



# Connections

www.mcigs.org

McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society Newsletter



Volume XXXIX, Number 9

Contact Us: [newsletter@mcigs.org](mailto:newsletter@mcigs.org)

September 2019

*September Meeting*  
*Jan Polep, V.P. Programs*  
*Next Meeting 12 September 2019*

*MCIGS Website:*  
*A Valuable Resource*  
*Claudia Conroy, Library Chair*



*What's New at*  
*FamilySearch*

*Presented by*  
*Maureen Brady*

FamilySearch gathers, preserves and shares genealogical records worldwide. It offers free access to its resources and services online at FamilySearch.org. The website is constantly changing, so Maureen will share the latest developments concerning FamilySearch features, historic records, classes/webinars, and more. Come learn more about this free site and how it can help you with your research.

Maureen Brady is a former school librarian and computer educator. She has over 25 years' experience with family history research, is a professional genealogist, and owner of Bare Roots Genealogical Services. Maureen has made numerous presentations to genealogical societies, libraries, conferences and workshops. She is co-director of the Crystal Lake, IL Family History Center and is a member of many genealogical and family history societies in the U.S. and Scotland.

MCIGS maintains a website at [www.mcigs.org](http://www.mcigs.org). This website is divided into two main sections, one easily viewed by anyone, and a second section for members only which requires a login to view. This article explains what is in the first section, that is viewable to any website visitor. A second article will be published in the newsletter next month which details the information found in the members' only section.

When arriving at [mcigs.org](http://mcigs.org), one lands on the HOME page. This is where information on the next meeting is posted, as well as information on any special activity, like the Summer Conference or a winter social event. There are tabs at the top of the home page for other topics.

The first tab to the right of the home tab is for MEMBERSHIP. The page contains information on how to join MCIGS, along with a list of membership benefits and projects. You may want to check out all the advantages available to you as a member.

*Continued on page 3*

*We meet at McHenry County College, 8900 U. S. Route 14, Building B, Luecht Conference Center*

## Upcoming Event

**12 September – 7:00 PM – *What's New at Family Search***, MCIGS, McHenry County College, Route 14 & Lucas Road, Crystal Lake, Illinois

**19 September – 7:00 PM – *Tutorials and Webinars for Genealogy***, Elgin Genealogical Society, Gail Borden Public Library, Elgin, Illinois. [info@elginroots.com](mailto:info@elginroots.com)

**21 September – 9:00 AM – *Tracing Treasures Past***, Fox Valley Genealogical Society Grace United Methodist Church, Naperville, Illinois. (Registration ends 12 September 2019) [conference@ilfvgs.org](mailto:conference@ilfvgs.org)

**21 September – 10 AM – *Pins and Needles***, British Interest Group Wisconsin & Illinois – Community Church, 5714 Broadway Street, Richmond, Illinois. [bigwillgen@gmail.com](mailto:bigwillgen@gmail.com)

**27-29 September – *27<sup>th</sup> Cornish Fest & Celtic Celebration & 20<sup>th</sup> Gathering of Cornish Cousins, Mineral Point***, Wisconsin. [info@cornishfest.org](mailto:info@cornishfest.org)

**1 October – 9:30 AM – *Ancestry Tales to Tell***, Elgin Genealogical Society, Gail Borden Public Library, Elgin, Illinois. [info@elginroots.com](mailto:info@elginroots.com)

**10 October – 7:00 PM - *DPO Flow – A Beginner's Look at Organizing Digital Photos*** MCIGS, McHenry County College, Route 14 & Lucas Road, Crystal Lake, Illinois

**25-26 October – *Connecting the Dots...*** Illinois State Genealogical Society Fall Conference, Naperville, Illinois. (Registration ends 4 October 2019) <https://ilgensoc.org>

### Current MCIGS Officers and Directors (Term Expiration, December)

MCIGS  
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[mcigs@mcigs.org](mailto:mcigs@mcigs.org)

President (2020) – Arlene Basten, [president@mcigs.org](mailto:president@mcigs.org)

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Programs Chair (2019) – Jan Polep  
[jan.polep@mcigs.org](mailto:jan.polep@mcigs.org)

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (2020) – Kristen McCallum, Past President;  
Membership Chair [membership@mcigs.org](mailto:membership@mcigs.org)

Recording Secretary (2019) – Laurie Stage  
[laurie.stage@mcigs.org](mailto:laurie.stage@mcigs.org)

Treasurer (2019) – Tami Allred [tami.allred@mcigs.org](mailto:tami.allred@mcigs.org)

#### Directors:

Claudia Conroy (2019), Library Chair; Early Settlers Certificate Chair [Claudia.Conroy@mcigs.org](mailto:Claudia.Conroy@mcigs.org)

Ann L Wells (2019), Newspaper Editor; Conference Speaker & Venue Liaison [annwells@yahoo.com](mailto:annwells@yahoo.com)

Director (2019) OPEN

Director (2020) OPEN

*Our last issue of the newsletter was proofread by Leona Bolton. We look forward to working with Leona in the coming months. Thank you!*

*Continued from page 1*

The next tab explains the **ACTIVITIES** in which the society is involved. There are four categories in the drop-down menu. The first is board meetings. Did you know that anyone can attend a board meeting? Maybe you would like to hear what goes on behind the scenes. Check this section to find out when and where we meet. General meetings is next on the list. Here you can see all the speakers and topics that are planned for upcoming meetings. Meetings and events are also on our **calendar of events** which is next on the list. **Volunteer opportunities** is the last section. Located here is information on how you can become involved. We welcome volunteers who are willing to help with small projects, big projects or ongoing activities. We are happy for any time and effort you would be able to offer. You do not need to be a member to volunteer. All the board members are volunteering their time so when someone else offers to help it is greatly appreciated.

