



What's New On the Internet?



Caron Primas Brennan

There are new genealogy sites on the Internet every day.

This fast-paced presentation is a review of popular, new, little known, and perhaps unusual genealogy resources on the Internet to help you in your research.

Caron is the Recording Secretary for the Chicago Genealogical Society for 2017-2018 and the Recording Secretary for the Illinois State Genealogical Society for 2018-2019.

When not working at her day job, researching her own family tree or making genealogy presentations, Caron may be researching for others or writing for her blogs!

2019 Officer Nominations By MCIGS Board

NOMINATIONS

- 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. Directors are responsible for attending monthly board meetings, advising the President and the board on current trends and issues related to the field of genealogy, voting on motions related to our finances and programs, and helping us plan for the future. Directors may also be asked to serve on committees as assigned by the President.

Requirements:

- Proficiency with e-mail and basic word processing.
- Ability to attend board meetings on the 3rd Thursday evening of each month.
- Desire to make our genealogical society the best it can be for all of our members.

If you value what we do at MCIGS, please carefully consider serving on our Board of Directors. You don't need to be an expert genealogist, just someone who cares about continuing to provide great programs and services to our members. If you would like to learn more, please contact Kristen McCallum at president@mcigs.org.

Thursday, October 11th @ 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

Member Spotlight

By Arlene Basten, Membership V.P.

Please help us welcome the newest members to MCIGS:

- Andrew Costa, Lincoln, NE
- Jeff & Sharon Hill, Woodstock, IL
- Ronald Sullivan, Crystal Lake, IL



Jeff and Sharon Hill are both retired. She from the O.R.(RN) at Centegra Woodstock and I from TWA.

Jeff said he was fortunate to 'inherit' a lot of genealogy work from older relatives who are now gone. I was keeping everything on Family Tree Maker but have been gold bricking for the last twenty years or so, and have a lot of births, deaths, and marriages to enter. I'd also like to add a lot of pictures and text. My worry is that Family Tree Maker is no longer being sold or supported so I think I will have to move everything to -- where?

Surnames on my Jeff's side of the family are Hill/Kruse and Nienaber/Brophy. On Sharon's, Ainsworth/Byrnes and Ainsworth/VanDyne. I have everything back to the first-generation immigrants and in the case of Van Dyne a pretty complete history going as far back as the 1700s in New Jersey and New York.

October is the beginning of our 2019 MCIGS membership renewal period. Application forms will be available at the October meeting for your convenience. Remember, you can also renew online at our website www.mcigs.org and use the convenient PayPal option. *We are currently 250+ members strong!*



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

Volunteer Coordinator (2019) OPEN

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

Director (2018) - OPEN

Upcoming Events

- 6 Oct 2018 – NWSGS -- Newspaper Research: Beyond the Birdcage**, Arlington Heights Senior Center, 10am. <http://www.nwsgenealogy.org>
- 9 Oct 2018 - LCIGS, 1-8:30 PM "Researching Colonial American Ancestors"** by Jane Haldeman Vernon Hills Village Hall. <http://lakecountyilgenealogy.org>.
- 11 Oct 2018 MCIGS – What's New On the Internet**, Caron Primas Brennan at The Pointe, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm. <http://www.mcigs.org>
- 13 Oct 2018 - DNA Special Interest Group**, Schaumburg Twp District Library. 12:30pm. <http://www.caggni.wildapricot.org>
- 20 Oct 2018 – Unchopping Down my Johnson Family Tree with DNA & Research**, Jeffrey Bockman NIU Conference Center 10:30 am - 12:15pm. <http://www.caggni.wildapricot.org>
- 26-27 Oct 2018 – Illinois State Genealogical Society Fall Conference**, President Abraham Lincoln Hotel, Springfield, IL <https://ilgensoc.org>
- 27 Oct 2018 Paying it Forward**, Maureen Brady – Cary Public Library, 1:30 - 3 pm. <http://www.caryarealibrary.info>
- 3 Nov 2018 – NWSGS -- DNA Doubleheader**, Arlington Heights Senior Center, 10am. <http://www.nwsgenealogy.org>
- 8 Nov 2018 MCIGS – 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?** at Lake County IL Genealogical Society, 8am-5pm. <http://lakecountyilgenealogy.org/>
- 10 Jan 2019 MCIGS – Maternal Lineage – 3 Genealogy Case Studies**, Larry Wood at The Mc Henry County College, IL, 7pm. <http://www.mcigs.org>
- 8-11 May 2019 - National Genealogical Society Conference – Journey of Discovery**, St Charles, MO <http://www.conference.ngsgenealogy.org>

Hint of the Month - Larry Wood



Don't forget to check surname and locality message boards. Even though so many people use social media, older posts on genealogy message boards may still lead to a breakthrough.



