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McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society Newsletter

McHenry County



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Contact Us: mcigs@mcigs.org

April 2016

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Courthouse Discoveries:

Courthouses are great resources for personal family history. Probate files, chancery cases, land sales and lawsuits are just a handful of the

types of records one can find at your local courthouse. Tina offers tricks and tips for identifying and securing court records. Tina Beaird is the Genealogy & Local History Librarian at the Plainfield Public Library. She holds a Masters of Library and Information Science degree with a specialization in Archives/Preservation from Dominican University, and has won multiple research and digitization grants to preserve and digitize historic documents and photographs. We hope that you will join us at 7pm on Thursday, April 14th at The Pointe.



WANTED

Volunteers wanted. Do you love indexing? We have a project for you! We're gearing up to start indexing 90 years worth of death notices appearing in the Woodstock Sentinel newspaper. The project would involve browsing the microfilm at the Woodstock Public Library for death notices and entering data into a spreadsheet. If you are interested in helping out or want to know more, contact Kristen McCallum at president@mcigs.org or Alice Hayes at alice.hayes@mcigs.org.

Upcoming Events

Apr 9, 2016 North Suburban Genealogical Society – Mapping Your Migrating Ancestors: at the Northbrook History Museum, Northbrook, IL, 1:00pm – 2:30pm. For more information, visit <http://nsgsil.org>.

Apr 12, 2016 Fox Lake District Library – Cook County Genealogical Sources: at the Fox Lake District Library, Fox Lake, IL, 11:00am. For more information, visit <http://www.fllib.org>.

Apr 14, 2016 MCIGS – Courthouse Discoveries: at The Pointe, Crystal Lake, IL, 7:00pm – 9pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mcigs.org>.

Apr 16, 2016 CAGGNI – Mapping it: A DIY Tutorial: at Schaumburg Township Public Library, Schaumburg, IL, 10:30am – 12:30pm. For more information, visit <http://www.caggni.org>.

Apr 18, 2016 Zion Genealogical Society of Lake County – Conscription and the Civil War: at Beach Park Village Hall, Beach Park, IL, 7:00pm – 8pm. For more information, visit <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilzgs/>.

Apr 20, 2016 DuPage County Genealogical Society – Genetic Genealogy: at Wheaton Public Library, Wheaton, IL, 7:30pm – 8:45pm. For more information, visit <http://www.dcfgs.org>.

Apr 28-30, 2016 Ohio Genealogical Society Annual Conference – Tracking Your Ancestors. The conference will be held at the Great Wolf Lodge, Mason, OH. For more information, visit <http://www.ogs.org/conference2016>.

Apr 30, 2016 Arlington Heights Memorial Library – The Many Languages of Genealogy: at the Arlington Heights Memorial Library, Arlington Heights, IL, 1pm – 4pm. For more information, visit <http://www.ahml.info>.

MCIGS 2016 Summer Conference

Education is part of the game of genealogy. We educate ourselves on a particular type of record, study up on a new area we are researching and learn from others on how to go forward. While our monthly meetings strive to do that, our annual conference allows for more education from those top in the field.

This year is no exception. We are so lucky to have **D. Joshua Taylor** coming to headline this year's conference, speaking on four subjects that will enhance your understanding. Joshua is currently President of Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) and the new President of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society. You may recognize the name as he is a co-host on PBS' *Genealogy Road Show*. If you haven't watched the show, the new season begins Tuesday, May 17th, 2016. Check your local listings!

Joshua began researching his family history as a young teenager and still loves to forge forward. You can read more about him on his blog at <https://www.djoshuataylor.com/blog/>

Joshua will present four different topics at our conference – from finding those elusive ancestors in the early census or suitable substitutes, Midwestern research, beginning your genealogy sleuthing and finding religious archives and the records.

Tina Beaird is the Genealogy and Local History Librarian at the Plainfield Library. In addition to her library duties, Tina lectures at local, state and national levels, sharing her knowledge on a variety of topics. She will present two lectures at our conference this year - one on cemetery research and one on using social media for genealogical research.

Tina has been involved in genealogy for over twenty years and while busy with her “day job,” she finds time to consult with clients, lecture and sometimes do her own family research.

We hope you are planning on attending the conference this year. We have received a huge number of registrations so far and there is a chance your choice of presentations will fill up quickly. Please check our conference page for further details at <http://www.mcigs.org/conference>. You can also get updates on Twitter by following @MCIGenSoc or search hashtag #MCIGenSoc2016.

Conference Chair/Ann Wells

On the Road Again...

In recent months, we've been taking the show on the road, as they say. Thanks to those who came out to see us at the Cary Public Library for their Lineage Lineup program last month. This month, we will be at the Crystal Lake Expo the first weekend in April. Come on by and say hello! We'll be holding a drawing for a free conference registration, as well as a DNA kit. We're also giving away complementary wildflower seeds to everyone who stops by for a chat.

Later in the month, you can catch us at the Algonquin Area Public Library for their semi-annual After Hours Genealogy Program. After Jane Haldeman presents her program From Land Records to Google Earth, MCIGS members will be on hand to provide guidance and research suggestions to attendees during the personal research portion of the evening. If you're interested in attending, registration is required. Contact the Algonquin Area Public Library at [847-458-6060](tel:847-458-6060) or visit their web site to register. This is a popular program that usually fills up so don't delay!

