Hello fellow genealogists!

I am very happy to begin my term as ISGS president. I look forward to leading the society and watching it grow with leaps and bounds.

Fall is here. If you’re like me, I prefer to stay inside this time of year under my blanket and work on my genealogy. Maybe it’s because I feel a special closeness to my ancestors while wrapped up in my late grandmother’s quilt. I can feel the love, time and effort she put into every stitch. As genealogists, we all hope to find that special thing that brings us closer to our ancestors whether for the happy memories it may bring or perhaps wishing it will secretly guide us in our genealogical search. Whatever the case maybe, we all need that special closeness that only ancestors can provide. I hope this season you find that special thing that brings you close to your ancestors; whether it be your grandmother’s quilt, your grandfather’s pocket watch, or maybe old letters written by your grand aunt. Whatever it is, I hope it brings you a special closeness to your past.

We welcome the opportunity to show you and share our world with you -the marvelous, incredulous, spectacular genealogical world. Welcome to the Illinois State Genealogical Society.

Happy Holidays and happy ancestor hunting!

Dawson Ballard Jr.
Contact ISGS
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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
Blog: https://ilgensoc.blogspot.com/
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.

Join ISGS or Renew Your Membership
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: $40, Joint (two people at same address): $45.

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. Returned Quarterlys cost the Society money! Help keep mailing costs down by updating your 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.

New Member Benefits!
ISGS is proud to announce a new webinar series. The Good to Know series of presentations is focused on assisting researchers using archives, libraries and other research facilities in Illinois.

These short presentations will be posted under the Members Only tab. There is no need to register to view the presentation, just login and view! They are intended to be viewed at your own speed. Stop the video when needed to view the photos or information presented. There is no audio on these presentations, other than a brief introduction and closing, by Anita Boyd, the well known voice of ISGS webinars.

Special Offer on a membership to American Ancestors
We are pleased to announce that current ISGS members are eligible to receive a $10 discount on a new, individual membership to American Ancestors. Members were sent an email with the discount code. If you need the code, contact Jenny Fisher, Membership chair at isgsmembership@ilgensoc.org

Offer ends November 28, 2019
Up next...The Register of Licensed Midwives, 1877-1930

ISGS is looking for people willing to help index the Midwives Registers. This is a joint project with the Illinois State Archives

Indexers will get a CD in the mail. The CD will have the images, a spreadsheet template and instructions. You will download the Excel spreadsheet on to your computer. You will enter information from the designated images into the spreadsheet. Once you have completed your image set, you will email the spreadsheet back to the State Archives. The Archives staff will review the spreadsheets and resolve any discrepancies. The CD will be returned to ISGS.

If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact Louise Svehla, at

isgs2ndvp@ilgensoc.org

Congratulations to ISGS Board Member

Candace Marx

for winning the 2019 American Society of Genealogists (ASG) Scholar Award!

Candace’s winning submission, “A Luxembourger Family Comes to America: The Wagners of Aurora, Illinois,” was published in the Summer 2019 issue of the ISGS Quarterly!
The 2019 ISGS Fall Conference was a HUGE success!

Thank you everyone for attending!

We had over 200 attendees at this year’s conference, held at the Chicago Marriott Naperville. Many of our attendees came to our Friday Banquet and Saturday luncheon as well. Michael Lacopo sure kept us laughing with his entertaining and thoughtful banquet presentation, “Top Ten Things I Have Learned in Over Three Decades of Genealogical Research.” Paul Woodbury’s DNA workshops were filled to capacity, and we heard many great compliments about all of our conference speakers!

We had a great variety of vendors this year, including booksellers, artists, cemetery preservation tools, and several local libraries and genealogical societies. Thank you to all of our vendors!

Congratulations to our Door and Raffle Prize winners! We had a great variety of prizes this year, including lots of memberships, the latest genealogy tech and tools, books, and much more!

Associate Members’ Forum at the Fall Conference

This year’s meeting included a special presentation by Pamela J. Clark Reidenbach, MSSW Director of the Center for Nonprofit Excellence at Northern Illinois University. Her topic was on the importance of strategic planning for nonprofit organizations. An overview of volunteerism was also included. Associate members then shared news and concerns while getting feedback and support. This is a free event for Associate Member societies as a membership benefit!

Update your contact information to insure your Society receives information on future Forums.
Honors & Awards, 2019

ISGS honored two individuals at the 2019 Conference

Community Service Award

Mayor Tom Smith of Waterloo, IL received the Community Service Award for outstanding service to the genealogical community for his continued support of genealogy programs throughout Monroe County. Many of those projects focused on honoring military veterans through identifying service members and insuring their graves were properly marked. Mayor Smith has also encouraged the involvement of young people in honoring the history of the county through Scout projects, such as cemetery restorations. Mayor Smith was nominated by the Monroe County Genealogical Society.

