



Connections

www.mcigs.org

McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society Newsletter



Volume XXXVII, Number 4

Contact Us: newsletter@mcigs.org

April 2018

After the Easy Stuff

GEN:202 – Beyond the Basics. Tips, techniques and suggestions for keeping the tree growing and finding the rocks that you want to look under. Reading closely. Thinking out-of-the-box. Mind-stretching and creative thinking – and keeping all the information straight as you look at a million (or maybe only several hundred sources).

Liz Ross



Liz Ross is a professional genealogist. She writes extensively and lectures, in the Chicago region. Liz also developed and runs a genealogy meetup and is a board member of Ged-Fed Alumni. Liz will be speaking at the upcoming NGS Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan in May.

MCIGS & Liz Ross Present

GEN:202 - BEYOND THE BASICS

Thursday, April 12th @ 7pm
The Pointe Outreach Center
5650 Northwest Highway
Crystal Lake, IL

www.mcigs.org

Thursday, April 12th @ 7pm
The Pointe Outreach Center
5650 Northwest Highway
Crystal Lake, IL

(Located just west of Target)

McHenry County History



Union Garage; Union, IL

Upcoming Events

Apr 2, 2018 ITPL – *Introduction to Genealogy* at Indian Trails Public Library, Wheeling, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.indiantrailslibrary.org>.

Apr 3, 2018 EGS – *Social History for Genealogists* at Gail Borden Public Library, Elgin, IL, 9:30am. For more information, visit <http://www.elginroots.com>.

Apr 5, 2018 MPL – *Roadside History of Illinois* McHenry Public Library, McHenry, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mchenrylibrary.org>.

Apr 7, 2018 LCGS – *Genealogy Vacation-Myth or Reality* at Mundelein Community Center, Mundelein, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.lakecountyilgenealogy.org>.

Apr 12, 2018 MCIGS – *Gen202: Beyond The Basics* at The Pointe, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <https://www.mcigs.org>.

Apr 14, 2018 NSGS – *Glenview Naval Air Base / Hanger One Foundation* at Glenview Public Library, Glenview, IL, 1pm. For more information, visit <http://www.nsgsil.org>.

Apr 18, 2018 DCGS – *Oh Where, Oh Where are My Ancestors From?* at Wheaton Public Library, Wheaton, IL, 6:30pm. For more information, visit <http://www.dcg.org>.

Apr 18, 2018 CAGGNI – *Preserve Your Ancestors Legacy: Write their Life Story* at Schaumburg Township Public Library, Schaumburg, IL, 10:30am. For more information, visit <http://www.caggni.org>.

Welcome to MCIGS By Arlene Basten

Please help us welcome the newest members to MCIGS:

- Stacia Childers – Parksley, VA
- David Farstead – Crystal Lake, IL
- Barb Hazlewood-Miller – Poplar Grove, IL
- Suzanne Hoffman – Chicago, IL

Stacia Childers is from the Eastern Shore of Virginia and has been doing genealogy off and on for about 25 years. "I've gotten very serious about it in the last two years since landing a job in the local history room of our library here in Accomac. One branch of my father's family were early settlers in McHenry County and lived there for a few decades before moving on to Kansas (CRANDALL, TUTTLE and POTTER). The Crandall and Tuttle lines are pretty well documented, but I am having trouble with the Potters." Stacia said she joined MCIGS hoping to learn about the history of the area and about resources and processes that I can use to trace the Potters back to their eastern origins. "I love studying all facets of the past, but I have a particular fondness for agricultural history."

Register for the MCIGS Conference at

<https://www.mcigs.org/conference>



RootsTech 2018

By Tami Allred



I was one of over 17,000 people who registered for Roots Tech 2018. Around 300 classes were offered, and 200 exhibitors were there to show their products and services. All converged in Salt Lake City Feb 28th thru March 3rd. Inspirational stories were shared by Brandon Stanton, founder of “Humans of New York”. I think it really should be titled “Stories thru pictures from around the world”.

My personal favorite was Scott Hamilton, ice skating Olympic gold medal winner, cancer survivor, TV broadcaster, motivational speaker and founder of “Scott Hamilton CARES Foundation” Cancer Alliance for Research, Education and Survivorship. Adopted at six weeks by wonderful parents, he faced many physical hardships growing up but persevered to win Olympic gold. He was then diagnosed with cancer, later married, had two sons and then adopted two more children. When he showed the picture of himself, first holding his son, “flesh of my flesh” that really brought a tear to everyone. It was very touching. He’s a very genuine, loving family man and quite humorous, even positive when having to deal with cancer. Here is a link to his talk:

<https://www.rootstech.org/video/general-session-2018-scott-hamilton>.

