

1984



BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P. O. 912 - Rock Island, Illinois 61201

SMOKE SIGNALS

1984 BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING DATES: 7:00 P.M.

- February 22 - Butterworth Center
- March 21 - Butterworth Center
- April 18 - Butterworth Center
- May 16 - Butterworth Center
- June 20 - Butterworth Center
- July 18 - Moline Public Library
- August 22 - Moline Public Library
- September 19 - Butterworth Center
- October 17 - Butterworth Center
- November 14 - Butterworth Center - Annual Meeting - Nov 20

Check the bulletin board in the entry hall for room of meeting.

PLEASE CHECK THESE DATES ON YOUR MONTHLY CALENDARS

1. Board members are requested to attend as many meetings as possible, we need you, and we need a quorum to vote on important decisions.
2. Board members are asked to notify the President if they are unable to attend meetings - in order to determine if we will have a quorum.
3. Board members who cannot attend meetings are asked to get their report, in writing, to the president prior to the Board meeting.
4. Committee Chairman may have a member of their committee attend Board meeting to give the report at any Board meeting.
5. Will the Board members and Committee Chairman please submit a written or typed report at each meeting to the President to be kept on file for 1984.

IT'S A PARTY

For JOINT '83-'84 B.G.S. BOARD MEETING

Date JANUARY 18 - 1984

Time 7:00 P.M.

Place 3114-25 AVE. R. ISLAND ILL.

PLEASE RESPOND - 786-7023

Grace

Blackhawk Geneological Society

The Blackhawk Geneological Society will meet Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Union Federal Savings and Loan, Milan. Lloyd McClelland, Andalusia, will speak on "Research in Salt Lake City," and present a movie, "The Granite Mountain."

At a recent meeting it was announced that Janet K. Pease, Arvada, Colo., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Pease of Moline, Colo., was awarded an Honorary Certificate for "outstanding and meritorius service" by the Illinois Geneological Society. The honoree was nominated by the local society of which she is a member, thereby promoting geneological and historical study and research in Illinois.

Miss Pease has contributed 22 volumes of abstracted geneological material from Rock Island County newspapers. These have been given to the Moline Public Library, Blackhawk Geneological Society and the Rock Island County Historical Society locally as well as contributing articles to state and national publications and the Denver Public Library. Miss Pease was graduated from Moline High School in 1962 and has been a high school history teacher in Arvada since 1968.

Officers installed for the coming year for the society are Grace Eastland, Rock Island, president; Eva Johnson, Moline, first vice president; Phyllis Winthurst, Moline, second vice president; Virginia Horton, Milan, secretary; Diane Lovell, Moline, corresponding secretary; Joseph Normoyle, Rock Island, treasurer; Lorraine Ring, registrar; Barbara Scott, Milan, will serve as historian.

Rock Island Argus 23 Feb. 1984

Q-C genealogists to meet

FEB. 23 - '84
MOLINE DISPATCH

Michael Clegg and Larry Jensen will be the featured speakers at the 10th Annual Quad Cities Genealogical Conference set for Saturday, April 7, at the Moline Viking Club.

Michael Clegg is librarian of the Genealogy Department at the Allen County Public Library in Ft. Wayne, Ind. Previously, he was reference librarian at the Western Reserve Historical Society Library in Cleveland, Ohio. He is extremely knowledgeable about Ohio genealogical research and will speak twice on that subject.

His morning presentation will cover research at Ohio libraries and

archives, using newspapers, vital records and church records. His afternoon talk will include Ohio courthouse research, census and military records.

Larry Jensen is supervisor of the European section of the Genealogical Department at Brigham Young University. He is currently teaching basic genealogical research and German research at BYU.

HE IS THE AUTHOR OF "A Genealogical Handbook of German Research" and will speak twice on tracing German ancestors.

The full-day conference is co-

sponsored by the Blackhawk and Scott County Genealogical Societies. The registration fee is \$16.25. It includes four presentations, morning and afternoon coffee and a buffet luncheon.

There also will be presentation handouts, several genealogical exhibitors and door prizes.

Registration fees should be sent to Quad Cities Genealogical Conference, P.O. Box 932, Moline, 61265. For additional information, call Roger Robinson at 319-324-6546 or Grace Eastland at 309-786-7023.

FEB 23 - ARGUS.

Genealogy Society

Mrs. Kenneth Fritz of East Moline will present the program on "The Huguenots" when Blackhawk Genealogy Society meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Union Federal Savings and Loan Association building, Milan. The Huguenots were French Protestants who were persecuted in France and fled to Germany before coming to America in the 17th and 18th centuries. Persons interested are invited to attend.

