



McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society

Connections Newsletter

Volume 43, Issue 4

McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society

April 2024



April Meeting
Thursday, 11 April 2024

In Person
McHenry County College
Room C104**

***Online Resources for Researching Your
British Ancestors***

Presented by Scott Norrick

With over 30 years of genealogical experience tracing and documenting thousands of ancestors and relatives, Scott Norrick has a passion for helping others in their ancestral journey. With two degrees and a business background Scott is available to research, provide customized genealogical reports and to speak on ancestral topics.

Online Resources for Researching British Ancestors

More British documents are being digitized and made available online each year. In this presentation, resources useful in tracing British ancestors will be discussed. Both free and subscription sites will be discussed. England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland will all be covered. All major categories of genealogical research will be featured including civil records, church records, census data, newspaper archives, as well as other sources unique to Britain.

***** From Crystal Lake, turn into MCC at Tartan Way and park in Lot A. Enter MCC near cafeteria/student center by flagpole outside of Building A. Turn right down hall, then left at top of ramp. Room C104 is on the left.***

If coming from Woodstock, enter MCC campus at light and drive around the campus to Lot A.

From the President...

Hello and Happy Spring! I hope that none of our readers will be subjected to any unwanted April Fools jokes or pranks. Not sure if it counts, but we just got dumped on with several inches of snow here in Northern Illinois at the end of March. A joke that most of us did not appreciate too much.

We have exciting news to share! We, your MCIGS Board, want to tell you that we are hosting our own version of a Family Reunion on Thursday April 11th. It's not a joke or a prank. We are going to be back with "in-person" meetings in April, which is kind of like getting our family back together after a long winter's nap. Our meetings will be at McHenry County College in room C104. If you're familiar with the layout- it's just to the right off of the cafeteria, which is where we hosted our Summer Conference. The room will be open by 6:30 PM for a chance for a social time to reconnect with other members. This is a great time to network, ask for suggestions, help out our "family" with support in their research etc.

Our speaker in April is Scott Norrick. He will be speaking about on-line resources for researching British Ancestors. This presentation includes British, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. Please mark your calendars and please plan to attend. There will be some light snacks and a few items to "give away" to some of those who are in attendance.

I would like to remind all of you about our MCIGS \$1,000. Scholarship. You may know of a student graduating from high school in McHenry County who has an interest in genealogy, family history or genetics related to family history. Please encourage any high

school student who might be a possible candidate, to apply.

Our Board of Directors is busy planning events and ideas to support your genealogy research. If you have any suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me personally at president@mcigs.org. Your questions and comments are always welcome.

Help Needed



Does anyone know who these people are? The photo was taken by G A Burbank in Woodstock, who was a photographer between 1880-1891.

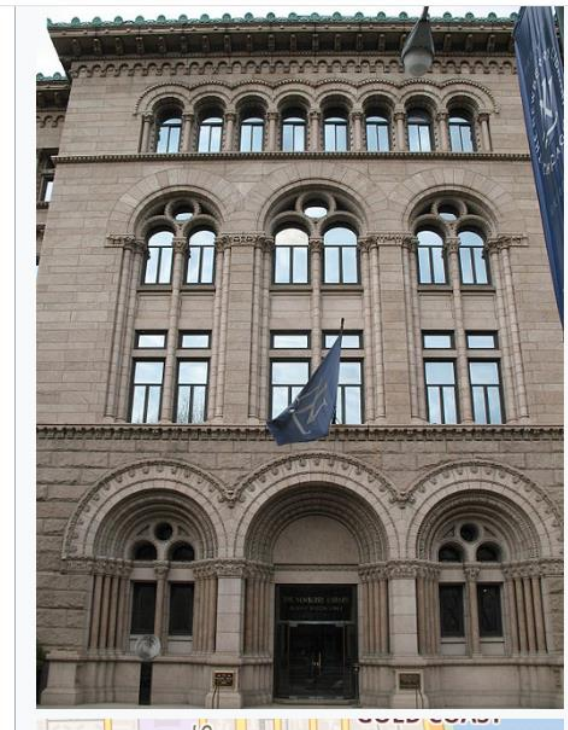
The photo was in an album owned by Henry and Olive (Davids) Clayton. Other family names in the album were Belmont, Stock, Mitchell, Blaylock and Morgan.

Please contact Gail Clayton at gclayton@charter.net if you have any information.

Recap of Last Meeting ***Researching at the Newberry***

From Sandra Braid, MCIIGS Secretary

Matt Rutherford was our speaker and he shared a bit about researching at the Newberry Library, located at 60 West Walton Street, Chicago, and what to bring along when doing research. He included information on parking near the library (with meters you need to feed) but there are several “parking lots” around the area. There is a parking lot at Chestnut and Clark that gives a discount from the library. All you do is bring the ticket to one of the service desks in the library and they will stamp it to give you the discount.



Antonio Vernon, photographer.

