



# MCIGS

McHenry County IL Genealogical Society

## Connections Newsletter

Volume XLI, No. 54

mcigs.org

May 2022



### ***BUILDING YOUR LEGACY***

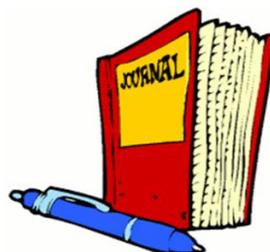
*Thursday, 12 May 2022, 7 PM  
Zoom*

Amy Veloz has been employed by JRNL for nearly a decade. As a mom and wife, Amy has been chronicling her life story in one form or another for years. After the loss of her sister, she realized the true importance of having her full story available for her family, in the event something

happened to her. Now an avid journaler, Amy enjoys sharing her experience with journaling and encouraging others to create their own legacy.

The Building Your Legacy presentation will discuss the importance of keeping a regular journal to pass along stories to future generations. While there are a variety of ways to share stories with your future progeny, the use of journaling has been proven throughout history as the best way to pass along a more in-depth, full story from generation to generation. We will discuss some tips and tricks to make sure you capture your full story.

You can register for the program on our website – [mcigs.org](http://mcigs.org).



## *From the President...*

I hope you are all enjoying our somewhat tumultuous spring weather (at least here in Illinois). I think it's easier to become inspired to work on family history when it's nicer outside as it's easier to travel and investigate various research sites.

By now, I'm confident you have all heard about the release of the 1950 U.S. Federal Census. If you were lucky enough to attend our last MCIGS General Meeting, you learned many tips and tricks from David Farstead regarding how to best use the census, along with ways we could choose to get involved with indexing. David introduced us to Family Search App called "Get Involved." I checked out this app and downloaded it to my phone. When I began, I started by choosing my indexing preferences: country, state and even a surname. After that, the indexing begins. It's easy!! This app only looks at the names of the people on the page. My job was to verify the transcribed word and edit if necessary. Before I knew it, I was done with the first group, and on to my second group. It's actually kind of addicting. Try this if you're looking for a pretty uncomplicated way to get involved with indexing.

I want to thank all of you who responded to our new section in the newsletter "What do our members have to say?" Check out that section in this edition to see the responses from members to our April questions. We have new questions for this month, and you only have to click on the

link in the newsletter to provide your answers. This month we have added a new response option so you can include your name if you wish. Other responses will remain anonymous. It's fun to learn things about our membership and I encourage you to click on the link and share your responses.

I'd like to invite you all to mark your calendars and plan to attend our May 12<sup>th</sup> General Meeting – Building Your Legacy with presenter Amy Veloz. This is an interesting program where you will learn tips to help you achieve your goal of passing on your information to future generations. Read more about this presentation in our newsletter. You can now register for this meeting.

I hope you are all registering for our Virtual Summer Conference on July 9<sup>th</sup>, 9AM-4PM CDT. This is a free event for current members! Registration is required though, so register at our website or on the link elsewhere in this newsletter.

At our April Board meeting, we discussed the possibility of moving to a Hybrid General Meeting where we would once again meet at McHenry County College and also provide a Zoom link to accommodate those who cannot meet with us in person. Watch future newsletters and our website for updates on this option.

In closing, I'd like to extend my warmest wishes for all the moms to have a wonderful Mother's Day celebration.

*Laurie Stage*

## 2022 Summer Conference



This year's conference will again be free to members and \$25 for non-members. The conference will be virtual on Saturday, 9 July 2022 beginning at 9:00 AM CDT. You can register [here](#).

This month we highlight Peggy Clemens Lauritzen's presentations:

### 1. Apprentices, indentured Servants and Redemptioners; White Servitude in America

An estimated one-half of early immigrants came to America as indentured servants. Summary: People came to the colonies by various means; some desired to come, and some came against their will. This lecture will examine indentureship in early America; and will follow a case study of the story behind my own ancestors' arrival.

