Holiday Gift Suggestion: *Insider's Guide to Illinois Genealogy*

The best-selling *Insider's Guide To Illinois Genealogy* – a handy reference guide for family historians and genealogists – makes the perfect gift for the genealogists among your friends and family. With the *Insider's Guide* researchers will find everything they need to get started to find Prairie State ancestors.

The *Insider's Guide To Illinois Genealogy* laminated “quick card” contains:

- An overview of Illinois history in a timeline format
- A section on migration patterns related to how Illinois was settled
- Helpful research strategy tips for the beginning genealogist
- Over 130 different links to websites covering different aspects of Illinois genealogy over 26 subject sections including Census Records, Vital Records, Obituaries, Military Records, and more.

The guide can be purchased online or by mail be visiting [http://bit.ly/ISGSguide](http://bit.ly/ISGSguide) for $7 which includes shipping and handling.

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Greetings,

With the beginning of the ISGS year leaving their positions are Jean Jung (2011 Director) and Carol Sterr Lehman (Quarterly queries). A thank-you goes to them for all they have given to ISGS over the years. A welcome goes out to the new Board members and committees listed herein.

Watch for upcoming announcements and information on the:
ISGS Spring Forums for IL society officers
1940 Census statewide indexing project
ISGS Fall Conference, to be held in Rockford
Education opportunities through the newly formed Education Committee

This newsletter is your bi-monthly source to know what is going on within ISGS and some of the genealogical community. The ISGS website homepage, http://www.ilgensoc.org changes regularly with current news, visit often. The ISGS Blog, http://ilgensoc.blogspot.com and Facebook, http://www.facebook.com/ILGenSoc are also sources for continuing updates and information. Set them as your favorites for easy access.

Enjoy the Holidays with those that give you joy,

Janice A. Fritsch
President, Illinois State Genealogical Society

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.

Genealogy Committee
The Genealogy Committee members serve as “research guides” for anyone encountering a “brick wall,” or otherwise in need of research direction.

Illinois Society Liaison Committee
The Illinois Society Liaison Committee is undertaking a new approach this year. Needed is a volunteer in each of Illinois’ seven Regional Archival Depository (IRAD) districts who will communicate and do some outreach in these areas.

Website Indexing Committee Chair (Sub-committee of the Website Committee)
A chairperson, project leaders, and volunteers are needed.

The chairperson will be responsible for identifying qualified indexing projects based on member submissions, ISGS holdings or other resources. Items include annual reports for civic organizations, yearbooks, church records, and other record sets. The chairperson should have a basic understanding of Excel and project management to track the projects and assign tasks to ISGS members.

Project leaders will work with ISGS volunteers to scan images, upload images and/or data and to see that the images or data are indexed. We’ll be using Ancestry Content Publisher as a platform for most indexing projects.

Once the structure is set up and projects are created, all ISGS members are invited to assist with indexing so we can provide these records to ISGS members and other researchers.

Obituary & Death Notice Project Chair (Sub-committee of the Website Committee)
This committee chair will organize a large obituary project involving other Illinois genealogy societies and libraries. The goal is to create a database similar to the Ohio Obituary Index (see http://index.rbhayes.org/hayes/index/). The chairperson will be responsible for making contacts with societies and libraries to secure their participation and receive data, and to provide a method for ISGS members to index obituaries.
Indexing Projects and Ancestry Content Publisher

The Indexing Subcommittee of the ISGS Website Committee has been busy testing the new Ancestry.com Content Publisher platform. This new service from Ancestry.com allows genealogy societies and others to upload scanned images and index those images easily. Then the images are not only available on the Ancestry.com website for its members, but also free to the public!

Currently, ISGS has fully-indexed the Arcola Township High School Yearbooks for 1921 and 1922 thanks to the efforts of Larry Pepper, ISGS 1st Vice-President who agreed to serve as a “guinea pig” for this project. Larry says he found the Ancestry.com Content Publisher easy to use in terms of uploading multiple photos and indexing the contents. Other indexing projects are in the works including other Arcola Township High School Yearbooks and more! To view the ISGS Collection at Ancestry.com click http://bit.ly/ISGSAncestryContentPublisher or visit the Free Databases section of the ISGS website at http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=66.