The last day we heard from Henry Louis Gates Jr. who has a mile long resumé but I know him as the host of PBS “Finding Your Roots” show. He has started testing a curriculum focused on middle school children, producing a four-generation tree and then teaching about those generations in social studies. He also teaches about taking a DNA test and learning the science behind it. I wish every junior high would implement this in their studies. He entitled it “Finding Your Roots, the Seedlings”.

We were entertained by Natalia LaFourcade, who sang at the Oscars the following night, with the winning song “Remember Me”. I had never heard of her before but she has a beautiful voice. The researchers from FamilySearch presented her with some incredible stories of her ancestors which was remarkable, from France to Chile then Mexico. She was truly surprised.

Upcoming Events

May 5, 2018 NPLG – *Introduction to Library Genealogy Resources* at Nichols Library, Naperville, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.naperville-lib.org>.

May 10, 2018 MCIGS – *Cook County Social Worker for the Unclaimed Dead* at The Pointe, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mcigs.org>.

May 16, 2018 DCGS – *What’s New on the Internet for Genealogists* at Wheaton Public Library, Wheaton, IL, 6:30pm. For more information, visit <http://www.dcms.org>.

June 14, 2018 MCIGS – *GOOGLE for Genealogy* at The Pointe, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mcigs.org>.

July 7, 2018 MCIGS – *MCIGS Summer Confrence* at McHenry County College, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mcigs.org>.

August 9, 2018 MCIGS – *Probate Records* at The Pointe, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mcigs.org>.

September 13, 2018 MCIGS – *What’s New At FamilySearch* at The Pointe, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mcigs.org>.

October 11, 2018 MCIGS – *What’s New On the Internet* at The Pointe, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mcigs.org>.

November 8, 2018 MCIGS – *Ancestry.com Library Edition* at The Pointe, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mcigs.org>.

MCIGS Member Highlights of 2017

In addition to the 10 programs offered at our regularly scheduled monthly meeting at The Pointe, MCIGS branched out into some new territory in 2017. David Stumpf (one of our members) led 3 *DNA special interest group* meetings at the Cary Library. We also held 2 live webinars in July and November that featured Thomas MacEntee – “What’s Been Done: Perform a Basic Inventory,” and Drew Smith’s presentation – “Where’s the Book with My Family in it? Our 4th annual Summer *Genealogy Conference* held July 7-2017 at MCC was also very well attended once again!

Focusing on attendance for a moment, I’d like us to all recognize the following members for their show of support by attending more than half of our programs in 2017. We look forward to them being a part of our meetings in 2018. ***Thank you all very much for your support!***

Sandra Braid – 11 programs attended
Sandra Rupert – 10
Marcia Flanagan – 9
Scott Larimer – 9
Ranee Larimer – 9
Shirley Schwemm – 9
Dick Stermer – 9
Judy Wojtynek – 9
Arlyn Booth – 8
Dolores Edfors – 8
Lori Freise – 8
Barb Holzer – 8
Christine Kraft – 8

THANK YOU!

RootsTech 2018 (cont.)

The classes were fantastic, helpful, educational and enlightening. I attended about a dozen classes and several mini classes in the exhibit hall sponsored by Ancestry.com, Findmypast.com and Familysearch.org.

Here are a couple of my takeaways: Myko Clelland presented on British and Irish Hidden Gems. When searching on Findmypast.com make sure to look under the “Search” tab the “A-Z of record sets”. There are many different and unique records found there. He’s known on twitter as @dapperhistorian and he was very dapper. He even handled the technical glitch towards the end with great professionalism You can watch his presentation here: <https://www.rootstech.org/video/findmypasts-british-and-irish-hidden-gems>.

During the class on Dutch records it was announced that due to a generous donor FamilySearch.org has recently published over 51 million unduplicated Dutch names. These are accessible by searching names in the Historical Records Collection.

I was able to hear Curt Witcher who will be speaking at our conference this year. He has the most creative titles for classes, such as “Beyond Hatched, Matched and Dispatched” and my personal favorite “Pain in the Access: More Web for your Genealogy”. His presentations are very good and he reminded me that I need to look at the local and state genealogical societies as well as the state archives. They are not all created equal. His handout described great strategies. He mentioned a site I was not familiar with that has more than 10 million links to genealogy resources, kind of like Cindi’s list, Linkpendium.com. He ended with my personal “go to” favorite, the research wiki on Familysearch.org under search section. I’m excited he’s coming to our conference in July. There are some fun new items that can be found in the Familysearch app. One section is “Relatives around me”. I discovered over 200 cousins just at RootsTech that weekend. The newest one is

<https://www.familysearch.org/discovery/compare>. It takes your picture and compares it to your relatives’. Who knew you looked more like your great grandpa than your mom? ☺ My suggestion is to book your hotel for next year’s Rootstech 2019, 27 February to 2 March 2019. You won’t want to miss this wonderful conference.