Laura Millett, one of the chapter members who are affiliated with the Huguenot Historical Society, has traced her roots to 1618 and is also a member of the Foss-Lowe Family Association, which maintains one of the stone houses on Huguenot Street in New Paltz, N.Y.

MAR 26 - 1984



Around town

Lee VanDeWostine

Is there a prince in your family's past? There could be some very interesting relatives locked away in history's memoirs.

Many members of the Blackhawk Genealogy Society have traced their ancestry as far back as 1618.

The society will meet at 7 p.m. at the Union Federal Savings building, Milan.

Mrs. Kenneth Fritz of East Moline will present a program on "The Huguenots," who were French Protestants who were persecuted in France and fled to Germany before coming to America in the 17th and 18th centuries.

The meeting is open to the public. More information can be obtained by calling Laura Millett, 788-9048.

Genealogy—The Blackhawk Genealogical Society recently announced that Janet K. Pease of Ar-

—BULLETIN BOARD

Continued from Page 32

vada, Colo., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Pease of Moline, was awarded an honorary certificate for "outstanding and meritorious service" by the Illinois Genealogical Society. The honoree was nominated by the local society of which she is a member.

Janet has contributed 22 volumes of abstracted genealogical material from Rock Island County newspapers to various genealogical papers and libraries. She is a 1962 graduate of Moline High School and is currently a high school history teacher in Arvada.

New officers installed in the Blackhawk Genealogical Society for the coming year are Grace Eastland, Rock Island, president; Eva Johnson, Moline, 1st vice president; Phyllis Winthurst, Moline, 2nd vice president; Virginia Horton, Milan, secretary; Diane Lovell, Moline, corresponding secretary; Joseph Normoyle, Rock Island, treasurer; Lorraine Ring, Rock Island, registrar; Barbara Scott, Milan, historian.

The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday at Union Federal Savings & Loan, Milan. Lloyd McClelland, Andalusia, will speak on "Research in Salt Lake City" and show a movie, "The Granite Mountain." The public is invited.

THE SUNDAY DISPATCH, Moline, Illinois

Mar. 4, 1984

7

Genealogist wins award

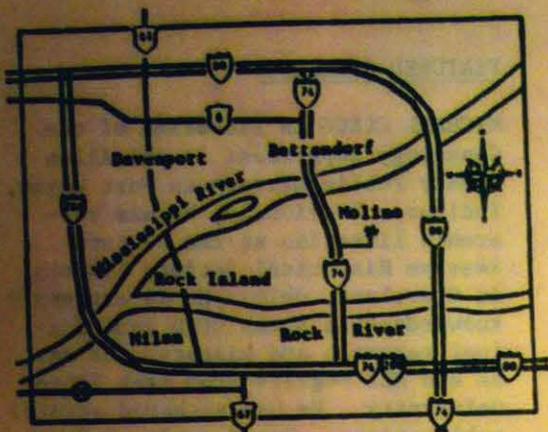
Janet K. Pease, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Pease, Moline, was awarded an honorary certificate for by the Illinois Genealogical Society for her service.



She was nominated by the Blackhawk Genealogical Society, of which she is a member.

Pease has contributed 22 volumes of abstracted genealogical material from Rock Island County newspapers to the Moline Public Library, the Blackhawk Genealogical Society and the Rock Island County Historical Society. She graduated from Moline High School in 1962 and has been teaching high school history in Arvada, Colo., since 1968.

Blackhawk Genealogical Society's new officers are Grace Eastland, Rock Island, president; Eva Johnson, Moline, first vice president; Phyllis Winthurst, Moline, second vice president; Virginia Horton, Milan, secretary; Diane Lovell, Moline, corresponding secretary; Joseph Normoyle, Rock Island, treasurer; Lorraine Ring, Rock Island, registrar; Barbara Scott, Milan, historian.



Take I-74 to 23rd Ave. exit in Moline. Go east on 23rd Ave. to 41st St.; then go North (left) to Viking Club entrance. Look for sign on east side of 41st St., 1400 block.

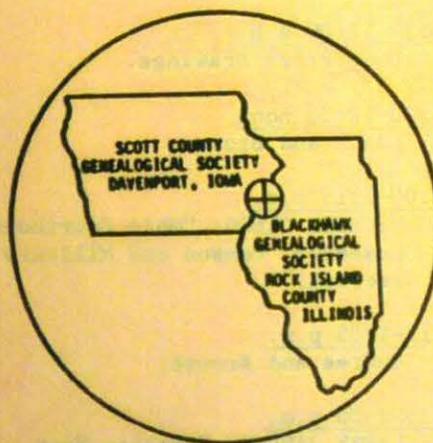
Please Note: The conference committee plans to begin and end the program on schedule for the convenience of those who are attending from out of town.

