



Connections

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McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society Newsletter



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Contact Us: newsletter@mcigs.org

November 2018

Resources on Ancestry Library Edition - Jane Haldeman



Ancestry.com, one of the largest genealogy sites, offers a wide variety of resources for the genealogist. This continually evolving website can be personalized to suit the needs of the researcher. Jane will discuss tips and tricks for using the library version of Ancestry.com, including ideas for easy navigation and successful searches.

Jane graduated from the University of Iowa with a BA in Theater. Combining her passions for genealogy and theater she now lectures on technology as it applies to genealogical research. Ms. Haldeman developed and owns "It's Relative", a genealogical service business that provides lectures, workshops, research, and consultations.

Thursday, November 8th @ 7pm
The Pointe Outreach Center
5650 Northwest Highway
Crystal Lake, IL

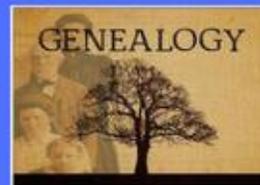
(Located just west of Target)

New Meeting Location beginning in 2019

Mc Henry County College
8900 Route 14
Crystal Lake, IL
January 10th @ 7pm



NEW LOCATION MAP OF McHenry County College



SAVE THE DATE

MCIGS

2019 Genealogy Conference

SATURDAY 13 JULY 2019

Member Spotlight

By Arlene Basten, Membership V.P.

Please help us welcome the newest members to MCIGS:

- Jeanne Aleksiewicz, Trout Valley, IL
- Ronald Sullivan, Crystal Lake, IL
- Donald Wood, West Linn, OR

We would also like to thank the following members for including a generous donation along with their membership renewal dues:

- Sandra Braid
- Barb Holzer
- Diane Lukas
- Shirley Schwemm
- Judy Wojtynek

Current MCIGS OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President (2018) - Kristen McCallum
president@mcigs.org

1st Vice President (2019) - Jan Polep
Programs Chair
jan.polep@mcigs.org

2nd Vice President (2018) - Arlene Basten
Membership Chair
membership@mcigs.org

Recording Secretary (2019) - Laurie Stage
laurie.stage@mcigs.org

Treasurer (2019) - Tami Allred
tami.allred@mcigs.org

Director (2019) Past President - Ann L. Wells
Conference Speaker Liason
ann@wellsresearch.net

Library Chair (2019) - Claudia Conroy
Early Settlers Certificate Chair
claudia.conroy@mcigs.org

Director (2019) OPEN

Newsletter Editor (2018) - Larry Wood
newsletter@mcigs.org

Director (2018) - OPEN

2019 Officer Nominations - Voting at 8 Nov Meeting

PRESIDENT - Arlene Basten

2ND VICE PRESIDENT - Kristen McCallum

DIRECTOR - Larry Wood

DIRECTOR - No Candidate*

* MCIGS is actively seeking another member to run in our November election as a candidate for a Director position with a two-year term.

If you would like to learn more, please contact Kristen McCallum at president@mcigs.org.

MCIGS Important Items:

Membership Renewals - This is membership renewal month. Please take the time to send in your renewal and check. If you want to receive this newsletter as a paper copy mailed to you that is an extra charge and you need to check the box on the renewal form and include the cost with your renewal. The membership form is here:

<https://www.mcigs.org/online-membership-application.html>

Holiday Party- Again this year MCIGS is planning a Holiday Party in January. **Save the date** - It will be 13 January from 1-3 pm. The location is again the wonderful Turnberry Country Club in Lakewood at: 9600 Turnberry Trail, Village of Lakewood, IL 60014. Cost is yet to be determined, so watch this space for NEWS.

Marengo Newspapers now On Line- The Digitization project for the historical Marengo Newspapers is now complete and online at -

<https://newspapers.mchenryhistory.org>

DNA Boot Camp Webinars- MCIGS has purchased these webinars for your education. These are FREE to members and you can access them at the MCIGS website under the "Member Access" tab. If you have forgotten your password just contact us.

Amazon Smile - Are you an Amazon shopper? MCIGS is now registered with the Amazon Smile program, which means that every time you shop Amazon using the link on our homepage at www.mcigs.org, or selecting our organization from smile.amazon.com a small percentage of your total purchase will be donated to our organization.

Upcoming Events

- 3 Nov 2018 – NWSGS -- DNA Doubleheader,** Arlington Heights Senior Center, 10am.
<http://www.nwsgenealogy.org>
- 7 Nov 2018 -- Family Tree Maker Interactive Presentation, Mark Olsen,** Kenosha County Genealogy Society 7:30-8:30 pm.
<https://www.kengensoc.com/>
- 8 Nov 2018 MCI GS – Resources on Ancestry Library Edition, Jane Haldeman** at The Pointe, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm. <http://www.mcigs.org>
- 10 Nov 2018 – Illinois at 200: Where Was Your Family?** Workshop at Lake County IL Genealogical Society, 8am-5pm.
<http://lakecountyilgenealogy.org/>
- 14 Nov 2018 – Even Gangsters had to Register. Janis Minor Forte.** DuPage County Genealogical Society. 6:30 pm. <https://dcgs.org/>
- 17 Nov 2018 – Compiling Your Medical Tree” Marsha Peterson-Maass.** BIGWILL Genealogy Society. 10am-12pm. <http://www.bigwill.org/>
- 10 Jan 2019 MCI GS – Maternal Lineage – 3 Genealogy Case Studies, Larry Wood** at The Mc Henry County College, IL, 7pm.
<http://www.mcigs.org>
- 13 Jan 2019 MCI GS – Holiday Party, Cost to be Determined.** Turnberry Country Club, Lake In The Hills, 1-3 PM <http://www.mcigs.org>
- 9 March 2019 MCI GS – Dupage County 44th Annual Conference** at NIU Conference Center, Naperville, IL <https://dcgs.org/>
- 8-11 May 2019 -- Journey of Discovery, National Genealogical Society Conference,** St Charles, MO <http://www.conference.ngsgenealogy.org>

Library Report By Claudia Conroy

We have been offered a copy of a memoir of Gladys Coffee Mellor who was born in Harvard in 1895. It is 130 pages long, typed double spaced. It was found by a neighbor friend, Janet Goff, who is offering it to us if we will copy the original and have it bound, and then return the original to her. I have contacted Janet Goff and agreed to do this. I'll then place it in the McHenry Library.