Volkel Hall of Fame

The society also inducted Lloyd deWitt Bockstruck into the Volkel Hall of Fame in recognition of his contributions, service and leadership to the genealogy community in Illinois and throughout the United States.

Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck, distinguished genealogical scholar, librarian, writer, educator, and lecturer, was born in Vandalia, Illinois. He graduated cum laude with a B.A. in Biology and History from Greenville College in 1967. He holds a M.A. in Modern European History from Southern Illinois University (1969) and a M.S. in Library Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana (1973).

Lloyd became the head genealogical library for the Dallas Public Library, retiring after 25 years. He authored over ten books and wrote a weekly genealogy column for the Dallas Morning News for five years. Bockstruck has lectured at numerous local and regional genealogical society venues and, beginning in 1994, he served on the faculty of the Genealogical Institute of Mid-America at the University of Illinois at Springfield. He was a frequent lecturer at national conferences, including repeated engagements at the Federation of Genealogical Societies and the National Genealogical Society.
There was a full vendor hall! Thank you to all the vendors and thank you to attendees for your purchases to support those vendors.

Dr. Michael D. Lacapo. One of the outstanding presenters at the conference.

Thank you to all that stopped by the ISGS booth at the conference.
Past Presidents

Laura Marshall Kovarik (right) joins the ranks of Past ISGS Presidents. Other Past Presidents at the conference were:

**Jane Haldeman, George Perkins and Carol McCarthy**

Not pictured is Dawn Carey Henry. As Conference Chair, she was busy making sure everything was running smoothly!

**A big thanks to Dawn Carey Henry and Rick Shields for 3 years of great conferences as they step off the conference committee**

**ISGS Annual Membership Meeting**

Was held on

**Saturday, October 26, 2019**

Thank you to all that attended!

The Annual Membership Report is posted on the website under the Members Only tab.
Volunteer Opportunities
Join in the fun!

Thank you Volunteers! We couldn’t do it without you!

With the generous help of volunteers, ISGS has been a successful organization. The ISGS board wishes to thank each and every one of you who have contributed your time and effort to our organization.

The positions listed below present some interesting and exciting opportunities for the future! 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 Louise Svehla: isgs2ndvp@ilgensoc.org

2020 Conference Chair
Head the Conference Committee for the 2020 conference to be held in Peoria. Responsible for securing a location and speakers; creating and managing the budget; arranging publicity; registration; and creating materials for the event.

Indexers
Work from home on the Master Index Project or get on the list to help with the next State Archive project.

Legal Assistance
The Society is seeking someone to assist with questions about copyright and publishing.

Committee Openings
The following committee chair positions are still open:
- Website
- Advertising
- Audit
- Honors & Awards

Where Will ISGS be in 2020?

Would you like ISGS to have booth at your upcoming conference or workshop? If you have an event and would like to explore the idea of having ISGS attend, please contact:

Candace Marx at isgsmarketing@ilgensoc.org

Your event could be listed here!

ISGS Quarterly

The ISGS Quarterly is seeking Illinois stories. From the earliest residence to more recent arrivals, consider sharing your family’s Illinois story in the Quarterly.

The Illinois State Genealogical Society Quarterly is sent to all members and is held in libraries throughout Illinois and the United States. It is an ISGS member benefit. The Quarterly is published four times a year.

We are looking for original, unpublished submissions for future issues. If you are interested in contributing to the Quarterly, the Author Guidelines are available on the ISGS website (https://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=65).

Please direct all inquiries to Richard Anderson, the Quarterly editor at isgsquarterly@ilgensoc.org.
ISGS has an online surname index. Anyone may search the index. ISGS members may add their names to the index.

To Search, visit the ISGS website. Under the Free Databases & Indexes Tab, look for Members’ Surname Database.

Once you click on the Members’ Surname Database, you will be taken to the screen below. Here you may enter the name you are searching for in the “Search Surname” box.

Once you find a surname you are interested in, click the envelope icon. This will allow you to send an email to the ISGS member that entered the surname into the database.
Surname Index—Entering Surnames

ISGS has an online surname index. Anyone may search the index. ISGS members may add their names to the index.

To Enter Your Surnames, visit the ISGS website and login. Under the Members Only tab you will find Submit Your Surnames.

Once you click on the Members’ Surname Database, you will find the instructions on how to add your surnames to the database.

**How to Enter Names into the Database**

- Login to the ISGS website.
- Click Your Profile in the Members Only menu ... and then
- Click the Surnames tab ... click the plus sign to enter a name.

If you have forgotten your login information, contact the ISGS webmaster at:

isgswebmaster@ilgensoc.org
Genealogy Events

December


5 December 2019 - Bureau County Genealogical Society, Princeton, IL, Journey to Cooperstown, http://bcgenealogy.org/meetings/

5 December 2019 - St. Clair County Genealogical Society, Belleville, IL, Installation of Officers and holiday party, https://stclair-ilgs.org/events/


10 December 2019 - Champaign County Genealogical Society - Urbana, IL, Show and Tell, https://ilccgs.org/

10 December 2019 - DeWitt County Genealogical Society, Clinton, IL, monthly meeting, https://dewittcountygenealogicalsociety.com/upcoming-events

Thank you to all of our Associate and Subscription Members!