### 2. Preparing for your Cemetery Trip

In the electronic age, we have a bounty of information available at our fingertips. Does this mean we always have the luxury of researching at home? Sometimes a trip to the cemetery may be just what we need. If the opportunity

presents itself, pack up and go to the family cemetery, the final place many of our ancestors may have gathered together. This class shows the do's and don'ts of what to bring as you research with "boots on the ground" techniques. A look into Find A Grave completes the preparation into such a trip.

### 3. Hidden Gems in the FamilySearch Wiki

The FamilySearch Wiki contains tens of thousands of pages to assist you researching your family history. What is a Wiki? It's one of the best-kept secrets of FamilySearch. You will learn how this powerful and robust tool can bring the world to your fingertips.

### 4. Migration Trails to the Ohio

This lecture will focus on separate groups that migrated to the newly formed Ohio country and how the land was divided up as people began to settle. We will study these trails as well as the circumstances that brought people to this area. "Ohio Fever" brought people to this western frontier in droves. The division of the land became a pattern for most of the other land areas in the United States.



## ***What Do Our Members Have to Say?***

The results of last month's questions:

How long have you been researching your family? Responses:

- Over 25 years – 50%
- Between 12 & 25 years – 34%
- Between 1 and 5 years – 16%

What is the most interesting location to which you have traveled? Responses:

- Ireland, Egypt, Austria
- Massachusetts, McHenry County

### **Questions for May:**

What is the most interesting first name amongst your ancestors?

What is the one bit of advice you'd tell a beginning researcher?

Would you be willing to share more about your history and answers? If so, please share your email in the link below.

Please use the link to supply your answers.  
<https://bit.ly/MCIGSQuery2>

## ***Early Settlers: Newest Applicant*** **Claudia Conroy, Early Settler Chair**

Marie Mayer applied to recognize her ancestor, Jacob Schmitt, who had previously been proven to have settled in Johnsbury in 1841. Marie submitted all the documents necessary to prove her descent from Jacob Schmitt including a passenger list, marriage and death records, and obituaries.

Jacob SCHMITT

- b. 30 Mar 1808, Münk, Mayen-Koblenz, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany
- m. Anna Gertrud GOEDERT, 12 Feb 1833, Germany
- d. 7 Sep 1892, Johnsbury, McHenry, IL

Anna Gertrud GOEDERT

- b. 3 Aug 1806, Naunheim, Landkreis Mayen-Koblenz, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany
- d. 16 May 1882, Johnsbury, McHenry, IL

Child:

Susanna Goedert SCHMITT

- b. 19 Sep 1832, Naunheim, Mayen-Koblenz, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany
- m. Johann Georg MÜLLER/MUELLER, 5 May 1849, Johnsbury, McHenry, IL
- d. 19 Oct 1910, McHenry, McHenry, IL

Child:

Josephine MUELLER

- b. 3 Jun 1873, Johnsbury, McHenry, IL
- m. Joseph MAYER, 17 Nov 1892, Stacyville, Mitchell, IA
- d. 14 Dec 1956, Stacyville, Mitchell, IA

Child:

Raymond Nicholas MAYER

- b. 10 Dec 1898, Stacyville, Mitchell, IA
- m. Clara HEMANN, 19 Feb 1924, Meyer, Mitchell, IA
- d. 8 Mar 1973, Stacyville, Mitchell, IA

Child:

Clarence Michael MAYER

- b. 4 Jan 1930, Stacyville, Mitchell, IA
- m. Dorothy Mae HALL, 3 Jul 1951, Austin, Mower, MN
- d. 26 Nov 1999, Osage, Mitchell, IA

Child:

Marie MAYER, applicant

## ***Did You Know?***

On our website, there is an index of the Early Settler Applications. It is arranged alphabetically by the name of the settler and includes the date settled, town/township and spouse. You can obtain a copy of the application for \$5.00. Personal information on living individuals will be redacted at the discretion of MCIGS to protect the privacy of the applicant.

## ***April Meeting Recap***

From Nancy Gaynor

The 1950 U.S. Census has arrived!

At our April meeting, we had David Farstead speak at our monthly general membership meeting discussing just that topic. Have you looked at the Census? Do you know HOW to progress?