Have You Checked the Surname Research Database Lately?
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.

A new feature added recently is the ability to add your own surname information. Visit the Members Section and then click Edit Profile (http://ilgensoc.org/mo_profile.php) where you can add and edit surname information.

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.


Collection of probate records, which includes wills, indexes, and other documents created to track the distribution of estates of deceased individuals who lived in Illinois. Probates were generally recorded in the county of residence. This collection covers probate records created by Illinois courts, 1819-1970, but the content and time period of the records will vary by county. A few additional county court records are also present. Additional records may be added to this collection. Check the wiki or browse the collection to determine current coverage. (https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/show#uri=http://hr-search-api:8080/searchapi/search/collection/1834344)


Arcola High School Yearbooks Now Available

Yearbooks from Arcola Township High School in Arcola, Illinois are now available for free on the Ancestry.com website. ISGS 1st Vice President Larry Pepper helped scan the yearbook pages, uploaded them to the Ancestry site and indexed them as well!

Currently, ISGS has fully-indexed the yearbooks for 1921 and 1922. Yearbooks for 1926 and 1927 are available in image only format and the indexing will be completed very soon.


ISGS Membership Renewal

Everyone who has an expiration date of 12/31/2011 is up for renewal 1/1/2012 unless they took advantage of the “early renewal” incentive at the FGS conference. A few of the membership dividends are:

- Access to the Members Section with numerous databases, indices and the new Member Forum
- 4 issues of the 64 pg ISGS Quarterly
- 6 issues of the ISGS Newsletter
- 20% discount on publications
- Reduced death certificate look-up & conference fees
- Ability to submit your surname information to the Surname Research Database
- And a genealogist to help with problems.

Renew today online at:
The ISGS’s Volkel Hall of Fame display, located at the Margaret Cross Norton State Archives building in Springfield, was recently updated with the addition of 2011 honorees Sandra Hargreaves Luebking and Elizabeth “Libby” Grimm. The Volkel Hall of Fame honors persons who made significant contributions to genealogy in Illinois and is named after Lowell Volkel, the founder of the Illinois State Genealogical Society. (Photo courtesy of the Illinois Secretary of State’s office)
Thank you to our generous donors!

Welcome new ISGS Members!

Angel Project Donors
James Griffith—Madison, WI
Kenneth & Mary Hise—Belleville, IL

ISGS General Fund
Jeanine S. Biondolino—Taylorville, IL

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Mary Westerhold—Edwardsville, IL
Cindy Wheeler—Livermore, CA
Juliet Wilson—Springfield, IL
Gayle Wolcott—Camarillo, CA
The Illiana Genealogical & Historical Society

The Illiana Genealogical & Historical Society, the oldest incorporated genealogical society in Illinois, continually adds research materials to its collection at the Genealogy Library. Some recent additions (along with ISGS call numbers for easy identification) include:

“Life of Abraham Lincoln as President: A Personal Account” by Ward Lamon (973.4 LIN); Vermilion County & The Civil War (973.4 ILL); 1812 Ancestor Index, Vol. 1, 1892-1970, Vol. 2, 1970-1921, Vol. 3, 1992-2002 (973.3 ANC); Jamestowne Ancestors (973.05); Adventurers of Purse & Person Virginia, 1607-1624/25, 3 volumes (973.05); 1870 Census of Winchester Twp, Adams Co., OH (977.186 CEN); 1850 Census of Sprigg Twp, Adams Co., OH (977.186 CEN); 1870 Census of Sprigg Twp, Adams Co., OH (977.186 CEN); 1880 Census of Eagle Twp, Brown Co., OH (977.1796 CEN); Brown Co., OH Court Records, 1818-1850 (977.1796); Also, Winchester Twp, Adams Co., OH Cemeteries (977.186 CEM); Ohio Land Grants (977.1 LAN); Missouri Genealogical Records & Abstracts, Vol. 5, 1755-1839 (977.8 REC); Wythe Co., VA Marriages, 1790-1850 (975.5773 MAR); North & South Carolina Marriage Records (975.63 MAR); Boelzkeas Museum of Lithuania (946 MUS); Souvenir Program for Korea-Vietnam Memorial (973.8 MEM); and VFW Magazine: 60 Anniversary Issue of Korean War (973.8 VFW).