<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>

The Newberry Library has several rules that patrons need to observe. You will need to register to use any item in the library (remember they are a non-circulating

library). Newberry uses Aon to create an account. These are readers’ cards and they are good for one year. Check their website for the catalog to identify items you would like to view when you visit the Newberry. You can make a list of those items and the staff can have them ready for you when you arrive for your visit, but you can only have three items at a time. Or you can request them when you arrive, with 3 PM being the last request. This gives the staff time to reshelve items. The Newberry’s hours are Tuesdays through Saturdays 10 AM to 4 PM.

The Newberry started collecting in 1887 upon the death of Walter L. Newberry (1804-1868). He left a provision in his will that if his daughters died without heirs, the rest of his “fortune” was to go to create the library. He had many books himself, but those were lost along with his home during the Great Chicago Fire. The Newberry is a private research library. Its books are non-circulating and the stacks are closed. The Newberry Library has a “Humanities” focus and it is open to researchers aged 14 and older. The researcher must also have an interest in something held by the library.

Newberry’s collections include: 1.6 million books, 5 million manuscript pages and 600,000 maps. As far as genealogy at the Newberry Library goes, the Newberry is strong in New England and the Atlantic



By Acmeograph Company, Chicago

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States, especially in the early years. They also have strength in the Midwest in the later years. They have

- foreign censuses
- 19th Century Chicago newspapers
- 65,000 City Directories (about ½ are not digitized) these are mainly from the US, but some are also foreign – check their website for more details
- 55,000 family histories
- Court, cemetery, and land sources
- Local histories (with strength in New England and the Midwest)
- Military Records – rosters, regimental histories, and pension records
- Passenger lists
- Maps – Sanborn maps 1867-1970, Chicago from about 1750
- Family research files
- Special Collections including employment cards for the Pullman company and other African American sources

Upcoming Events

All events are CDT. P-in person; H-hybrid and Z-Zoom presentation only.

Thursday, 4 April, 7 PM (H), Kane County Genealogical Society/Town and County Public Library. “Do A Double Take for More Research Clues” with Suz Bates. In person at Town and Country Public Library, 320 E North Street, Elburn, IL Register for online [HERE](#).

Saturday, 6 April, 1:30 PM (H), Winnebago-Boone Counties Genealogical Society, "Find a Grave® Tips & Tricks: Using Find a Grave® for Genealogical Research" with presenter Jerry Moors. In person at Rockford Library- East Branch, 6685 East State Street, Rockford, IL. To register for Zoom – [HERE](#).

Tuesday, 9 April, 7 PM (Z), Lake County IL Genealogical Society. “30 Types of Maps Useful for Genealogy” with speaker Margaret Kapustiak. Register for this event by sending email to LCIGS1170@gmail.com .

Saturday, 20 April, 10:30 AM (H), CAGGNI, “Why is Jewish Research Different from All Other Research?” presenter Suzanne Hoffman. Location, Arlington Heights Memorial Library, 500 N. Dunton Avenue, Arlington Heights. To register: [HERE](#)

Saturday, 27 April, 9AM – 4PM, (P) Family Search Center, 3075 N. Buffalo Grove Road, Buffalo Grove. All day in person conference. For more information or to register (FREE) [here](#) .

Thank You!

Thanks to the following for making donations to MCIGS:

Rosemary Alfredson, Janis Bohner, Joyce Brown, Claudia Conroy, Marcia Flanagan, Laurence Hartman, Barbara Hazelwood-Miller, Marcia Hegstd, Jeffrey Hill, Sr., Marlene Keenan, Margaret Kuhajek, Celeste Kuta, Diana Lukas, Mary A McCoy, Dawn Milarski, Jerry Mohler, Carol Mosher, Bruce Peterson, Jan Polep, Carolyn Purcell, Mike Reall, Shirley Schwemm, Terry Steinke, Kathleen Truckenbrod and Leanne Wiedeman.

Thank you all!

Newberry Research Trip Saturday, 27 April 2024

If you have signed up and paid, plan to meet at Pingree Road Train Station at 570 E Congress Parkway, just off Pingree Road, before 9 AM. Please direct any questions to susan.durbin@mcigs.org. Also plan on a great day of researching.

2024 Summer Conference

Sadly, we have had to cancel our 2024 Summer Conference. We hope to be able to bring you one in 2025.

Stay tuned!

2024 College Scholarship

The McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society is offering a **\$1,000.00 scholarship** to a McHenry County High School Senior. This scholarship was created to encourage and inspire the coming generation to learn and preserve local history as well as family history.

The scholarship will be awarded to a high school senior with ambitions to study history, preservation of history and/or genetics. Applicants must be involved in community service, be a McHenry County, Illinois resident, and be attending a McHenry County high school or be home schooled.

Application is [HERE](#).



Bible Records

The Bibles are located at the McHenry County Historical Society in Union. Originally published in MCIGS Quarterly, Vol. I, # 2, April-June 1983

ROSSELL/ROSWELL/HICKOK

The Holy Bible, Philadelphia; Printed and published by M. Carey, 1813.

