The annual ISGS elections were held October 28 in Moline, during the 2017 Fall Conference. I want to welcome the new officers:

President – Laura Marshall Kovarik
1st VP – David McDonald
2nd VP – Barbara McKean
Recording Secretary – Caron Primas Brennan
Treasurer – Jackie LaRue Lyell
2020 Directors – Tina Beaird, Linda Bergren Polich and Susan Thanepohn

The entire Board is looking forward to celebrating the Society’s 50th anniversary in 2018 as well as the Illinois Bicentennial. It was exciting to hear plans being made for the 2018 conference even before we left Moline. Other birthday activities were also under discussion. Keep your eye on the ISGS website and Facebook page so you don’t miss anything. Is your local Society doing anything for the Bicentennial? Consider joining the next Ask Away – Society Edition, Nov 16 to share ideas with Kim Hanks, Illinois Society Liaison, and Dr. David Joens, director of the Illinois State Archives. The sign up instructions are in this newsletter.

A special thank you to our outgoing President, Dawn Carey Henry. She has been responsible for overseeing some foundational improvements for the Society, including a Bylaw Revision. Every Society needs a strong foundation before moving forward. Dawn has put ISGS in a strong position moving in to their next 50 years. Thank you for your time and dedication, Dawn.

Thank you for your continued support.

Laura Marshall Kovarik
ISGS President
Contact ISGS

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 10195, Springfield, IL 62791-0195. Executive Office: IL State Archives Building, 2nd floor

Office Telephone: (217)-789-1968
Website: ilgensoc.org
Facebook: facebook.com/ILGenSoc
Twitter: @ILGenSocISGS

Office Hours:
Mondays & Thursdays 10:00am-1:00pm

Advertise in the Newsletter

ISGS online newsletter is published in January, March, May, July, September, November. Advertising is available by contacting the advertising chairperson at isgsadvertising@ilgensoc.org. JPEG file format preferred.

Newsletter Articles

Please send articles for the newsletter to isgsnewsletter@ilgensoc.org.
Pictures are welcome (JPEGs preferred). Just include your caption with names, places, details. Deadlines: 10 days before the month of publication.

Welcome New ISGS Members!

The Illinois Bicentennial Committee is inviting all statewide partners planning activities between December 3, 2017 and December 3, 2018 to apply for endorsement and become an official part of Illinois Bicentennial. Once approved, you will receive an official Bicentennial Seal of Endorsement for use on your marketing materials, in addition to statewide promotional support, including listings in the online Bicentennial events calendar, social media promotion, and potential inclusion in official publications.

Join ISGS or Renew Your Membership Online

To join, go to the ISGS website: ilgensoc.org

You can renew your membership online here, or mail your renewal to ISGS Membership Renewal, PO Box 10195, Springfield, IL 62791-0195. Individual/Associate/Subcription: $35, Joint (two people at same address): $40.

Address Changes

If you have a change of either mailing address or an email address or both, it is important to let the ISGS office know. We cannot be responsible for resending issues and other "blast emails" that could not be forwarded to a new address.

If your information has changed, please forward the new information to the ISGS office at isgsoffice@ilgensoc.org or call (217) 789-1968. You can also update your information on the website www.ilgensoc.org. Click on the Members Section on the left sidebar. Enter your login and password. Then click Edit Your Profile in the Members section on the left. Click the Contact Info tab and verify your email address.
Fall Conference 2017
Volunteer Opportunities

Join in the fun!

With the generous help of 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.

For further details on any of the positions listed below, contact Barbara McKean: isgs2ndvp@ilgensoc.org

Advertising
This committee solicits ads for the ISGS Quarterly, Newsletter, and fall conference syllabus.

Church Records Chair
This committee maintains a listing of Illinois church repositories with the goal of publishing via various media, and responding to queries.

Indexing Coordinator
Coordinator for Society indexing projects, tracking of materials and indexing status of committee volunteers.

Education Committee Members
This committee develops and oversees educational information and programming, including the ISGS Webinars offerings.

The first annual ISGS FORUM with Illinois society leadership was a success!

These Illinois societies were represented from all across the state.

Participation numbers beyond our expectations!