For additional information: call Grace Eastland 309/786-7023 or Roger H. Robinson 319/324-6546

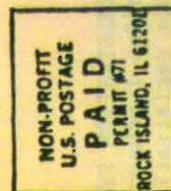
COMMERCIAL GENEALOGICAL EXHIBITORS HAVE BEEN INVITED!

TENTH ANNUAL QUAD CITIES GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE

Saturday, April 7, 1984
7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Viking Club of Moline
1450 41st St., Moline, IL



Sponsored by
Scott County Genealogical Society
Blackhawk Genealogical Society



Quad-Cities Genealogical Conference
P.O. Box 932
Moline, Illinois 61265

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

7:00-7:50 a.m.
Exhibit set up, Registration
and Browse.

7:50-8:00 a.m.
Welcoming Comments.

8:00-9:15 a.m.
MICHAEL CLEGG: "Research at
Ohio Libraries and Archives."

9:15-9:35 a.m.
Coffee and Browse.

9:35-10:50 a.m.
LARRY JENSEN: "Tracing Your
German Ancestors. Part 1."

10:50-11:00 a.m.
Door Prize Drawings.

11:00-12:00 noon
Lunch and Browse.

12:00-1:15 p.m.
MICHAEL CLEGG: "Ohio Courthouse
Research, Census and Military
Records."

1:15-1:35 p.m.
Coffee and Browse.

1:35-2:50 p.m.
LARRY JENSEN: "Tracing Your
German Ancestors. Part 2."

2:50 p.m.
Closing Remarks.

FEATURED SPEAKERS:

MICHAEL CLEGG is librarian of the Genealogy Department at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Previously, he was reference librarian at the Western Reserve Historical Society Library in Cleveland, Ohio. He is extremely knowledgeable about Ohio genealogical research and history. He has BA and MLS degrees from Kent State University. He has authored several publications: Tax Records of Portage, Summit and Medina Counties (Ohio), 1808-1820. Trumbull County (Ohio) Newspaper Obituary Abstracts, 1812-1870. Portage County (Ohio) Newspaper Obituary Abstracts, 1825-1870.

LARRY JENSEN is supervisor of the European section of the Genealogical Department at Brigham Young University. He is currently teaching basic genealogical research and German research at BYU. He is an accredited genealogist and has a BS degree from BYU. He is author of A Genealogical Handbook of German Research. He also lectures on research procedure in Austria, Switzerland, Sweden, Finland, Norway, Denmark and Eastern Europe.

- Registration Form -

REGISTRATION FEE: \$16.25 -- Includes keynote addresses, morning and afternoon coffee, and buffet luncheon. Please submit fee and Registration Form with check before March 30, 1984. Late registrations do not include luncheon. Cancellations will not be honored after April 4. Make check payable to QUAD-CITIES GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE, and mail with Registration Form to the QUAD-CITIES GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE, P.O. BOX 932, Moline, IL 61265.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

PHONE _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

For additional registrations, list name and address on separate sheet and include \$16.25 for each person. For more information, call Roger Robinson at 319/324-6546 or Grace Basting at 309/766-7033.

Genealogical Society

The Blackhawk Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Union Federal Savings and Loan Assn., Milan.

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Ring will present a program on "Record Keeping with Computers." Other types of genealogical records will be discussed. Members are invited to bring records used in their research. Interested persons are invited to attend.

Genealogy — Blackhawk Genealogical Society: 7 p.m. Tuesday, Union Federal Savings and Loan, Andalusia Road, Milan. Each member is asked to bring an heirloom and be prepared to speak briefly about it and the original owner or another former owner. Public is invited. Information: 764-5501.

Aug 1984

Genealogy Society

Mrs. Kenneth Fritz of East Moline will present the program on "The Huguenots" when Blackhawk Genealogy Society meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Union Federal Savings and Loan Association building, Milan. The Huguenots were French Protestants who were persecuted in France and fled to Germany before coming to America in the 17th and 18th centuries. Persons interested are invited to attend.

Laura Millett, one of the chapter members who are affiliated with the Huguenot Historical Society, has traced her roots to 1618 and is also a member of the Freer-Lowe Family Association, which maintains one of the stone houses on Huguenot Street in New Paltz, N.Y.

