President’s Letter

Registration is Open! Three of my favorite words. After volunteering with genealogical societies over the years, I have come to appreciate that opening registration is the result of significant, behind-the-scenes work by dedicated volunteers. These are the people that create, plan and schedule conferences and programs for societies.

For the ISGS 2018 Fall Conference, over 6 months of work was required before the “Registration is Open!” announcement was issued. The venue was booked. Speakers and topics were reviewed and selected. Room assignments were made. Meals, vendor space and logos were also part of the work flow. New this year to the conference is the addition of workshops on Friday morning. They are being conducted by Thomas W. Jones and will have limited seating. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn from a preeminent genealogist. If you are interested in the workshops, do not delay in registering.

The other opening ISGS is excited to announce is the Illinois Bicentennial Family Certificate program. While the tasks to put together this program were different from those required for a conference it did require months of work by volunteers. The goal is to recognize and honor those families that have continuously lived in Illinois since it became a state in 1818.

While “Registration is Open!” is a significant milestone, the real satisfaction comes from sharing it with you. ISGS is proud to offer these programs to the genealogy community. Education and recognition are two of the society’s on-going goals. Information about both the 2018 Fall Conference and the Illinois Bicentennial Family Certificate program can be found on the ISGS website (and on pages 4 and 5 in this newsletter).

Join us and share in the excitement!

Laura Marshall Kovarik
President, ISGS
isgspresident@ilgensoc.org
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: www.facebook.com/ilgensoc
Twitter: @ILGenSoc#ISGS
Office Hours:
Mondays & Thursdays 10:00am-1:00pm

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: 12 days before the month of publication.

Wendy Underwood, Lombard, IL
Kathleen Steberl, Geneva, IL
Pamela Safriet, O’Fallon, IL
Thomas Westerfield, Aurora, IL
Donna Trout, Braggs, OK
Michael Weindel, North Royalton, OH
Trina Diedrich, Glen Ellyn, IL
Vicky Scott, Sarasota, FL
Judy Bufkin, Fresno, CA
Susan Doyle, Bloomington, IL
Janet Heyse, Villa Park, IL
Jean Richards, Springfield, IL
Rosemary Provenzano, Roselle, IL
Marilyn Hardesty, Franklin Park, IL
Janet Heyse, Villa Park, IL
Gail Ryan, Naperville, IL
R H Schmidt, West Lafayette, IN
Kathleen Steberl, Geneva, IL
Susan Mclaughlan, Fishers, IN
Donna Phillips, Spokane, WA
Janet Polep, Cary, IL
Gary Ball-Kilbourne, Fargo, ND
MarLyn Beltz, Engery, IL
Erin Oppy, Jefferson City, Mo
Jane Ward, Freeport, IL
Margaret Handel, Evansville, WI

Join ISGS or Renew Your Membership Online
To join, go to the ISGS website: ilgensoc.org
Online renewals are open 45 days prior to your current membership expiration date. To renew, you will need to login to the ISGS website and click on the "Your Profile" link in the Members Only dropdown menu. Individual/Associate/Subscription: $35, Joint (two people at same address): $40.

Address Changes Update your information!
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.

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.
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

Marketing and Publicity chair
Marketing and Publicity committee disseminates information about ISGS, its officers and members, activities and publications. They assist with preparation of press releases, conference notice and implementation of ISGS Social Media.

50th Anniversary Giveaways!

As part of the ISGS 50th Anniversary celebration, ISGS members will be eligible for a number of giveaways throughout the year.

Some of the items on the list include:
- One Annual Membership, new or renewal
- One Fall Conference registration
- ISGS publications, including the Illinois Insider’s Guides, Prairie Pioneer books and Ancestor Charts
- Death Certificate Look-ups

Make sure your contact information is up to date in case you win!

Congratulations to our first winners in the ISGS 50th Anniversary Giveaway!

Patricia S  Henry N  Daniel N

Prizes will be coming in the mail. Now is the time to make sure your contact information is up to date. Login and check your member profile. If you don’t remember how to login, there are instructions on the website.

Additional prizes will be handed out including: 1 registration for the Fall Conference and a one-year individual membership.

Thank you ISGS members for being part of our 50th Anniversary!