Crystal Lake Chamber EXPO
Saturday, April 2nd ~ 10 am - 4 pm
Sunday, April 3rd ~ 11 am - 3 pm
Crystal Lake South High School
1200 S. McHenry Avenue
Crystal Lake, IL

*Algonquin Area Public Library
2600 Harnish Drive
Algonquin, IL
Friday, April 15th ~ 5pm - 11pm
*Registration Required

MCIGS President
Kristen McCallum

Upcoming Events

May 4-7, 2016 NGS Conference – *Exploring the Centuries: Footprints in Time*. The conference will be held at the Ft Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. For more information, visit <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>.

May 7, 2016 Fox Lake District Library – *From Piles to Files*: at the Fox Lake District Library, Fox Lake, IL, 3pm. For more information, visit <http://www.fllib.org>.

May 12, 2016 MCIGS – *When Johnny Comes Marching Home*: at The Pointe, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm – 9:00pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mcigs.org/>.

May 18, 2016 AHML – *Genealogists Who Pin*: at Arlington Heights Memorial Library, Arlington Heights, IL, 1pm – 2pm. For more information, visit <http://www.ahml.info>.

May 18, 2016 DCGS – *Colonial American Ancestors*: at Wheaton Public Library, Wheaton, IL, 7pm – 8:45pm. For more information, visit <http://www.dcs.org>.

Jun 3-5, 2016 Jamboree 2016 – *Southern California Genealogical Society*. The conference will be held at the Los Angeles Marriott Burbank Airport Hotel. For more information, visit <http://genealogyjamboree.com>.

June 18, 2016 CAGGNI – *Geneaquest*: at The ASA Conference Center, Schaumburg, IL, 8am – 4:00pm. For more information, visit <http://caggni.shuttlepod.org/GeneaQuest-2016>.

July 9, 2016 MCIGS – *Summer Conference* at McHenry County College, McHenry, IL, 8am – 3:30pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mcigs.com/conference>.

Aug 31 to Sep 3, 2016 FGS/ISGS – *Conference Time Travel: Centuries of Memories* at Springfield, IL. For more information, visit <http://www.fgsconference.org>.

Sep 17, 2016 KCGS – *Kenosha County Genealogy Fair*: at Gateway Technical College, Kenosha, WI, 10am – 4:00pm. For more information, visit <http://www.kengensoc.com>.

New Member Spotlight

Please join us in welcoming several new members who have recently joined MCIGS:

*Lee Dickson, Stanford, KY
Deena Galloy, Cary, IL
Marsha Hosfeld, Rockford, IL
Karen Pickelsimer Oakwood Hills, IL
Sally Retek, Huntley, IL
Laurie Wagner, Green Bay, WI - Welcome Back!*



Lee Dickson, lives in Stanford, Kentucky. However, he is currently in the process of relocating to McHenry County. He tells us that he's been a community oriented person for many years. *"The first thing I wanted to (as a genealogist) was to become a part of a group in this sector"*. He says he looks forward to being a part of a group that is truly *"doing things"*.

Lee has been doing genealogy since 2000, researching his CURTIS, BLAND and JACKSON Illinois connections. He started this hobby because he knew very little about his family except for his immediate family. Aside from genealogy, Lee likes to collect Puritan pottery and Wade porcelain/pottery.

Laurie Wagner, Laurie lives in Green Bay, Wisconsin. She was one of the original members of MCIGS along with her mom, Alice Wagner. Laurie began working on her family history in 1980. Some of the names she's researching include: WAGNER, BUTTS, BUHRMAN, HANSON, HEMMINGSEN, GRITMACKER, VOLZ AND VOSS.

Since Laurie moved to Green Bay 12 years ago she's been unable to attend our monthly meetings which she says *"she's missed"*. However, since becoming involved more recently in genealogy, she's has enjoyed our annual conference and has decided to rejoin MCIGS again, *"especially after her mom informed her that there are a lot of things she can access on-line through our website"*.

"After 3 years of planning, last year I was able to take a genealogy/vacation trip to New York. My father's side came from Germany and settled in New York. My 3x great-grandfather was in the Civil War, enlisting from New York and he is buried in the historical Green-Wood Cemetery in Brooklyn. Last year at the 150th anniversary of the ending of the Civil War, the cemetery had a 2-day celebration to honor their CW veterans that I attended and participated in as a direct descendant. I also went to Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty. While in NY I was able to obtain my great grandfather's orphan records from where he was put in the orphanage for 2 years, for truancy. William Wagner came to Illinois on the Orphan Train which is how our family ended up in McHenry County."

Laurie has also taken several research trips with her mom to Salt Lake City, Utah, Geauga County, Ohio and to Bremer County, Iowa. Laurie is currently working full-time for a large health-care system in Green Bay. She enjoys scrapbooking, reading and spending time with her nephew Zeke and her cat. She also gets to visit her mom more often since she moved to the area with her Brother and his family.



Deena Galloy, was born in Evanston, Illinois, grew up in Palatine, and has lived most her adult life in Cary, Illinois. Deena's been doing genealogy on and off since she was 12 years old. As part of school assignment she had to ask her family where they came from and was interested ever since.

Deena's great uncle Forrest did much of the work on her father's side, and her great aunt, Nina did most of the work on her mother's side of the family. Deena is searching New York, Pennsylvania, Canada, Florida and Illinois for surnames: BURNS, GALLOY, HALLQUIST, ASHMEAD, and WADLEY.

Deena would like to learn how to refine her research, and learn to use the Internet more effectively. She joined MCIGS because she thought it would help in her research.

Vice President/Membership – Arlene Basten