Genealogical Society

The Blackhawk Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at First Congregational Church, Moline. Scharlott Blevins will present the program. Members are to note the change of meeting place. Those wishing information may call Eva Johnson, 764-5501.

Rock Island Argus
Thursday, Sept. 20, 1984

Genealogy — Blackhawk Genealogical Society: 7 p.m. Tuesday, First Congregational Church, Moline. Mini round tables. Bring books to share. Information: 764-5501. *Quad City Times 10-22-84*

Genealogy

Scharlott Blevins, Davenport, has been elected vice president of the Federation of Genealogical Societies and will represent that organization in April at the annual conference of the Federation of Family History Societies in Wiltshire, England. Ms. Blevins is an instructor of genealogy at St. Ambrose College, Davenport.



Scharlott Blevins

Davenport Times Sat. 22 Dec. 1984

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The annual meeting of the Blackhawk Genealogical Society will be held at 6:00 p.m., 20 November 1984, at the Bethel United Methodist Church, 1201 13th Street, Moline, Illinois. The dinner will be prepared and served by the ladies of the church and promises to be a delicious meal.

A hand-writing analyst will be on the program, so bring a sample of an ancestor's handwriting. It should prove to be an interesting and enjoyable evening.

Now, don't put this aside and say you'll make your reservation later because reservations must be in no later than 15 November, and we really want you to join us for the evening.

Just complete the bottom of this page, make your check payable to the Blackhawk Genealogical Society, and mail them to the address below. We're looking forward to seeing you there.

1985

Genealogical conference being planned

Carol Mehr Schiffman and Donna Reid Hotaling will be the featured speakers at the 11th Annual Quad-Cities Genealogical Conference set for April 20 at the Moline Viking Club.

Schiffman is an experienced genealogist and owner of Genealogy Unlimited Inc. in Buffalo Grove, Ill. She also is associate librarian of the Wilmette, Ill., Branch Genealogical Library. She will make two presentations: "In-

roduction to Genealogical Research" and "Beyond the Vital Records."

Hotaling is a professional genealogist and well-known authority and lecturer on Irish genealogical research. She will speak three times on how to trace your Irish roots and research in Ireland.

This full-day conference is co-sponsored by the Blackhawk and Scott County Genealogical Soci-

ties. The registration fee is \$16.25. This includes all presentations, morning coffee and luncheon.

Registration is limited to the first 300 reservations, so early registration is encouraged. Send \$16.25 check with name and address to: Quad-Cities Genealogical Conference, P.O. Box 932, Moline, Ill., 61265.

For additional information, call Roger Robinson at 319/324-6546 or Grace Eastland at 309/786-7023.

THE ARGUS, Rock Island, Ill., Thursday, January 17, 1985

Genealogical Society

Blackhawk Genealogical Society will meet Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Union Federal Savings and Loan Assn., Andalusia Road, Milan.

The program, "The Columbian Plow and the Columbian Bell," will be given by Vicky Eller. The public is invited.

Genealogical Society

The Blackhawk Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Union Federal Savings and Loan building, Milan.

Darlene Paxton will give the program on "Preparing a Genealogy." The public is invited to attend. Anyone wishing information may call Eva Johnson, 764-5501.

Thurs Feb. 21, 1985

Genealogical group

4-15-85

An all-day Quad-City Genealogical Conference, sponsored by the Blackhawk Genealogical Society of Rock Island County and the Scott County Genealogical Society, will be held on Saturday at the Viking Club, Moline. Registration will be from 7 to 8 a.m., and the conference will continue until 4:30 p.m.

Carol Schiffman of Buffalo Grove will make two presentations, "Introduction to Genealogical Research" and "Beyond the Vital Records." Donna Hotaling of Vienna, Va., will present a program on ways of tracing Irish roots and on research in Ireland at three different times during the day.

Cost is \$16.25, payable at the door, which includes admission to all sessions, morning and afternoon coffee, and a buffet lunch. Information may be obtained from Roger Robinson, 324-6546, or Grace Eastland, 786-7023.

GENEALOGY MEETING 26 March, 1985

The March meeting was held at the Milan Union Federal Savings & Loan, March 26 at 7 PM. Mr. Ted Sloan is to talk on the many resources for genealogical research, including his private library at his office in Davenport, Iowa.

Genealogy Society

4-14-85

The Blackhawk Genealogy Society will have a free informational meeting Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m. in the community room at the Southwest Branch of the Moline Public Library. Phyllis Winthurst will explain the ahnentafel chart and its use, and Grace Eastland will tell of the use of ancestor or surname charts. The session is open to all members and anyone interested in genealogical research.

