestions from the membership and interested parties as a whole for officers of the Illinois State Genealogical Society for 2012-2013. If you are interested in a position or know of someone who may be, submit name and contact information including a post mail address by July 15, 2012 to: ISGSwebmaster@ilgensoc.org.
April 2012

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

[15th]
The Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois
Kathryn Greenwood Presents How to Sell Genealogy to a Younger Generation

[17th]
McLean County Genealogical Society
ISU Archivist, April Anderson and ISU Asst. Archivist and IRAD Supervisor, Jenna Self will present IRAD’s Records.
http://www.mcgs.org/

[18th]
DuPage County (IL) Genealogical Society
Finding and Using Sanborn Maps presented by Jeffrey A. Bockman.
http://www.dcgs.org/dcgs.html

[21st]
National Center for Great Lakes Native American Culture, Inc.
2012 Academic Conference Eastern Woodlands Tribes in the War of 1812.
www.ncglnac.org

May 2012

[9th–12th]
National Genealogical Society
The Ohio River: Gateway to the Western Frontier will be the theme for the 2012 Annual Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio.
www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference_info

[26th–28th]
The Illinois Historical Society
32nd Annual Illinois History Symposium presents Contested Lands 1763-1840.
http://www.historyillinois.org/

[27th–28th]
Wisconsin State Genealogical Society

[28th]
St. Louis Genealogical Society
Methods for Cultivating Our Family Trees featuring Thomas Jones.
http://www.dcgs.org/dcgs.html

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/

[27th–28th]
Federation of Genealogical Societies 2012 Conference will be in Birmingham, Alabama. Check out the website for more info. www.fgs.org/conferences/index.php

August 2012

[29th–1st]
Illinois State Genealogical Society
2012 Fall Conference featuring John Phillipp Colletta in Rockford, IL.
http://www.ilgensoc.org/events.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.

On Tuesday, April 10, at 8 PM Central, D. Joshua Taylor will present, Going Digital: Organizing Your Research Files Electronically, where you will learn how to take your paper research notes, logs, and documents and convert them into your own personal “digital archives.” To attend this webinar, register at https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/916785542.

May 8 – Some Great, Seldom-Used, Resources: A Genealogical Potpourri with Timothy Pinnick
Register at https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/542750318

June 12 – The War of 1812 – America’s “Forgotten” War with Peggy Clemens Lauritzen, AG
Register at https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/361887982

For the complete list of upcoming webinars, visit http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=234.

And don’t forget to spread the word by printing out a few copies of our webinar flyer to hand out at your local society meetings. The flyer can be accessed at http://ilgensoc.org/upload/menu/2012webinarbrochure.pdf.
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

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 Bldg., 2nd Floor
Business Office Telephone: 217/789-1968
Website: <http://ilgensoc.org/index.php>
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**Newsletter Article Contributions due the 30th of the month prior to publishing.**

**Advertising options available**

Newsletter Editor: isgsnewsletter@ilgensoc.org

ISGS Executive Committee Elected Officers 2012
President: Janice Fritsch
1st Vice-President: Jane Haldeman
2nd Vice-President: Susie Pope
Treasurer: Michele Claypool
Recording Secretary: Julie Cahill Tarr

2012 Directors—Becky Higgins, Jayne Cates, Tony Burroughs
2013 Directors—Ann Wells, Annabelle Bradshaw, Dan Dixon
2014 Directors—Cheri Hunter, Karl Moore, Jennifer Holik-Urban

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