Written on flyleaf – Balance England Rose

Written on separate piece of paper pasted onto page:

Table of Ages

John Rossell and Catherin his wife
John Rossell born October 10, 1743
Catherin Rossell born January 3, 1744
and their children

Mary Rossell born June 2, 1770
Sarah Rossell born August 29, 1772
Catherin Rossell born November 5, 1774
Thomas Rossell born January 23, 1777
Elizabeth Rossell born April 10, 1779
Benjamin Rossell born September 28, 1782
John Rossell born February 13, 1784

In different handwriting:

“Benjamin Rossell died March the 5th 1854, died 12 minet to 4 o’clock in the morning.”

From Family Record pages in center of Bible:

On the 2nd day of January 1805 Benjamin Roswell and Mary Totton were united in the band of marriage.

On the 26th day of November 1807 he was also united in marriage with Armenah Dean.

Benjamin Rowell was born February 11, 1782.

Mary Totten, 1st wife of Benjamin Roswell, was born 1st day of December 1783

Armenah Dean, 2nd wife of Benjamin Roswell, was born 19 September 1788.

Inserted between former entries and next entries, in different handwriting and ink: Preston Hickok was born February 22, 1802 at New Canaan, Conn., died January 6, 1887.

Issue of Benjamin and Mary:
James was born 10th July 1805/together with a twin sister who did not survive her birth. Mary Rosell,* wife of Preston Hickok was born January 1, 1810, at Mt. Pleasant, New York. Died January 10, 1892.

Issue of Benjamin and Armenah:
Hiram, born 27th November 1808~~7~~ (corrected from 8 to 7 in same ink)
Mary, born 1st of January 1810
Edward, born 29 June 1812

Different ink and handwriting:
Thomas Dean Rosell born February 2, AD 1818

Mary, first wife of Benjamin Roswell died 7 August 1805, aged 21 years, 8 months
James, son of Benjamin and Mary, died 19th July 1805, aged 7 days.

Benjamin Rosell died March the 5th 1854, aged 71 years, 5 months, 3 days.

Armenia [sic] Rosell died March 25, 1861, age 73 years, 6 months, 6 days.

Variant spelling are written as found in Bible.

*The Bible says Mary, daughter of Benjamin and Mary, was born in 1810, but she was daughter of Benjamin and Armenah.

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BARBER/EDWARDS

The Holy Bible, American Bible Society,
1866

On front fly leaf:

Sate C Barber's Bible, a gift from Sister
Fannie, December 9th, 1868

page 684

S. (?) L Barber born in Rutland County,
Vermont, January 20th, 1840

Sate J Edwards born in Madison County,
New York, November 22nd, 1845

S L Barber and Sarah J Edwards were
married November 5, 1866.

S L Barber died August 7th, 1903

Sarah J Barber died 1941

*All entries except the last were written in
same hand in pencil.*

EDWARDS/COON

Holy Bible, New York: American Bible
Society, 1854

The following entries were written on pages
585 thru 588, written in pencil and in brown
ink.

James L Edwards/Emma R Coon married
January 2, 1879, Woodstock, Illinois.

Easton, Madison County, New York
James L Edwards, born July 11th,
1851

Emma Coon born December 23rd,
1858 (corrected in blue ink to the "8")

Elinor Caroline Edwards born
November 28th, 1880

Charley Edwards born November 21st, 1890
"J Bradford"

Fidelia May Edwards born November 21st,
1892

Hazel Etta Edwards born September 20,
1894. *Entry gone over in red ink – Vergene*

Ronald J Calame born September 5, 1922

John B Coon was born March the 30, 1815

Caroline A Coon was born January the 24,
1821 (corrected to 1831)

Hanah E Coon was born June the 15, 1857

Emerette M-Hanerett Coon was born
December the 23, 1858

Amanda B Coon was born October the 25,
1859

Iday Almira Coon was born April the 10,
1861

John Alpheus Coon was born November 9
(corrected from December the 25th) 1862

Charles Claton Coon was born July the 21,
1864

Andrew Jackson Coon was born December
the 25, 1865

Hattie Coon was born December the 23, 1868

Eugene Coon was born October the 24, 1869

Frank Ritz was born October the 8, 1872

Alva Ritz was born March the 12, 1874

(next page)

Andrew Coon died February 11, 1894

Caroline A Ritz, 84 years, died January 29th,
1915, buried [sic] February 1st, 1915

John Coon died January 1, 1922, 59 years

John Coon, Sr., died April 1870, 55 years

Gorge [sci] Ritz died 18 of May 1833

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Emma Edwards died November 20, 1937,
11:00 P.M., buried [sic] November 24.

Eugene Coon died June 22, 1938
Amanda Tyson died October 27, 1939
Ida McCartney died April 11, 1942

James L Edwards died June 20, 1943, 2:00
AM

Charles C Coon died June 30, 1947
Charles B Edwards died August 2, 1950,
2:45 AM



McHenry County Illinois
Genealogical Society
*Term of office expires 31 December in year
in parentheses)*

President – Laurie Stage (2024) –
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2nd VP – Membership – Ann Wells (2025)
– ann.wells@mcigs.org

Secretary – Sandra Braid (2024) –
sandra.braid@mcig.org

Treasurer – OPEN

BOARD

Nancy Gaynor (2024)–
nancy.gaynor@mcigs.org

Jan Polep (2025) – jan.polep@mcigs.org

Bill Wheeler (2025) –
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