Genealogical Society

5-23-85

Blackhawk Genealogical Society will meet Tuesday at 7 p.m.

in the Union Federal Savings and Loan Building on Andalusia Road, Milan. Lowell Volkel, president of the Illinois State Genealogical Society and an archivist with the State of Illinois, will present the program. The public is invited. Those wishing more information may contact Betty Westensee, 788-6213.

Genealogical Society

April 18, 1985

The Blackhawk Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Union Federal Savings and Loan Building, Milan.

The program will consist of three "mini round tables" on DAR research, Scott County research and migration routes.

The public is invited to attend, and Eva Johnson, 764-5501, may be

Searching for ties that bind to the past

Accent

Sleeping in a 300-year-old four-poster bed in an inn dating back to the 13th century was one of the delights Scharlott Blevins of Davenport experienced during her two-week visit to England this spring.



Lois Schrage

Vice president of the Federation of Genealogical Societies, which was founded in 1976, she represented the organization at the annual conference of the Federation of Family History Societies in Wiltshire, England. The trip was doubly exciting for Scharlott because it was her first journey overseas and gave her the opportunity to do research on her husband Lewis' family.

Actually, it was her husband's father — "a witty individual" — who first got her interested in family history. "He told the neatest stories about his mother in Jefferson County, Kansas, who smoked a corncob pipe and had a pet pig," she says. "At that time Kansas was a wide-open territory with Indian raiders."

A HOBBY for 17 years, genealogy has grown into an avocation for Scharlott. Past president of the Blackhawk Genealogical Society and of the Iowa Genealogical Society, she was founding president of the Scott County Genealogical Society in 1973. Though she works full time in the registrar's office at St. Ambrose College, she teaches genealogy in the college continuing education department.

A desire to locate missing relatives or to find out if they're descended from royalty are among reasons people seek out their ancestors, Scharlott has found. "Most people have an insatiable curiosity about where they came from," she pointed out. "Those who were well-to-do and owned property or those who were troublemakers and show up in court records are the easiest to research. And the 'black sheep' in a family are the most interesting."

THE AMERICAN Bicentennial "opened the way and brought out a spurt of energy" for discovering family backgrounds, Scharlott explains. "But most people don't know how to proceed." And that's where trained genealogists can help. "Genealogy is becoming a recognized science with more intelligent researchers," she says. "Our purpose is the preservation of records, the sharing of information and elimination of duplication."

In England, Scharlott met plenty of noted genealogists, including Elizabeth Simpson, founder of the Federation of Family History Societies. She was awed to examine parish record books dating back 500-600 years in the Wiltshire County Record Office and to see the mysterious Stonehenge monuments and the Roman baths at Bath, England.

THE CONFERENCE was held in a rural setting, at Dauntsey's School in the Village of West Lavington, located in a gently rolling area. Now a boarding and day school, it was founded in 1543. Scharlott noted the thatched roofs still in evidence and was pleased that the English seem to "take every effort to restore and maintain their ancient buildings." She enjoyed the quaint shops and the quieter lifestyle but found a sense of formality that contrasted with the sometimes too casual manners in the U.S.

"Migration" was the general theme of the session, which dealt with emigration from Scotland, language and culture changes in Wales, "The Traveling Irish," Huguenot refugees in England and tracing merchant seamen. Coffee breaks often featured tea and biscuits, in keeping with the English custom.

SCHARLOTT IS looking forward to returning to England in September for a Family History Conference in Essex, for she'd like to be able to document the fact that one of her husband's ancestral lines, the Stanleys, seems to tie into royal blood. She's been able to trace one branch, the Pumphreys, back to Quakers in the mid-1600s who eventually came to

Kentucky and became Southern Baptists. Another branch included some cattle rustlers named Wedd in Kansas. Great-grandfather Andrew Blevins refused to move when Bales County, Missouri, was threatened by raiders and was shot in the leg. Then three of the Blevins children married three Martin siblings, with the family eventually split by the Civil War.

Though Lewis isn't particularly interested in genealogy, Scharlott finds his family more fascinating than her own, the Goettsches, who came from Germany. Born in Davenport, she graduated from Davenport West High School and attended Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. The Blevinses have two sons, Brian, 19, a student at St. Ambrose, and Corey, 17, who just graduated from Assumption High School. Their interests lie in "bugs and birds," according to their mother.

BEFORE HER NEXT English trip, Scharlott will be traveling closer to home — to the Illinois State Genealogical conference at the Ramada-O'Hare June 28-29 and to the national conference of the Federation of Genealogical Societies Aug. 15-17 in Kansas City, Mo., where she'll speak on passenger ship lists, European records and funding for organizations.