Mr. Farstead lives in the Crystal Lake area with a long interest in genealogy. Most recently he was the Director of the Crystal Lake Family History Center. (Questions were asked about whether the Walkup location has reopened – it hasn't yet.)

The 1950 Census was different from previous Censuses, just as future ones will differ in so many ways. Details were obtained on resident's places of residence, birthplace, and employment. While six entries were chosen for further detail, unlike two from the 1940 Census. Questions on length of marriage, citizenship status and number of children have now disappeared to be replaced by greater detail on employment

and, for the select six, detail on educational background.

Technology allowed for the 1950 Census to be available right at 12:01am by the National Archives, at least the "raw data" that is. NO indexing, just the scanned archived microfilm. It is up to us to get creative and contribute to the indexing project. David showed us how to do both.

Currently in areas not YET indexed, it is necessary to identify the Enumeration District or area a census taker could cover in two weeks. There are two recommended places to help you identify the ED numbers. (These numbers DO differ from census to census.)

Check out [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com)'s link to the 1950 Census. Ancestry offers an address locator to help you narrow down the possible ED's for your family. [Stevemorse.org](https://www.stevemorse.org) also offers an ED locator, in fact for all censuses. Once you have identified Enumeration District numbers for your family, you have several places to check out the actual Census images.

The National Archives offers (<https://1950census.archives.gov/>) a basic name/street address or Enumeration District search. Ancestry and FamilySearch are also offering basic search functions while things get indexed.

Are you excited to begin searching the Census? Do you want to "pay it forward"? FamilySearch and Ancestry are working together to fully index the Census. It will "take a village" to get this done. You can volunteer here <https://www.familysearch.org/getinvolved/1950> and help make the 1950 Census fully accessible for everyone.

## Upcoming Events

All events are in CDT. Some are via Zoom (Z), in person (P) and hybrid (H). Be sure to contact the event host for registration details.

**7 May**, Saturday, 1:30 pm, (V) Saturday, “The Home Archivist: Preserving Family Records Like a Pro!”

Speaker: Melissa Barker. Winnebago-Boone Genealogical Society.  
wbcgensociety@gmail.com

**10 May**, Tuesday, 7:00 pm, (H) “Applying to the Sons of the American Revolution” presented by Bill Wheeler. Lake County Genealogical Society, Vernon Hills Village Hall, Vernon Hills.

<https://lakecountylgenealogy.org/>

**19 May**, Thursday, 7:00 pm, (P) “From the Sources’ Mouth” - Daniel Hubbard  
Gail Borden Public Library District: Main Library, 270 N Grove Ave, Elgin, IL 60120,  
<https://www.elginroots.com/>

**21 May**, Saturday, 10:00 am (V) – British Interest Group of Wisconsin and Illinois (BIGWILL). McKenna Cooper and Dan Poffenberger will each make a presentation: Isle of Man (Poffenberger) and the Channel Islands (Cooper). Contact <https://bigwill.com> for registration.



## McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society Board of Directors 2022

### OFFICERS:

President: Laurie Stage –  
[president@mcigs.org](mailto:president@mcigs.org)

1<sup>st</sup> V. P. Programs – Jan Polep –  
[jan.polep@mcigs.org](mailto:jan.polep@mcigs.org)

2<sup>nd</sup> V. P. Membership – Bill Wheeler –  
[bill.wheeler@mcigs.org](mailto:bill.wheeler@mcigs.org)

Secretary – Sue Durbin –  
[sue.durbin@mcigs.org](mailto:sue.durbin@mcigs.org)

Treasurer – Tami Allred –  
[tami.allred@mcigs.org](mailto:tami.allred@mcigs.org)

### DIRECTORS:

Vacant –

Nancy Gaynor – Librarian  
[nancy.gaynor@mcigs.org](mailto:nancy.gaynor@mcigs.org)

Mike Reall – Webmaster  
[mike.reall@mcigs.org](mailto:mike.reall@mcigs.org)

Ann L Wells – Newsletter Editor  
[ann.wells@mcigs.org](mailto:ann.wells@mcigs.org) or  
[annwells@yahoo.com](mailto:annwells@yahoo.com)