To celebrate our state’s bicentennial, the U.S. Postal Service dedicated the Illinois Statehood Forever stamp on March 5th at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield.
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!
ISGS 2018 FALL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 26 & 27, 2018—SPRINGFIELD, IL

Featuring
Lectures and
Pre-Conference Workshops
by:
Thomas W. Jones
PhD, CG®, CGLSM, FASG, FNGS, FUGA

Additional Conference Speakers:
Tina Beaird, Debra Dudek, LaDonna Garner,
Mary Jamba, Margaret Kapustiak,
Debbie Kroopkin, Jill Morelli CG®, Pam Vestal

Register online at www.ilgensoc.org
Honors & Awards

At our Fall conference, ISGS honors groups and individuals that contribute to the genealogical community. Please keep your eyes open for a person, a project, or a group that deserves recognition for their efforts. Visit the ISGS website here for information.

Direct questions to isgsawards@ilgensoc.org.

Nomination forms are available at https://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=63

Please email completed forms in PDF format by July 1 to isgsawards@ilgensoc.org or mail to the attention of the Honors and Awards Chair, ISGS Office, P.O. Box 10195, Springfield, IL 62791-0195.

Thank you
The North Suburban Genealogical Society will present Jewish Genealogy, Online Resources for Jewish Genealogy in Chicagoland on Saturday, May 12, 2018, 1:00 P.M. at Northbrook Public Library, 1225 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, IL. Speaker is Mike Karsen from Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois. https://nsgs.wildapricot.org/

Fox Valley Genealogical Society, in association with Illinois Humanities Road Scholars Speakers Bureau will present the bicentennial event Illinois’ Memoirs: Our Story, Your Opportunity on Thursday, June 14, 7 p.m. at the Naperville Municipal Center, 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL. Historian John Hallwas will discuss Illinois’ monumental literary heritage, rich in autobiographies and memoirs, including the first noted autobiography from the Midwest (Chief Black Hawk’s), the most famous memoir associated with the Civil War (Ulysses S. Grant’s), and one of the most celebrated by an American woman (Jane Addams’s Twenty Years at Hull House).

The Chatham Area Public Library hosts a Friends of Genealogy meeting quarterly. Contact Alanna Sablotny, Local History & Genealogy Reference Librarian, Chatham Area Public Library District, 217-483-2713. chathamlib.org


McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society is hosting a summer Genealogy Conference featuring: Lisa Alzo, David Rencher, Judy Russell and Curt Witcher on July 7, 2018. The conference will be held at McHenry County College, 8900 U.S. 14, Crystal Lake, IL. www.mcigs.org

Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois will be featuring Judy Russell, the Legal Genealogist at a Family History Conference and Book Fair on August 11, 2018, 8 a.m. -4 p.m. Co-sponsored by John A. Logan College, the event will be at Ray Hancock Conference Center, John A. Logan College, Route 13 & Greenbriar Road, Carterville, IL. http://ilgssi.org/conference/

Congratulations! On March 12, ISGS Board member Dr. David Joens, Director of the Illinois State Archives, was inducted into the Samuel K. Gove Illinois Legislative Internship Hall of Fame at the University of Illinois, Springfield. The Gove Hall of Fame honors former interns of the Legislative Staff Intern Program whose careers have exemplified distinguished public service.

Dr. Joens worked on the Illinois Senate Democratic staff for seven years. A U.S. Army veteran and former newspaper reporter, he was a press secretary for Democratic members of the Senate, including the Senate’s Black Caucus. Dr. Joens has two master’s degrees from the University of Illinois Springfield and a doctorate in Illinois history from Southern Illinois University. In 2012, he authored the book “From Slave to State Legislator: John W. E. Thomas, Illinois’ First African American Lawmaker.”
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.

The ISGS webinars, which are live lectures/presentations that you can attend via a computer with an internet connection, are held as a live broadcast on the second Tuesday of each month at 8:00 PM Central. The live broadcast of each webinar is FREE to the public. ISGS members who are unable to attend the live broadcast are able to access recordings of all past webinars through the Members Section of the ISGS website, to watch at their convenience.