Some day, maybe as early as next spring, Scharlott would like to be involved in coordinating tours abroad, which would offer concentrated opportunity for research. In the meantime, she enjoys attending genealogical sessions: "I've met people from all over the world — we all have family ties, so we're never at a loss for conversation."



At British conference

Scharlott Blevins of Davenport, second from left, is shown with noted genealogists at the British Family History Conference in England. At left is George Pelling, retiring chairman of the Federation of Family History Societies,

and at right Richard Moore, the new chairman, and his wife Marjorie, who was conference chairman. Mrs. Blevins and Mr. Pelling will speak at the Federation of Genealogical Societies' conference Aug. 15-17 in Kansas City.

Genealogical Society

The Blackhawk Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Union Federal Savings and Loan Building, Andalusia Road, Milan. The program will consist of two mini-round tables, "Research in the Newberry Library, Chicago" and "Research in Rock Island County with Emphasis on Research in the Courthouse." The public is invited. For more information, contact Eva Johnson, program chairman, 764-5501.

6-20-85

July 17, 1985

Genealogical Society

The Blackhawk Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Union Federal Savings and Loan building in Milan. Those attending should take an heirloom and some information about the original owner for participation in the program. There will also be an opportunity to share books. The public is invited to attend. Program chairman Eva Johnson, 764-5501, may be contacted for further information.

Aug. 22, 1985

Genealogical Society

The Blackhawk Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Union Federal Savings and Loan Building, Milan.

Scharlotte Blevins will report on her recent trip to England and the Genealogical Conference she attended there. The public is invited. Those interested may contact Eva Johnson, 764-5501, for information.

Obituaries

Moline

Edward Jordan

Edward J. Jordan, 64, of 3102 15th St., Moline, died Friday at Moline Public Hospital after a brief illness.

Funeral services for Mr. Jordan will be at 9 a.m. Tuesday at De Roo Funeral Home in Moline, and at 9:30 a.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Moline. Burial will be in National Cemetery at the Rock Island Arsenal.

Visitation will be from 3:30 to 5 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. Monday at the funeral home, where a rosary will be recited at 6:30 p.m. Memorials may be made to the Diabetes Association.

Mr. Jordan was born in Minneapolis. He married Geraldine N. Hardman in June 1944 in Richfield, Minn.

Mr. Jordan was a 40-year government employee. He was employed at the Rock Island Arsenal for 17 years. He retired in 1981 as a director J.C. A.A.P. Formerly, he was employed Picatinny Arsenal in Dover, N.J. He also spent four years with the Veterans Administration.

He was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church. He was an Air Force Veteran of World War II.

He was a member and past-president of the Black Hawk Genealogical Society and was active in the Boy Scouts in New Jersey. He was a Fourth Degree Knight of Co-



lumbus in Seattle, Wash and a member and past-librarian of the Treasure Hunters Club of Iowa and Illinois.

Mr. Jordan is survived by his wife; seven daughters, Mrs. Jean Rittenhouse of Edison, N.J., Mary Lamanna and Barbara Watson, both Netcong, N.J., Sheila Kappen of Moore, Okla., Margaret Warner of Milwaukee, Wis., Elizabeth Montgomery of East Moline, and Melissa Jordan of Moline; a son, Michael of Frankfurt, West Germany; two brothers, Edward Jordan of Moline and John Jordan of Kansas City, Mo.; and two half-brothers, Peter Wilszek of Minnetonka, Minn., and Dennis Wilszek of Mound View, Minn.

Mol. Dispatch 1986

Genealogical Society slates meeting

Blackhawk Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Oct. 28 in Union Federal Savings & Loan Building, Andalusia Road, Milan.

Program will be questions and answers about the group's library collection at Moline Public Library. Also questions covering getting started and various areas of research.

All members are urged to attend and guests are welcome. A tape from the Illinois State Conference on Genealogical Research will be presented.

1986

1987

Accent Organizations

bara Dunsworth, Davenport, secretary-treasurer. Those wishing more information may call Hurt Gibney, 324-8574, or Ms. Dunsworth, 326-1755.

Genealogical Society

The Blackhawk Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Union Federal Savings and Loan

building, Milan. The program will deal with New York state research, and there will also be a question and answer period for aid in solving genealogical problems. Visitors are welcome.

ARGUS, THUR. FEB 19 1987

Genealogical Society

The Blackhawk Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Union Federal Savings and Loan building, Milan. The program will consist of "show and tell" and browsing. Those attending are asked to bring genealogical books, records, pictures and heirlooms to share with the group. There will also be a question and answer period for help in solving individual problems. Visitors are welcome.