- Afro-American Genealogical & Historical Society of Chicago, Inc.
- Bureau County Genealogical Society
- Chicago Genealogy Society
- Coles County, Illinois Genealogical Society
- DuPage County Genealogical Society
- Fountaindale Public Library Genealogy Club
- Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois
- Iroquois County Genealogical Society
- Kane County Genealogical Society
- Lake County (IL) Genealogical Society
- McDonough County Illinois Genealogical Society
- McLean County Genealogical Society
- North Suburban Genealogical Society
- Peoria County Genealogical Society
- Rock Island County Illinois Genealogical Society
- South Suburban Genealogical and Historical Society
- Stark County Genealogical Society
- Stephenson County Genealogical Society
- Winnebago and Boone Counties Genealogical Society

Hundreds of great ideas were shared and future needs were highlighted.

Below is the list generated of the best things about the societies who were present at this FORUM. Be ready to be blown away by the amazing work of local societies!

- Good leadership
- President 10 years
- History room
- Small county—“we can get our arms around it”
- Indexing over 1 million names
- Library in village hall
- “We’re all old” & have positive attitudes
- County family tree
- Pullman Employee Files Collection
- All newspapers in county digitized
- Access to records
- Good relationship with courthouse & actually get to touch records
- Volunteers keep library open
- Good relationship with county clerk
- History of Chatham-active members scanning-donation
- Dedicated board & members
- Published undertaker book
- Partner with public library—research local history floor
- Bureau County extensive indexing

CONTINUED on PAGE 4
The first annual ISGS FORUM
At the Fall 2017 Conference
Continued from page 5

Public librarians oversee society’s collection
Youtube channel-Fontaile Library  Great collaboration
3 writers groups; cemetery walk
dedicated core group of volunteers; Full-time archivist
collection in museum shared with historical society
cemetery records updated; other records; researchers-volunteers
have on own society library building: Beginning genealogy classes
relationship with Newberry Library; lunch & learn discussion groups
amazing webmaster/website with members only section
great collections donated; newspapers on microfilm
State study groups with variety of projects
Events (based on) historical research
28 counties covered in Southern Illinois by 1 society
new book coming out-bicentennial; great staff of researchers
clerk sends society marriage records each year
revitalizing with new officers & new publications

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Claybaugh Hanks
ISGS Illinois Society Liaison Chair

Attention
All Conference Attendees!

The ISGS Education Committee is surveying Conference Attendees to determine if there would be interest in a post conference on-line program.

The program would help support you after you have left the conference, assist you in applying new skills, and keep your research moving forward. The programs would be small interactive discussion groups with one leader using he GotoMeeting platform – same as our webinar series. The discussion groups would be focused on the tracks from the conference—DNA, Research and Writing.

Interested in such a group? Email your name and indicate what group you are interested in - DNA, Research or Writing – to isgseducation@ilgensoc.org

There is no obligation to participate. The program is open to any conference attendee. You will be contacted if the programs are implemented.

Thank you for your continued support.
The Marjorie Vance Rice Memorial Family History Writing Award

Open to ISGS members and nonmembers, this award honors Marjorie Vance Rice, long-time contributor to the ISGS Quarterly with “Faces from the Past.” Submissions will be accepted beginning 1 July 2017 and continue through 30 June 2018. Entries that meet criteria (see page 100 in the Summer 2017 issue of the ISGS Quarterly or contact the Quarterly editor at isgsquarterly@ilgensoc.org) will be published in the Quarterly throughout the year beginning with Fall 2017. Nominations for articles will be sought from ISGS Board Members, Quarterly staff and our readers so don’t wait to send in your entry! The winner will be honored at the ISGS Fall Conference 2018 and will receive a one-year membership to ISGS, free registration for the ISGS 2018 Fall Conference and a $500 Award!

Rock Island County Illinois Expands Access to Records

According to the County Clerk, Karen Kinney, their office wishes to help residents trace their family tree. They have made PDFs of Birth, Marriage, and Death indices accessible on their website http://www.rockislandcounty.org/CountyClerk.aspx?id=41154

You can now order copies of the Regimental Muster and Descriptive Rolls for Wisconsin Civil War soldiers directly from the Wisconsin Historical Society website. http://www.wisconsinhistory.org

20th Annual Conference on Illinois History—October 4 & 5, 2018
Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Springfield

The Conference on Illinois History is accepting paper or panel proposals on any aspect of Illinois’s history, culture, politics, geography, or archaeology. 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 are also being accepted for teacher workshops. If you are a teacher who has created an innovative, comprehensive, or timely curriculum on an aspect of Illinois’s history, culture, politics, geography, or archaeology, please share your expertise with other teachers at the conference.