**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).
May

Genealogy Events

1 May 2018—Elgin Genealogical Society, Elgin—Share Your Family Heirlooms, EGS Members elginroots.com

2-5 May 2018—National Genealogical Society, Grand Rapids, MI, 2018 Conference, ngsgenealogy.org

3 May 2018—St. Clair County Genealogical Society, Belleville—Genealogy 101: Census through the Decades, Elizabeth Faulbaum Brown stclair-ilgs.org


8 May 2018—Schaumburg Township District Library, Schaumburg, IL, How to Deal With Other Genealogists Without Going Crazy!, Thomas MacEntee (webinar) genealogywithtony.wordpress.com

10 May 2018—Fox Valley Genealogical Society, Naperville, IL, Look High and Low, Above and Below! - Cemetery Research, Jeffrey Bockman https://lffvg.org/

10 May 2018—McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society, Crystal Lake, IL, Cook County’s Social Worker for the Unclaimed Dead, Rebeca Perrone www.mcigs.org

10 May 2018—Peoria County Genealogical Society, Peoria, IL, Become a Google Search Expert, Lisa Louise Cooke, webinar PeoriaCountyGenealogy.org

12 May 2018—North Suburban Genealogical Society, Northbrook, IL, Jewish Genealogy, Online Resources for Jewish Genealogy in Chicagoland, Mike Karsen nsgsil.org

12 May 2018—Swedish American Museum, Chicago, IL—Bishop Hill’s Company D – Swedish Union Guard mobilized during the Civil War, Todd DeDecker http://swedishamericanmuseum.org/2.0/

17 May 2018—Elgin Genealogical Society, Elgin—DNA: A Power Tool in the Genealogist’s Tool Box elginroots.com

19 May 2018—British Interest Group of Wisconsin and Illinois, Richmond, IL—After You are Gone, Thomas McEntee https://www.facebook.com/bigwillorg/

19 May 2018—Computer Assisted Genealogy Group (CAGGNI), Schaumburg, IL—Gone But Not Forgotten, Bob Allen www.caggni.org

19 May 2018—Fountaindale Public Library, Bolingbrook, IL—Genealogy Day, Kimberly Nagy, Tina Beard, Gina Pommier www.fountaINdale.org

19 May 2018—Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, WI—Norwegian Genealogy, Jerry Paulson www.wisconsinhistory.org

26 May 2018—Naperville Public Library, Naperville, IL—Researching Colonial Ancestors, Jane Haldeman www.naperville-lib.org


7 June 2018—St. Clair County Genealogical Society, Belleville—Genealogy 101: Cemetery Symbolism, Teri Bromley stclair-ilgs.org

9 June 2018—North Suburban Genealogical Society, Northbrook, IL—Discovering your UK/Irish Roots Online, Debra Dudek nsgsil.org


12 June 2018—Schaumburg Township District Library, Schaumburg, IL—Small Interest Break-out Groups genealogywithtony.wordpress.com

14 June 2018—McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society, Crystal Lake, IL, Google for Genealogy, Tina Bearl www.mcigs.org


30 June 2018—Naperville Public Library, Naperville, IL—Genealogy Roundtable www.naperville-lib.org

3 July 2018—Elgin Genealogical Society, Elgin—The Orphan Trains in America, Becky Higgins elginroots.com


10 July 2018—Schaumburg Township District Library, Schaumburg, IL—Why Am I Stuck? Marsha Peterson-Maass genealogywithtony.wordpress.com

14 July 2018—Naperville Public Library, Naperville, IL—Uncovering the Secrets Buried in Facebook, Laurie Filipiak www.naperville-lib.org

14 July 2018—North Suburban Genealogical Society, Northbrook, IL—Preserving Your Family History on Family Tree, Maureen Brady nsgsil.org

19 July 2018—Elgin Genealogical Society, Elgin—Cluster Research, Karen Pickelsimer elginroots.com

21 July 2018—Computer Assisted Genealogy Group (CAGGNI), Schaumburg, IL—Using Social History to Build an Ancestor’s Story, Susan Mayer www.caggni.org

7 August 2018—Elgin Genealogical Society, Elgin—What’s New in British Isles Research, Paul Milner elginroots.com


10 August 2018—Schaumburg Township District Library, Schaumburg, IL—Sharing with Others: How To Convey Evidence, Jeanne Larzalere Bloom genealogywithtony.wordpress.com