ARGUS, THUR 19 1987

Genealogical Society

The Blackhawk Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Union Federal Savings and Loan Building, Milan. Roger Robinson will present a program on "Probate Records and Wills." There also will be a question-and-answer period for help in solving individual problems. Visitors are welcome.

ARGUS, THUR APR. 23 1987

Genealogical Society

The Blackhawk Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Union Federal Savings and Loan building, Milan. Pennsylvania Dutch research will be the program topic. A question and answer period will also be conducted. Visitors are welcome.

ARGUS MAY-1987

Genealogical Society

The Blackhawk Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Union Federal Savings and Loan building, Milan. Round table discussions will deal with beginning research, and there will be a question and answer period. Genealogists are invited.

OCT 1987

Genealogy meeting

Members of Blackhawk Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Oct. 27 in the Union Federal Savings & Loan Building, Andalusia Road, Milan. Program theme is "Let's Talk About Our Ancestors." Meetings are open to anyone interested in genealogy.

Genealogical society

The Blackhawk Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Union Federal Savings and Loan Building, Milan.

The program will be presented by Cheryl A. Martens-Stang on her experiences as an adoptee searching for birth parents. As a result of her efforts she has founded the organization called "People Searching for People." Visitors are welcome.



THE BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS WELCOMES YOU to the wonderful world of genealogy -- one of the fastest growing avocations or hobbies

in America. It has been said that, "to know your family is to know yourself." The genes of your ancestors contribute to the looks, mannerisms, medical and physical characteristics of you and your cousins.

You are never too young nor too old to gather data and information about your family. The younger the better.

A family history includes the names and relationships of members of your family; vital statistics such as: places and dates of birth, marriage, death and burial; occupations; social, political and other offices; still and motion pictures; military service; biographical sketches; oral and written histories; Bible records; letters and diaries; memorabilia such as medals (sports, scholastic achievement, fraternal society, military, etc.); coins, and other items of historic interest to the family.

THE BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY AIMS AND OBJECTIVES are to:

1. Assist members conduct genealogical research and preserve and perpetuate their family records.
2. Discover, collect and preserve any materials which may help to establish or illustrate the history of the Blackhawk area.

*written & Prepared by
Pres. Ed Jordan*

Speakers chosen for Genealogical Conference May 2

Elizabeth Pearson White of Winnetka and Ray Goody of Indianapolis, Ind., will be the featured speakers at the 13th Annual Quad Cities Genealogical Conference set for May 2 at the Moline Viking Club.

Registration fee for the full-day conference is \$17.25, which includes all presentations, morning and afternoon coffee and a buffet luncheon. Those interested are to send a check with name and address to: Quad Cities Genealogical Conference, P.O. Box 932, Moline, 61265.

A fellow of the American Society of Genealogists and of the National Genealogical Society, Ms. White will give three presentations entitled "The Early Colonial Years," "Expanding the Colonial Frontier" and "The American Revolution and Independence."

Also a member of the National Genealogical Society and the Association of Professional Genealogists, Mr. Goody is primarily interested in genealogical research in the old Northwest Territory (Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin). This will be the subject of his presentation.

Information materials will be available, and genealogical exhibits are planned. Registration is limited to the first 300, so early sign-up is encouraged.

Those wishing additional information may call Lorraine Ring at 788-5906 or Roger Robinson at 324-6546.

Davenport resident elected president of genealogical unit

Scharlott Goetsch Blevins of Davenport has been elected president of the Federation of Genealogical Societies.

The organization was founded in 1976 as a confederation of historical and genealogical societies, family associations, libraries and archives.

Involved in genealogy, history and preservation of records since 1970 on the local, state and national levels, she teaches genealogy courses and seminars through the St. Ambrose College Conference Center.

Mrs. Blevins has served on the federation board of directors since 1981 and is the fiduciary of the National Archives Gift Fund, which provides money for producing archival records and finding aid for researchers as well as other projects for which government funds are not available.

Anyone interested in the fund and courses may write to the federation at P.O. Box 220, Davenport, 52805.



Scharlott Blevins

Federation of Genealogical Societies

Scharlott Goetsch Blevins was recently elected President of the Federation of Genealogical Societies which was founded in 1976 as a confederation of historical and genealogical societies, family associations or organizations, libraries, and archives banded together to support and strengthen genealogy.

Scharlott Blevins has served on the Federation Board of Directors since 1981 and has held many offices in the organization.