The deadline for proposals is May 1, 2018.

To submit your proposal for a paper, panel, or teacher workshop, please send:
- A one-page summary of the topic, including a description of the major primary and secondary sources used.
- A one-page resume for each participant.
Send proposals to: Christian McWhirter, Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, 112 N. Sixth St., Springfield, IL 62701, or Christian.mcwhirter@illinois.gov.
For more information, call 217-784-3600 ext. 407.

20th Annual Conference on Illinois History

The Reverse Underground Railroad

by Jon Musgrave

Jon Musgrave wrote the book on the Old Slave Houses — “Slaves, Salt, Sex & Mr. Crenshaw,” America’s last station standing on the Reverse Underground Railroad. The Reverse Underground Railroad is the term used for the pre-American Civil War practice of kidnapping free blacks from free states and transporting them into the Southern slave states for sale as slaves. The Underground operated for 20 years from 1870-1885.

His research into the Land of Lincoln’s interconnections with slavery and the kidnapping rings that made up the Reverse Underground Railroad led to his service as a member, vice-chair and chairman of the Illinois Amistad Commission.

Jon’s talk will cover not only the history of what happened, but how he and other researchers were finally able to uncover the truth about the site 70 years after it first opened to tourists. He’ll cover the genealogical aspects of the research, including how a D.A.R. listing unraveled under the light of scrutiny and his own personal connections to the plantation's original builder, connections he never suspected.

Jon has written many books on various history topics: W. S. Blackman’s autobiography, “The Boy of Battle Ford,” and a collection of stories Abraham Lincoln told during the Civil War, “Lincoln: Fresh from Abraham’s Bosom,” as well as Gallatin County’s second slave and emancipation record book.

PCGS is very fortunate to have Jon Musgrave speak to our group in November. He was going to be in the area working on two television series and two feature films which will be filmed in Illinois next year.

Thursday, November 9, 2017 at 6:00 pm
Peoria Public Library — North Branch
3001 W. Grand Parkway, Peoria
Visitors are welcome to attend our meetings.

Monthly General Meetings are the second Thursday of each month from March through November.
No Meetings December, January, or February

www.PeoriaCountyGenealogy.org
Ask Away-Society Edition is a collaborative phone conversation, using the Go To Meeting platform. Up to 9 other Illinois society representatives could join you in discussing pressing issues for societies. Ask Away-Society Edition will not be taped. Each Ask Away-Society Edition is being offered at 2 convenient times—you choose one: 10:00 AM or 7:00 PM.

Join us for the next Ask Away-Society Edition!

Thursday, November 16

Choose one: 10:00 AM or 7:00 PM
Deadline to register: Monday, November 13

Topic: Bicentennial Celebrations in your local societies

Special ISGS Guest: Dr. David Joens, Director Illinois State Archives and member of the Illinois Bicentennial Commission

To register, email Kim Hanks ISGS Society Liaison at isgssocieties@ilgensoc.org. Be sure to include your name, your society’s name, and your society board position. Please specify the Ask Away date and which time is best for you. Instructions for the Ask Away-Society Edition will be emailed to you.
Illinois State Genealogical Society Announces 2018 FREE Webinar Lineup

The Illinois State Genealogical Society (ISGS) is happy to announce the continuation of its popular FREE monthly webinar program in 2018. The 2018 ISGS Webinar Series would not be possible without the generous contributions received throughout 2017 and the generous sponsorship provided by FamilySearch.

Registration for the 2018 webinars is now open! You’ll find a fantastic lineup of presentations and speakers and we hope you will join us for a wonderful educational experience.

So what does 2018 have in store? Here is our amazing lineup!