McHenry County IL Genealogical Society

www.mcigs.org



Summer Genealogy Conference

Saturday, July 7, 2018
8 am – 3:30 pm

Conference Location:

McHenry County College
8900 Route 14
Crystal Lake, IL 60014



McHenry County IL Genealogical Society Summer Conference July 7, 2018

Registration / browsing: 8:00 a.m.

Programs: 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Conveniently located at:

McHenry County College
8900 Route 14, Crystal Lake, IL

A box lunch is included in the registration cost. Vegetarian and **Gluten Free (GF)** choices are also available.

The syllabus link will be emailed to each registrant 2 weeks prior to the conference. [A printed syllabus will not be available.](#)

Each registrant will receive 5 Door Prize tickets. However, you **MUST be PRESENT** to win.

Browse the exhibitor's area to find information on other societies, books, maps, and material related to genealogy.

Free wifi so bring your tablets and laptops.

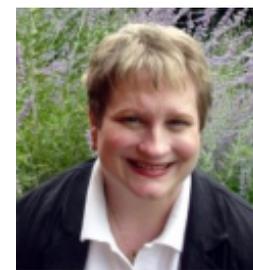
Register online today at:

www.mcigs.org/conference, or mail in your check with the attached registration form.

For further information, email Claudia Conroy at registration@mcigs.org or visit our web site: www.mcigs.org for additional details.

About Our Speakers

Judy Russell, A genealogist with a law degree, Judy G. Russell is a lecturer, educator and writer who enjoys helping others understand a wide variety of genealogical issues, including the interplay between genealogy and the law. Blogging as *The Legal Genealogist*, she has attended the National Institute on Genealogical Research at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., and completed both Elizabeth Shown Mills' course in Advanced Methodology and Evidence Analysis and Thomas W. Jones' course in Writing and Publishing for Genealogists at the Institute of Genealogy & Historical Research (IGHR) at Samford University.



Lisa Ann Alzo, M.F.A., An avid genealogist for 26 years, Lisa currently teaches online genealogy courses for Family Tree University and the National Institute for Genealogical Studies. She is the recipient of the 2002 Mary Zirin Prize given by the Association for Women in Slavic Studies to recognize the achievements of independent scholars, and is a frequently invited speaker for national conferences, genealogical and historical societies. Lisa has authored a number of books, including: *The Family Tree Polish, Czech and Slovak Genealogy Guide*, *Finding Your Slovak Ancestors*, *Cleveland Czechs and Slovak Pittsburgh*.

David Rencher AG, CG, FUGA, FIGRS, is employed as the Chief Genealogical Officer for FamilySearch. A professional genealogist since 1977, he is one of the rare few who have earned both credentials: Accredited Genealogist^{CM} with ICAPGenSM in Ireland research and Certified Genealogist[®] with the Board for Certification of Genealogists[®]. He is a past-president of the Federation of Genealogical Societies.



Curt B. Witcher is the Allen County Library's Senior Manager for Special Collections, a job which entails managing The Genealogy Center, serving as general curator for that institution's Rare and Fine Book Collection, and supervising the new Lincoln Financial Collection's Lincoln Library. He has worked at the Allen County Public Library for more than thirty-five years. Curt is a member of the Genealogy Committee of the American Library Association, a past chair of the association's History Section, a former president of both the Federation of Genealogical Societies and the National Genealogical Society, and the founding president of the Indiana Genealogical Society.

Genealogy Help Desk

Do you have a specific question about your family history research? Sign up after you check in at the conference to reserve a time slot for one-on-one assistance with our Genealogy Help Desk volunteers. These 15-minute sessions are held during the breaks and lunch period. For further information go to www.mcigs.org/conference.

