



# MCIGS

McHenry County IL Genealogical Society

## Connections Newsletter

Volume XLII, No. 9

McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society

September 2023



***Thursday, 14 September 2023***

**7 PM**

McHenry County College

Room A240

8900 Route 14, Crystal Lake, IL

***“Germans to the Midwest”***

Scott Norrick, Speaker

More than five million Germans came to the United States in the 1800s and the majority moved to the Midwestern “German Triangle.” Find out why they left Germany, where in the Midwest were Germans found and how their cultural influenced the Midwest.

Scott Norrick is the owner of Ancestral Past and is a member of the National Genealogical Society, Association of Professional Genealogists, and the New England Historical Genealogical Society. He graduated from U of I and received his master’s degree from Northwestern University.

## *From the President.....*

Can you believe the official end of summer is right around the corner? Where does the time go?!

I hosted a successful mini-family reunion a few weeks ago. Lots of planning, but it seems everyone had a great visit, so well worth it. Hopefully, your summer activities or in the holidays to come, you'll also meet with family to share old memories and make some new ones.

I won a one-year membership to MCIGS some years ago at the Annual Summer Conference and here I am! I volunteered to be a board member/Director, then became secretary, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President-Membership and now I'm President. Although the apprehension was there, I discovered the positions weren't difficult and the board members were extremely helpful sharing information and helping me along.

Our board has some open positions and we're looking for people who will give us input, add suggestions and ideas. Currently we're focusing on extra activities such as field trips, surname projects and planning our conference.

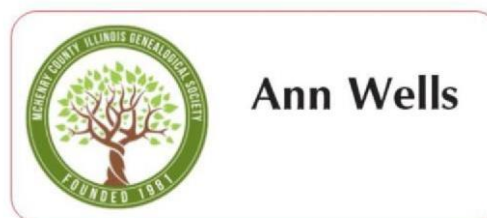
Please consider giving some of your time and talent to help your board.

*Laurie Stage  
President*

## *Name Tags*

We have new name tags. If you are interested in owning one, they are either \$7.50 for one with a pin clasp or \$8.00 with one with a magnetic back. If you want to order one, you can do that at the next meeting.

Our new look:



## *Upcoming Events*

All times are CDT unless otherwise indicated. H=hybrid; V = via Zoom, P=in person only

**5 September 2023, Tuesday, 9:30 AM (H)**  
Elgin Genealogical Society, "In They Came" presented by Teresa McMillin. To register for Zoom contact [elgingenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:elgingenealogy@gmail.com). Meeting at Gail Borden Library, 270 N. Grove Ave., Elgin, IL.

**9 September 2023, Saturday, 10:00 AM (P) –**  
South Suburban Genealogical & Historical Society, "History of Chicagoland in Maps" Presented by Donald and Tanya Smith. In person, SSGHS Library, 3000 W 170<sup>th</sup> Place, Hazel Crest, IL See [ssghs.org](http://ssghs.org) for more information.

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**9 September 2023, Saturday, 1:30 PM (H)**, Winnebago & Boone Counties Genealogical Society. “Learning to Use the Genealogy Center Catalog,” with speaker Allison DePrey Singleton. Meeting at Rockford Public Library East Branch, 6685 East State St, Rockford IL For Zoom, register:  
[us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwtcu msgDovGdYJ3EXYDIM8E-3tDV7e4g1f4](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82616708411)

**12 September 2023, Tuesday, 7:00 PM (H)**, Lake County Genealogical Society. “Tales of Wales, The Lords of Llaneugrad.” Speaker is Gill Hodgkinson. Vernon Hills Village Hall 290 Evergreen Cr., Vernon Hills. Contact [LCIGS1170@gmail.com](mailto:LCIGS1170@gmail.com) for registration information for Zoom.

**12 September, Wednesday, 7:00 PM (H)**, Fountaindale Public Library Genealogy Club, “All Politics are Local”. Presented by Tina Beard. Register:  
<http://www.fountaindale.org/events>. Fountaindale Public Library, 300 W Briarcliff Road, Bolingbrook, IL

**16 September 2023, Saturday, 10:00 AM (H)**, BIGWILL, (British Interest Group of Wisconsin and Illinois), “Following the British Disapora” with speaker Maureen Brady. Richmond Community Church, 5714 Broadway, Richmond, IL. Register for Zoom meeting:  
[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEvduugpi8sGdCth4MbTlocF3 8nNiBI ZyM](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82616708411).

**16 September 2023, Saturday, 10:30 AM (H)**; CAGGNI (Computer Assisted Genealogy Group of Northern Illinois) “Organizing Your Genealogy Using OneNote. Presenter: Liz Ross. Register <https://caggni.org/event-5216496/Registration>; free for members and \$5 for non-members. Mount Prospect Library, 10 South Emerson Street, Mount Prospect, IL.

**27 September 2023, Wednesday, (V), 11:00 AM**, Fountaindale Public Library Genealogy Club. “Wisconsin Historical Society Collections & Services” Presented by Lori Bessler. Register at <http://www.fountaindale.org/events>.

### ***Last Meeting Review***

Submitted by Sandra Braid

Our August Speaker was Laura Street Chaplin, and her presentation was “Collateral and Cluster Research.” Laura shared information about finding your ancestors by finding both collateral relations as well as cluster members.

She started by giving a definition of ancestors (those you descend from directly), collateral relatives (relatives and family members you do not descend from directly, but who share a common ancestor), collateral lines (researching the surnames of members who married into your surname), and cluster research (known associates of your ancestor). She explained why both types of research (collateral and cluster) are important. Laura said that our ancestors really knew how to network and then she gave several common sayings and asked how those sayings might apply to your research.

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Laura also explained about the F. A. N. Club principle and then provided several best practices for both Collateral research as well as Cluster research. Laura also stated that it is always better to do both Collateral Research and Cluster Research for each generation before moving to the next generation. She included many examples from her own research in her presentation. Her handout included almost a full page of further resources including tips for using YouTube as well as the BYU Library.

## ***MCIGS Update***

Summer is gradually winding down and for MCIGS, that means we are looking towards our Annual Meeting and elections in October. There are two positions that still need to be filled:

**Treasurer:** We need someone to write a few checks a month, make deposits as needed (probably October – January is busiest time for deposits); and create monthly recaps of income and outgoing. We have an accountant who does all the tax filings, etc. Our current Treasurer, Tami Allred, will be more than glad to mentor the new Treasurer and help ease him/her into the position. It isn't a hard job, but you just need a bit of time each month.

**Director:** New directors come and listen and learn about the society, offer suggestions, and participate by voting as needed.

Currently we meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month, at Panera Bread in Crystal Lake at 7 PM. Our meetings generally last about 1 ½ hours. In December the Board meets for dinner to celebrate the past year and the holidays.

Board members do not pay dues while on the board. Every person brings something new and different to the board and we're looking forward to what you have to say and your suggestions. Please contact LaurieStage at [president@mcigs.org](mailto:president@mcigs.org) if you have any questions about these positions.

## ***What Did You Do On Your Summer Vacation?***

What did you do? Traveling to distant places or maybe just locally for your own research? Did you find interesting records while you were researching?

What did you learn that was a surprise? Did you attend a family reunion, big or small? Were you able to put a face to a name that you hadn't before?

Please share your adventures with us and send along a photo if you have one. We'd love to share what you spent your summer doing.

Please send to [annwells@yahoo.com](mailto:annwells@yahoo.com) or [ann.wells@mcigs.org](mailto:ann.wells@mcigs.org).

We really look forward to hearing from you!