The 15 Habits of Highly Frugal Genealogists by Thomas MacEntee

©2017, copyright Thomas MacEntee. All rights reserved. For more information, please visit *Abundant Genealogy* at <http://abundantgenealogy.com>.

(Continued from Last Month, also note there are actually 16 habits - Editor)

Bonus Habits: But Wait, There's More!

Just like an infomercial on television, we have found some additional ways for you to save money when researching your roots:

8. Abandon Your Online Shopping Cart. One trick to use is this: add items to a vendor's online shopping cart and let it sit for a few days. Then go in and "cancel" your cart. It is likely that the site will send you an email with a special discount to lure you back so you can finalize your purchase.

9. Convert Gift Cards to Amazon Credit.

Are you sitting on several Visa or MasterCard gift cards with small balances? Did you know that you can purchase an Amazon Gift Card for an exact amount, like \$7.54 and then use it to purchase genealogy books or other items on Amazon? A great way to make sure you don't lose money on those pre-paid debit/gift cards!

10. Don't Be Afraid to Cancel.

Once you cancel a service, don't be surprised if they contact you and ask why you left. Be honest with them and tell them why. They may offer you a greatly discounted price or a free month of their service.

11. Become An Affiliate.

If you run a website or a blog, you can sign up with many vendors to be an affiliate of that site. What does this mean? It means that you can earn money based on sales made through special links on your site. Many of the major genealogy vendors have these affiliate programs. And Amazon has a program as well. You may not get rich, but you could earn enough money to offset costs.

12. Avoid Impulse Decisions.

Just like shopping at the grocery store on an empty stomach, you need to use some common sense when making genealogy related purchases. When considering a purchase, even a small one (because the small ones add up, right?), set it aside and come back to the website or shopping cart a few hours or days later. Also, disable any "one click" shopping mechanisms like those used on **Amazon**. If the purchase process takes several steps, you are more likely to reconsider the purchase. It might turn out that the "must have" item is one quickly forgotten about in a few days.

13. Get the Conference Discount.

Many genealogists attend national or state conferences which involve travel, hotel accommodations and other items - all costing money. Try to attend conferences that have a roommate matching service so you can split hotel costs, if you are comfortable sharing a room. Also consider ride-share services like **RideBuzz** to save on transportation costs. And what about volunteering? Many conferences are willing to either comp your registration or give you monetary credit towards the cost if you commit to a certain number of volunteer hours.

14. Get the Senior Discount.

Again it comes down to not being shy about asking. Here in the US, the American Association of Retired Persons or AARP, allows membership starting at age 50. And with membership comes huge discounts on many items, including an Ancestry.com subscription!

15. Check for Society Discounts.

Many genealogy societies and even professional organizations, including the Association of Professional Genealogists (APG), offer discounts to their members. Example: as a member of APG, you

get a free Mocavo Gold membership. Simply email the Mocavo support team at support@mocavo.com to request a complimentary account.

16. Check with Your Employer.

Did you know that the Microsoft Home Use Program lets you download Microsoft Office and other programs for a one time price of \$9.95? Your employer must use the Microsoft program and be enrolled in the program.

Be Frugal, Not Foolish

With all these tips and tricks to save money, it could be easy to try and squeeze out every penny while still trying to do your genealogy research. Make sure that your efforts and technique are rooted in reality.

Here are some areas where being overzealous when it comes to savings and discounts can backfire:

- Don't share login credentials. Many services don't allow multiple logins using their credentials to access the site. Doing so is usually a violation of the Terms of Service for the site and you could find your account cancelled and you won't get a refund on what you paid. Websites can track your IP address and actually see if there is more than one login at a time. Don't take the chance of being banned from a genealogy website!
- Read the Terms of Service before you buy. Fully understand how the website services work, especially if there is an auto-renew process. It is your responsibility to read all the text and to make a decision on whether or not to use the site. If something isn't clear, email or call to get clarification.
- Watch for Expiring Credits! Some sites allow you to purchase credits and use them as needed to download records. However, most credits expire after a set date, usually a year from purchase. Don't be caught short when it comes time to get that needed record and you're wondering what happened to all those credits!
- Don't Try Multiple Intro Accounts. Many of the vendors have gotten smart to those who use different email addresses to sign up for a 7 or 14-day intro to a genealogy website. Most sites will track your IP address instead. Also, you'll likely receive a phone call from the service asking if you have any questions or need help with the site.