**Finding Scottish Ancestors Online**
January 9, 2018, presented by Nancy Loe

**Illinois Digital Resources**
February 13, 2018, presented by Tina Beaird

**Finding Clues for Your Immigrant Ancestors in Ethnic Newspapers and Publications**
March 13, 2018, presented by Lisa Alzo

**Friedrich Eiler in Illinois: Fragments Fuse to Identify One Individual**
April 10, 2018, presented by Jill Morelli

**Want to Honor Your Revolutionary Roots? Resources for Applying to a Revolutionary War Lineage Society**
May 8, 2018, presented by Bryna O’Sullivan

**Ohio and the Early Gathering of the LDS Church**
June 12, 2018, presented by Peggy Clemens Lauritzen

**Museums Have Records, Too! Locating Your Ancestors Behind Closed Doors**
July 10, 2018, presented by Melissa Barker

**National Archives Resources at the Chicago Branch**
August 14, 2018, presented by Jane Haldeman

**Researching Pre-fire Chicago**
September 11, 2018, presented by Ginger Frere

**Chicago Rises from the Ashes: The Columbian Exposition Gives Perspective to the Family Historian**
October 9, 2018, presented by Jean Wilcox Hibben

**1918: The Prairie State ‘Over There’**
November 13, 2018, presented by Lisa Oberg

**Some Followed the River, Some Took the Train: Finding Ancestors of the Great Migration**
December 11, 2018, presented by Angela Walton-Raji

All webinars take place at 8:00 PM Central time.


Don’t forget to spread the word! Forward this email onto your friends and colleagues, post the information to social media sites and/or your blog/website, or print out a few copies of our webinar flyer to hand out at your local society meetings. The flyer for the 2018 series can be accessed at [https://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=227](https://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=227).
ISGS 2017 Webinar Series
Online Educational Opportunities for Genealogy

Schedule

All webinars start at 8:00 pm Central time second Tuesday of the month.

Finding Dirk: Records of Insane Asylums in Illinois
January 12, 2017, presented by Jill Morelli

Freedmen’s Bureau Records – Valuable to ALL Southern Research!
February 14, 2017, presented by Diane Richard

Nurse, Matrons, Laundresses & Cooks. Documenting Women in the Civil War
March 14, 2017, presented by Angela Y. Walton-Raji

Tracing Slave and Slaveowner Ancestors with DNA and Genealogy
April 11, 2017, presented by Nicka Smith

Cause of Death: Using Coroner’s Records for Genealogy
May 9, 2017, presented by Lisa A. Alzo

Preserving Old Family Letters: Tips from An Archivist
June 13, 2017, presented by Melissa Barker

The Watchfires of a Hundred Circling Camps
July 11, 2017, presented by Peggy Clemens Lauritzen

Ten Years is a Long Time: Census Substitutes for the In-between Years
August 8, 2017, presented by Amy Johnson Crow, CG

Luxembourgers on the Prairie: Researching your Luxembourg Ancestors
September 12, 2017, presented by Lisa Oberg

Funeral Homes and Family History: They’re Dying to Meet You
October 10, 2017, presented by Daniel Earl

Illinois Gold: Hard to Find but Valuable Prairie State Resources for Genealogical Research
November 14, 2017, presented by Thomas MacEntee

Ephemera: Genealogy Gold
December 12, 2017, presented by Sharon S. Atkins

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.

2017 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:

- Organizing Your Genealogy Research Process by Drew Smith
- Treasures and Hidden Secrets of the Illinois Regional Archives (IRAD) by Luana Darby
- Using Evernote as Your Primary Tool for Capturing Notes and Ideas by Drew Smith
- Going Nuclear: DNA Discoveries to Trace All Lines of Descent by Debbie Parker Wayne, CG
- Dissect Obituaries for New Clues by George G. Morgan
- Using Google Earth for Genealogy by Lisa Louise Cooke
- Using Tax Records for Genealogical Problem Solving by Dr. Michael D. Lacopo

Genealogy Events

2 November 2017—St. Clair County Genealogical Society, Belleville, IL—Lights in the Window, Dr. Gloria Perry https://www.stclair-ilgs.org

4 November 2017—Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society, Arlington Heights, IL Chicago Research: Planning is the Key to Success, Jeanne Larzalere Bloom http://www.nwsgeology.org

4 November 2017—Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, WI—Advanced DNA: Adoption and Unknown Parentage www.wisconsinhistory.org/

9 November 2017—Fox Valley Genealogical Society, Naperville, IL—Question and Answer Round Table http://www.ilfvgs.org/

9 November 2017—McHenry County IL Genealogical Society, Crystal Lake, IL—White Like Her: My Family’s Story of Race and Racial Passing, Gail Lukasik http://www.mcigs.org/