I have ordered The Family Tree Scottish Genealogy Guide to be released 1 November 2018. Price was \$13.50 + \$4.95 shipping and handling - \$18.45. It will be placed in the Crystal Lake Public Library. I have checked with them and they had no plans to order it.

Libraries Help Unlock the “Key” By Claudia Conroy

Sometimes when searching for a record in the catalog section of the FamilySearch database the record shows up listed with a symbol of a camera with a key above it. It looks like this: 

This symbol means that the records are unavailable to read while at home. Many of these records can be viewed while at a Family History Center or at a Family History affiliate library. The Family History Center in McHenry County is in Crystal Lake at the Church on 480 N. Walkup Road. https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Crystal_Lake_Illinois_Family_History_Center. Park in the small parking lot just north of the Church. Go to the door facing Walkup and press the doorbell. You can bring your own laptop or use one of theirs. Check their website for hours as they have limited hours.

Another option to view these “locked” records is to visit an affiliate library which has a contract with FamilySearch. Currently there are two libraries in McHenry County with this affiliation, the Algonquin Public Library and the Cary Area Public Library. Both the McHenry Public Library and the Huntley Area Public Library are in the process of finalizing their contracts with FamilySearch but check ahead of time if you plan on using one of those two libraries. When using an affiliate library FamilySearch will automatically recognize the IP address so you won't need any special login other than the one you normally use for FamilySearch. You can find the film you need and the camera icon will be visible without the key above it.

A note about why some records are “locked” only to be viewed at a Family History Center or affiliate library, or possibly only in Salt Lake City: according to our most recent speaker, Maureen Brady, access is all determined by the owner of the record set. The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints has filmed or digitized records owned by other churches, governmental agencies, other societies, etc. These owners determine the limits on viewing their records. FamilySearch has no control over accessibility.

Revolutionary Daughter - By Chris Brookes

Margaret Foulke was the daughter of American Revolutionary soldier Stephen Foulke. He was married three times, and Margaret was the youngest of his seventeen children. She loved horseback riding, and, as a young woman, once rode 80 miles from her home in Pennsylvania to Baltimore in just two days' time.

In 1812, Margaret's future husband, Gideon Low, entered the Army as an Ensign. He served in the 22nd Pennsylvania Infantry, part of Col. Winfield Scott's regiment, during the War of 1812. At the close of the war, when his unit was disbanded, they married and he went into the dry goods business. During the war the Native American Indians had sided with the British and participated in the battle at Prairie du Chien, the only battle in Wisconsin territory. One result of the war was the government's acknowledgment that the frontier, and especially the fur trading industry, needed protection.

Consequently two forts were built along the Wisconsin and Fox Rivers, Fort Howard at Green Bay and Fort Crawford at Prairie du Chien. But would that be enough?

Three years later, Gideon Low was called back into service and ordered to Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis. Margaret packed all their belongings, including a large Sheraton-style sideboard and her china, and began life as an Army wife. She followed Gideon from post to post, bearing two children, traveling through swamps, plains, prairies, and forests, until finally arriving at a new fort built in 1828 at the portage of the Fox and Wisconsin, Fort Winnebago, her sideboard and china still intact. Her husband was now promoted to Captain and became commander of the fort in 1831.

The Low's lived in a four room house (which must have seemed like a mansion on the frontier) the Army had purchased from Francois LeRoy, a man who ran the portage business for the fur traders. The house had served as a sutler's store for a time and

later became the quarters for the fort Surgeon, a hospital building being constructed nearby.

There was only one woman at the Fort when the Lows arrived, the wife of Commander Twiggs. Soon another couple, John and Juliette Kinzie, came in when John became the Indian Agent for the territory. Later John brought his mother, sister, and other family members from Chicago. They passed by Geneva Lake in 1831, the "first white people" to see the sheet of clear water once known as Lake Big Foot.

Just before Gideon Low retired from the Army, he built the Franklin House hotel in the new town of Portage that had grown up around the fort. Due to declining health, Gideon sold the hotel, and he and Margaret moved into the Agency house that was now vacant. After Gideon died of consumption, Margaret continued to run the house as a boarding house. The garrison left the fort in 1845, the land was sold in 1853, and shortly after, fire consumed most the fort's buildings. Margaret moved in with her daughter in Mineral Point where she died at the age of 91.

This article by Chris Brookes, co-president of Walworth County Genealogical Society (WCGS), appeared in the August issue of the WCGS newsletter and is reprinted here with permission. As the "Literature Lady", Chris portrays historical and literary characters in research-based, one-woman shows around the Midwest. Recently, Chris brought Margaret Foulke Low to life at the Bicentennial Celebration of the Fort Winnebago Surgeon's Quarters, Portage, WI for the Daughters of the American Revolution, custodians of the Surgeon's Quarters. This article is snippet of the presentation.

Hint of the Month - Larry Wood



Work backwards in time. It's easier to work methodically from a fact such as the date of birth or a marriage of a relative than to try and trace down from a person you don't know much about.