Are you taking advantage of ALL your ISGS member benefits?

Members are encouraged to send event listings for the newsletter to:

isgsnewsletter@ilgensoc.org.

Newsletter deadline: 12 days before the month of publication.

For the ISGS website, send listings to:

isgswebmaster@ilgensoc.org.
January


February

1 February 2020 – **Chicago Genealogical Society**, Chicago, IL- Newspaper Necessities, Tina Beaird, [https://chicagogenealogy.org](https://chicagogenealogy.org)


19 February 2020 – **DuPage County Genealogical Society**, Wheaton, IL- Navigating Autosomal DNA Results and Contacting Matches, Robert Silwinski, [http://www.dcgps.org](http://www.dcgps.org)


Changes to Ordering!

**ISGS Death Certificate Lookup Service**

No change of the price! The current price 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 1916-1947 certificates listed at the Illinois Death Certificates database at cyberdriveillinois.com can be obtained through the ISGS lookup service.

**Revenues Support ISGS Operations**

Proceeds directly support ISGS. So please remember to take advantage of this service, whether you are a member of ISGS or not!

**Requesting a Death Certificate**

- Go to the Illinois State Archives Death Certificate Index.
- Search for the individual death certificate(s) you want.
- **We have changed how to order a death certificate!** Members, you MUST log-in to receive the discounted price of $6.00 per certificate. Non-members may order certificates for $10.00 per certificate. If you would like to join ISGS to get the discount, please visit our Join/Renew page first. Memberships take approximately 24-48 hours to process. Once you receive your "welcome letter" with your log-in information, you may place a Death Certificate order.

**Two Ways to Order**

- **By Mail with a check:** place your order and print the invoice. Download the Death Certificate Order form and complete it using the Cyberdrive Illinois information. Mail the form and the invoice along with your check to ISGS.
- **Online:** place your order and pay with a credit card through PayPal. Then send an email to isgsdcorders@ilgensoc.org. Include the following in the body of your email:

  Your full name, mailing address and phone number and a copy/paste of the information for each death certificate you are ordering from the Cyberdrive website. Include the header and information for each name such as:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Middle Name</th>
<th>Sex/Race</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Cert No.</th>
<th>Death Date</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Date Filed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JENSEN</td>
<td>CLARENCE</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>M/W</td>
<td>UNK</td>
<td>6008082</td>
<td>1905-11-19</td>
<td>COOK</td>
<td>CHICAGO</td>
<td>38-11-19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have any questions, visit https://ilgensoc.org/

For more information, email isgsdcorders@ilgensoc.org or call (217) 789-1968
ISGS Quarterly
The Illinois State Genealogical Society Quarterly is mailed to all ISGS 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

2019-2020 Governing Board

Officers
President: Dawson Ballard, Jr, Gower, MO
1st Vice President: Bob Andrews, Danville
2nd Vice President: Louise Svehla, Plainfield
Recording Secretary: Jenny Fisher, Lake Barrington
Treasurer: Margaret Truax, Aurora

Directors
2020 Directors:
Tina Beaird, Oswego; Jackie Lyell, Marion, Jen Warner, Woodridge;
2021 Directors:
Candace Marx, Norridge; Vicki Mattson, Waukegan, Mary Westerhold, Edwardsville
2022 Directors:
Laura Chaplin, Sugar Grove; Kimberly Nagy, Downers Grove; Rand Veerman, Normal

Immediate Past President
Laura Marshall Kovarik, Naperville

Standing Committee Chairs
Advocacy: Rand Veerman, Normal
Conference: open
Education: Laura Marshall Kovarik, Naperville
Illinois Society Liaison: Caron Primas Brennan, Villa Park
Marketing & Publicity: Candace Marx, Norridge
Membership: Jenny Fischer, Lake Barrington
Publications Chair: Sharon Reif, Oak Brook
Website Committee: open

Special Committee Chairs & Other Appointments
Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library: Teri D. Barnett
Advertising: open
Bylaws and Policy & Procedure: Bob Andrews, Danville
Cemetery Records: John Heider, Monticello
Genealogy: Dawn Carey Henry, Naperville
Illinois Regional Archives Depository: Rochelle Joseph, Springfield
Illinois State Archives: Dr. David Joens, Springfield
Military Certificates: Tina Beaird, Oswego
Newsletter Editor: open
Office Liaison: Barbara McKeen, Springfield
Prairie Pioneer Certificates: Vicki Mattson, Waukegan
Projects Committee: Cathy Faye, Angola, IN
Social Media Manager: Vicki Mattson, Waukegan
Quarterly Editor: Richard Anderson, Chicago
Webinar: Anita Boyd, Winfield

Office Secretary: Evelyn Edwards

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