Conference Program

More detailed session descriptions may be found at www.mcigs.org

8:00	Registration. Browsing and continental breakfast. Sign up for your Genealogy Help Desk Session.		
9:00	<i>That First Trip to the Courthouse</i> Learn how to prepare for that trip, the rules of the road, what to expect, what to ask for, and how to be sure you'll be welcomed back the next time.	Judy Russell	1A
	<i>Ten Ways to Jumpstart Your Eastern European Research</i> Discover which records to tap into to discover your ancestral village, how history impacts genealogical research, tips for contacting relatives and writing to foreign archives.	Lisa Alzo	1B
	<i>Applied Methodology for Irish Genealogical Collections</i> With the myriad number of Irish genealogical collections available, which ones should be searched for your area of research and what strategies should be employed to maximize the opportunity for success? This session outlines these solid strategies for finding Irish ancestors buried deep in these collections.	David Rencher	1C
	<i>Doing Effective Genealogical Research in Libraries</i> This talk focuses on: 1. Understanding the 4 major types of libraries, 2. Organizing one's data effectively, 3. Developing techniques for "scouting" a research facility before arriving, and 4. Functioning well in a wide variety of research facilities.	Curt Witcher	1D
10:00	Break (30 minutes) – Attend a Genealogy Help Desk Session. Make your door prize selection and visit the vendors.		
10:30	<i>NARA Mythbusters: Your Family IS in the Archives</i> Myth statements stop genealogists from breaking down all kinds of brick walls. Using the wealth of information in NARA records, join the mythbusters to find the treasures the National Archives holds for your family.	Judy Russell	2A
	<i>Tracing Your Immigrant Ancestors</i> America is a nation of immigrants, comprised of people who left home to find a better life for themselves and their families. This talk will show you tips and tricks for locating and searching passenger lists and other key immigration documents both on and offline to help trace your roots.	Lisa Alzo	2B
	<i>Irish Immigration/Emigration</i> This session will focus on the North American records you may not have considered for locating the home of your Irish ancestors plus some Irish records you might try that have been found to give links to North America.	David Rencher	2C
	<i>Using United States Government Documents for Genealogical Research</i> This talk serves to un-puzzle federal government documents, provide the researcher with a sufficient working knowledge of government document access tools and indices, and demonstrate how to incorporate these documents into one's research patterns.	Curt Witcher	2D
11:30	Lunch - Attend a Genealogy Help Desk Session. Make your Door Prize selection and browse the vendor area.		
1:00	<i>Where There Is – or Isn't – a Will</i> Often there isn't a will, however there's still a probate. Understanding the process and find the records created when our ancestors died can help break down those brick walls.	Judy Russell	3A
	<i>Demystifying Eastern European Research</i> Border changes, language differences, political considerations, and exotic-sounding surnames often complicate the research process. This session covers the most common myths/misconceptions and how to work around them.	Lisa Alzo	3B
	<i>Irish Census and Census Substitutes</i> This session identifies the various surviving record sources that will help in reconstructing families during the 17 th and 18 th centuries, plus discuss the existence of name lists and census substitutes vital to successful 19 th and early 20 th century research.	David Rencher	3C
	<i>German Migration into the American Midwest</i> This presentation provides a basic strategy for uncovering information about why Germans migrated to the Midwest and the various routes they took to their destinations. Migration and settlement patterns are explored through published sources. Careful research into local history data and sources is emphasized as well as the use of unusual sources.	Curt Witcher	3D
2:00	Break (30 minutes) – Check to see if you've won a door prize! Last chance to visit the vendors.		
2:30	<i>ABCs of DNA</i> Learn about the 3 major test types – YDNA, mitochondrial (mtDNA) and the new autosomal DNA testing – and see what each offer to the genealogist.	Judy Russell	4A
	<i>Crossing the Pond: Successful Strategies for Researching Eastern European Ancestors</i> Traditional methods and online resources for tracking ancestors both in the U.S. and the old country will be discussed, as well as techniques for overcoming obstacles and problems faced during the research process.	Lisa Alzo	4B
	<i>FamilySearch Collections – Tips and Tricks</i> This session illuminates tips and tricks to finding and searching various record collections in FamilySearch. Learn new techniques for searching the historical record collections, compiled genealogies and the Family History Library Catalog.	David Rencher	4C
	<i>Why the Allen County Public Library's Genealogy Center? An Overview of Resources for Research</i> This presentation highlights resources at the Genealogy Center of the Allen County Library in Fort Wayne and on their website, genealogycenter.org.	Curt Witcher	4D

CIRCLE EACH SESSION YOU WISH TO ATTEND

Session One (9:00 am)	1A	1B	1C	1D
Session Two (10:30 am)	2A	2B	2C	2D
Session Three (1:00 pm)	3A	3B	3C	3D
Session Four (2:30 pm)	4A	4B	4C	4D

Early member registration: 2/15/18 – 6/15/18 \$50.00
 - Non-members \$60.00
 Registrations postmarked 6/16/18+ and Walk-ins \$75.00
 (No lunch for registrations received after 6/16/18 or walk-ins)

**\$20 Fee will be charged for cancellations prior to 6/16/2018.
 No Refunds after 6/16/2018.**

PLEASE PRINT:

NAME: _____
 STREET: _____
 CITY, ST, ZIP _____
 PHONE: _____
 EMAIL: _____

Box Lunch includes sandwich with lettuce and tomato, chips, dessert, coffee, tea or water. **Gluten free (GF)** choices are included below.

Beef Ham Turkey Vegetarian
 Beef (GF) Ham (GF) Turkey (GF) Vegetarian (GF)

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

**Mail Registration Form with your payment to:
 McHenry County IL Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 184, Crystal Lake, IL 60039-0184**