Some recently added materials on disk (CD) include the following: Vital Records Index British Isles; 1851 British Census; Mormon Immigration Index; and Scandinavian Vital Records Index.

The Illiana Genealogy Library, 215 W. North St., Danville, IL 61832 is open to anyone wishing to research in its materials. Non-members of IGHS and/or the Governor Bradford Chapter of the DAR are asked for a $3 donation per day for the use of the library. The winter hours (Nov. 1 to March 31) are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturdays by appointment only with appropriate notice. Phone 431-8733. Visit the society’s website at http://www.illianaghs.org.

Visit the McLean County Genealogical Society's new “Online Sale Corner” http://www.mcgs.org and shop close to 100 used and duplicate books. These books cover many Illinois counties plus additional states and counties. Items will be sold on a first come, first served basis.

Shop and Support ISGS

Do you purchase genealogy products and services online at retailers such as Ancestry.com, Shop Family Tree and others? Did you know that now you can not only purchase great family history items online but also help support ISGS, its mission and its projects? Visit the new Shop and Support ISGS page on the ISGS website at http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=195 before you make a purchase at any of the participating retailers. Using these links, ISGS will receive a portion of any sales and these funds will go to help various projects at ISGS.

How Does the Shop and Support ISGS Page Work?
2. Click on a link and you’ll be taken to that retailer’s website.
3. Shop for your products and make your purchase.
That’s it!

Frequently Asked Questions
If I use the Shop and Support ISGS links, do I have to pay a fee or extra for my purchase?
No – you as the consumer don’t pay anything extra at any time. The retailer pays a percentage of sales to ISGS as a reward for bringing its members and supporters to that website to shop.

Do I pay higher prices if I use the Shop and Support ISGS links?
No – you pay the same prices that you would find on the retailer’s website if you didn’t use the ISGS links.

Will the ISGS website start carrying advertisements?
No – the only places you’ll see the links and any graphics related to retail websites is on the Shop and Support ISGS page of the ISGS website. You may also see:
A simple ad for the Shop and Support ISGS page on the ISGS blog in the sidebar area of the blog
A link in the footer of ISGS blog posts when using a blog reader such as Google Reader
An occasional ISGS newsletter article or blog post reminding members to take advantage of the Shop and Support ISGS links when making purchases at genealogy websites.

Help Spread the Word!
Anyone – not just ISGS members – can use the Shop and Support ISGS page and its links to help support ISGS and its projects. Please let your friends and family know especially as we approach the holiday shopping season!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the ISGS Webmaster at isgswebmaster@ilgensoc.org.
December 2011
[ 4th h]
Decatur Genealogical Society & Library of Macon County
Book Sale, NASCAR Sale, Rummage Sale & Irish Auction. Decatur Genealogy Society Library, 1255 West South Side Drive, Decatur, IL.

January 2012
[ 23rd- 27th h]
Utah Genealogical Association
Presents the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy 2012.

February 2012
[ 2nd- 4th h]
Rootstech
Family History & Technology Conference in Salt Lake City.
rootstech.familysearch.org/

April 2012
[ 14th h]
Iowa Genealogical Society
Spring Technology Conference
http://www.iowagenealogy.org/events/conferences/spring-technology-conference/

May 2012
[ 9th h- 12th h]
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

August 2012
[ 29th h–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.

Translations from German, Dutch, and French to English
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http://www.hartigtranslations.com
Specializing in Old German Script

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

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

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.