11 November 2017—Computer Aided Genealogy Group, Schaumburg, IL—GeneaQuest Gail Santroch cagni.org

11 November 2017—South Suburban Genealogical and Historical Society, Hazel Crest, IL—Try-it Illinois, Tina Beard http://ssghs.org/wp

14 November 2017—Schaumburg Township District Library, Schaumburg, IL—Behind the Scenes: How PBS Genealogy Roadshow Solved My Family Mystery, Gail Lukasik genealogywithtony.wordpress.com


16 November 2017—Illinois State Genealogical Society, IL—Ask Away-Society Edition Dr. David Joens isgssocieties@ilgensoc.org

18 November 2017—Naperville Public Library, Naperville, IL—Polish Genealogy Research, Jason Kruski www.naperville-lib.org

19 November 2017—Greene County Historical & Genealogical Society, Carrollton, IL—The Chronicles of Kishmaclaver, Dave Hobson greenehistoricalsociety.org

19 November 2017—Polish Genealogy Society of America, Chicago, IL—Rising from the Ashes - Warsaw, Poland, Margaret Guzek pgsa.org/thew-polish-connection

20 November 2017—Zion Genealogical Society, Zion, IL—Where the Murderers Roam, Daniel Hubbard http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~lzgs


7 December 2017—Kane County Genealogical Society, Geneva, IL—Holiday Social—Year in Review www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilkcgs

9 December 2017—Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, WI—Collections and Services of the Wisconsin Historical Society Library Archives www.wisconsinhistory.org/

12 December 2017—Schaumburg Township District Library, Schaumburg, IL—Break Out/Small Work Groups by Ethnic Interest/Beginners Table/DNA and Adoption Table genealogywithtony.wordpress.com


3 February 2018
Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society, Arlington Heights, IL—Funeral Homes and Family History: They Are Dying to Meet You! [webinar], Daniel Earl http://www.nwsgenealogy.org

10 February 2018
Naperville Public Library, Naperville, IL—How I Use DNA in My Genealogical Research Caron Brennan www.naperville-lib.org

13 February 2018—Schaumburg Township District Library, Schaumburg, IL The Voyages of Our German Immigrants, Teresa Steinkamp McMillin genealogywithtony.wordpress.com

3 March 2018
Naperville Public Library, Naperville, IL—A Legacy of Love—Digitizing & Organizing Family History, Wanda Schlafly www.naperville-lib.org

3 March 2018

13 March 2018—Schaumburg Township District Library, Schaumburg, IL Break-out Sessions genealogywithtony.wordpress.com

7 April 2018
Naperville Public Library, Naperville, IL—Nordic Genealogy Double Feature, Kathy Meade & Laura Kovarik www.naperville-lib.org

7 April 2018
Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society, Arlington Heights, IL—Newspaper Research: Beyond the Birdcage, Debbie Mieszala http://www.nwsgenealogy.org

10 April 2018—Schaumburg Township District Library, Schaumburg, IL Family History’s Navigational Tool: Genealogical Proof Standard, Laura Cosgrove Lorenzana genealogywithtony.wordpress.com

5 May 2018
Save $$$

ISGS Death Certificate Lookup Service

The current pricing for one certificate is $6.00 for ISGS members, $10.00 for non-members (you can order as many as you would like). Compare that to the $17.00 rate at sites such as Genealogy Online for Cook County. Currently, only those certificates listed at the Illinois Death Certificates 1916-1950 database at cyberdriveillinois.com can be obtained through the ISGS lookup service.

Revenues Support ISGS Operations
Proceeds directly support ISGS office operations.
So remember to take advantage of this service, whether you are a member of ISGS or not!

Requesting a Death Certificate: The Simple Process

- Go to the Illinois State Archives Death Certificate Index.
- Search for the individual death certificate(s) you want, and copy down the information exactly as it is displayed.
- Order Online - If you would like to order online using a MasterCard, Visa, Discover, American Express or a PayPal account, you can use the shopping cart at http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=59. Your information is kept safe and secure by the PayPal payment service.
- Or Order by Mail - If you would prefer to mail your request, print out the ISGS Death Certificate Request Form and transfer the death certificate information to the form. Mail the form along with your check made payable to the Illinois State Genealogy Society to the address shown on the form. (Note: Credit cards 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