11 August 2018—North Suburban Genealogical Society, Northbrook, IL—Rediscover Your WWI Soldier’s Experience, Tina Beaird nsgsil.org

16 August 2018—Elgin Genealogical Society, Elgin—Local Histories Add Clues to Your Genealogy, Kimberly Nagy elginroots.com

18 August 2018—Computer Assisted Genealogy Group (CAGGNI), Schaumburg, IL—Beyond the Census, Janis Minor Forte www.caggni.org


25 August 2018—Naperville Public Library, Naperville, IL—How I use DNA in my Genealogy Research, Caron Brennan www.naperville-lib.org
Genealogy Events

September

4 September 2018—Elgin Genealogical Society, Elgin—Your Next Step: Write Your Family History, Steve Szabados  elginroots.com


15 September 2018—Computer Assisted Genealogy Group (CAGGNI), Hoffman Estates, IL—Beyond the Records: Putting Flesh on the Bones of Your Civil War Ancestors, Karen Heinrich  www.caggni.org


22 September 2018—Naperville Public Library, Naperville, IL—Czechoslovakian Genealogy Guidance, Roger Liska  www.naperville-lib.org


October

4 October 2018—St. Clair County Genealogical Society, Belleville—Ask the Experts stclair-ilgs.org


13 October 2018—North Suburban Genealogical Society, Northbrook, IL—Members Show and Tell nsgsil.org

20 October 2018—Naperville Public Library, Naperville, IL—Make the *Genealogy Organizational Challenge* Work For You, Marsha Peterson-Maass  www.naperville-lib.org

November


10 November 2018—Naperville Public Library, Naperville, IL—Advanced Polish Genealogy Research, Jason Kruski  www.naperville-lib.org


17 November 2018—Computer Assisted Genealogy Group (CAGGNI), Schaumburg, IL—General Charles Dawes: the 100th Anniversary of WWI, RJ Lindsey  www.caggni.org

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. 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 Genealogical 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
2018 Governing Board

Officers
President: Laura Marshall Kovarik, Naperville
1st Vice President: David McDonald, DeForest, Wisconsin
2nd Vice President: Barbara McKean, Springfield
Recording Secretary: Caron Primas Brennan, Villa Park
Treasurer: Jackie LaRue Lyell, Marion

Directors
2018 Directors: Tony Burroughs, Chicago; Susan Pope, Normal; Rick Shields, Ottawa
2019 Directors: David Kent Coy, Decatur; Janice Conkrite, Dixon; Margaret Truax, Aurora
2020 Directors: Tina Beaird, Oswego; Linda Bergren Polich, Coal Valley; Susan Thanepohn, Sandwich

Immediate Past President
Dawn Carey Henry, Naperville

Standing Committee Chairs
Advocacy: Allen Nemec, Macomb
Conference Co-Chairs: Dawn Carey Henry, Naperville; Rick Shields, Ottawa
Education: Laura Marshall Kovarik, Naperville
Illinois Society Liaison: Caron Primas Brennan, Villa Park
Marketing & Publicity: open
Membership: Mary Westerhold, Edwardsville
Publications Chair: Sharon Reif, Oak Brook
Website Committee: Jen Warner, Woodridge

Special Committee Chairs & Other Appointments
Advertising: open
Cemetery Records: John Heider, Monticello
Church Records: Janice Conkrite, Dixon
Family Bible Records: Janice Conkrite, Dixon
Genealogy: Dawn Carey Henry, Naperville
Indexing Coordinator: Audrea Thomas, Sterling
Illinois Bicentennial: Laura Marshall Kovarik, Naperville
ISGS 50th Anniversary: David Kent Coy, Decatur; Joy Upton, Du Quion
Military Certificates: Charles Dobias, Collinsville
Newsletter Editor: Susan Gray McQuaid, Warrenville
Prairie Pioneer Certificates: Audrea Thomas, Sterling
Social Media Manager: Jaymie Middendorf, Chicago
Quarterly Editor: Terry Feinberg, Freeport
Webinar: Anita Boyd, Winfield

Office Secretary
Evelyn Edwards

Illinois State Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 10195, Springfield, IL 62791-0195