**SEARCH RECORDS** is the fourth tab seen on the home page. This also has a drop-down menu. The first on this menu is **early settlers**. Early settler certificates are awarded to individuals, members or not, who prove they are a direct descendant to someone who settled in McHenry County between 1834 and 1880. Information on how to submit your application is provided here. You can also request a copy of submitted applications for any early settler listed on this page. The second item on the drop-down menu is **ancestor charts**. You can request an Ahnentafel and pedigree chart for any of the names listed. These are charts submitted to MCIGS from 1981 through May 1999. Also under Search Records is **Volume I of Early Records of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church**. Since our goal is to digitize all of the MCIGS books and place them in the member section of the website, this book may be moved there. The following item on the drop-down menu is **newspapers**. Here you will find lists of newspaper articles for which you can order copies. There are a variety of local newspapers listed with

the dates and types of articles available. The fifth item on the menu is **census**. Located here is an every-name (versus surname only) index to the 1880 and 1930 Federal census records for McHenry County. The last item on the drop-down menu in the search records section is **Quarterly Indexes**. This page has both the table of contents for 1983-2013 as well as an every-name index for 1992-2001 for the MCIGS Connection Quarterly editions. We are currently in the process of completing the every-name index for all the editions and that will be posted here when completed.

**RESEARCH HELP** is the fifth tab visible from the home page. The drop-down menu for this section has five topics listed. The first topic is **beginning genealogy**. We have compiled an informative page with steps to success including helpful links to get you started or to help with a brick wall. The next topic on the menu is **McHenry County Research Guide**. This page contains links and contact information to help with obtaining documents and additional help relating to McHenry County genealogy. **MCIGS library collections** is next on the drop-down menu. MCIGS owns over \$45,000 worth of genealogy books. These are housed in the McHenry Public Library and the Crystal Lake Public Library. This page has links to both libraries so you can search their catalogs for needed books. The following item on the menu is **genealogy links**. Here you will find links to government offices, libraries, historical and genealogical societies and local towns. The last topic in the drop-down menu is **hire a local researcher**. Whether you've hit a brick wall or just need some direction, you may find yourself in need of someone to do research for you. We offer a suggested list of local researchers here.

**SHOP MCIGS** is the next tab. The first item on the drop-down menu is **MCIGS publications**. This is where you can get information on purchasing some of the MCIGS publications. The link to World Cat is provided for those books no longer in print. The

*Continued from page 3*

second topic on the menu is **Quarterly**. This page contains the links to the MCIGS Connection Quarterly Table of Contents for 1983-2013 and for the Every Name Index 1992-2001. An option to purchase the Every Name Index 1981-1991 is included. The next item on the menu is **gift certificates**, which might be the perfect answer on what to get the person who has everything. **Nametags** is next on the drop-down menu. Here is where you can order your MCIGS nametag, either with a magnet or pin. Wearing a nametag at a meeting not only helps others remember your name, it gives you a sense of belonging to the group. The last item on the menu for this section is **Flip Pal**. MCIGS is an authorized Flip Pal affiliate which allows us to help you obtain this unique scanner. We have included a video on how to use this tool.

**CONTACT US** is the subsequent tab at the top of the page. The first item on the drop-down menu is **MCIGS board**. Here you will find the names, positions, contact information, and some photos of those of us who serve you on the board. Check us out and consider joining us on the board so we can add your photo here. The second item on the menu is **ask us**. Though we don't have the time or resources to do research for you, we may be able to offer suggestions for you to begin your research or get you over a hump. We have included a form to make submitting your question easy. Of course, we need to add a **donation** section. MCIGS is a non-profit, tax exempt organization. We welcome your donations so we can continue to offer quality programs and other genealogical resources. A link to donate is included on this page. **Obituary requests** is next on the menu. Here you will find the form you need to request a copy of an obituary you found referenced in our online index discussed earlier in this article. **Request an article** is the page you need to order a copy of a marriage notice that was cited in our newspaper indexes. The last item on the menu in this section is **request early settler application**. Located on this page is the application to request a copy of a previously submitted and approved application.

**MEMBER ACCESS** is the last tab you can see at the top of the webpage. Clicking on this will bring you to the entrance of the membership only section.

We will detail what is included behind this membership wall in next month's newsletter.

As you can see the MCIGS website has a wealth of information available to anyone who chooses to check out [www.mcigs.org](http://www.mcigs.org). Our goal is to keep this website up to date, with information of use to members and non-members alike. Please contact us at [mcigs@mcigs.org](mailto:mcigs@mcigs.org) with any broken links or out-of-date pages.

## Conference Photos



*Bev Palmer of Fun Stuff for Genealogists at conference.*



*Lisa Louise Cooke, conference speaker*