For more information on the National Archives Gift Fund and the genealogy courses, write to the Federation of Genealogical Societies, P.O. Box 220, Davenport, Iowa 52805.

FDR related to 11 other former U.S. presidents

Genealogists have shown that John Quincy Adams, Martin Van Buren, William Henry Harrison, Zachary Taylor, Ulysses Grant, Benjamin Harrison, Theodore Roosevelt and ~~Robert~~ Taft.

WILLIAM HOWARD

No kidding?

Franklin Delano Roosevelt's relatives

1. President Grant 4th cousin once removed
2. President Taylor 4th cousin three times removed
3. President Theodore Roosevelt 5th cousin
4. Winston Churchill 7th cousin once removed

Source: American Presidents and Dictionary of Autobiography

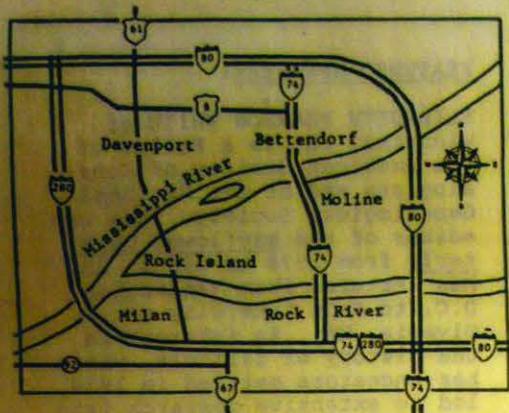


Staff photo by John Greenwood

Genealogical Conference held

The Blackhawk and Scott County Genealogical Societies sponsored the Quad-Cities Genealogical Conference Saturday at the Moline Viking Club. Guest speakers were Elizabeth Pearson White of Winnetka, second from left, and Ray Goody of Indianapolis, Ind., far right. At left is Dean Kling of Rock Island, president of the Blackhawk Genealogical Society, and Eulalia Garrett of New Windsor, chairman of the conference, stands between the speakers.

At left is Dean Kling of Rock Island, president of the Blackhawk Genealogical Society, and Eulalia Garrett of New Windsor, chairman of the conference, stands between the speakers.



Take I-74 to 23rd Ave. exit in Moline. Go East on 23rd Ave. to 41st St.; then go North to Viking Club entrance. Look for sign on east side of 41st St., 1400 block.

Please Note: The conference committee plans to begin and end the program on schedule for the convenience of those who are attending from out of town.

For more information: Call Lorraine Ring at 309/788-5906 or Roger Robinson at 319/324-6546.

COMMERCIAL GENEALOGICAL EXHIBITORS HAVE BEEN INVITED!

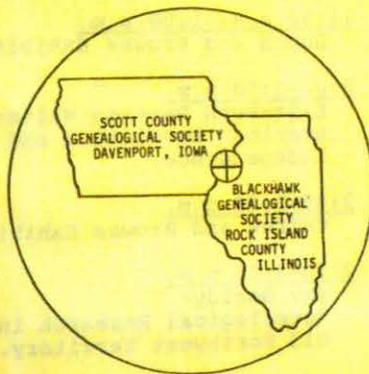
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL QUAD CITIES GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE

Saturday, May 2, 1987

8:30 a.m. to 3:40 p.m.

Viking Club of Moline

1450-41st St., Moline, IL



Sponsored by
Scott County Genealogical Society
Blackhawk Genealogical Society

NON-PROFIT
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 PERMIT # 71
 ROCK ISLAND,
 IL 61201

Quad Cities Genealogical Conference
 P.O. Box 932
 Moline, Illinois 61265

DELMAR G. MOORE
 569 - 21ST AVENUE
 ROCK ISLAND, IL 61201

Prison crew cleans up Riverside

City asked for workers to clear out 'jungle'

By Vernon Squares

Staff writer

When a 13-member work crew from the East Moline Correctional Center ventures out to the community these days, participants know they're undertaking a grave assignment.

For the past two weeks, the crews have spent several hours each work-day clearing a "jungle" in Moline's Riverside Cemetery. The prisoners' efforts have uncovered gravesites that have been hidden for decades, allowing Memorial Day visits for the first time in years by descendants of people buried in the turn-of-the-century graves.

"It's one of those areas where you need before-after pictures to appreciate what they've done," said Bob Genova, manager of special projects for the Moline Park Department. "Before they started working, you couldn't see 10 feet. It was a virtual jungle, as far as jungles exist in this part of the world."

"It's the first time I've been able to see 34th street from the top of the hill in nine years," parks superintendent Alan Efflandt said. The cemetery is bordered on the east by 34th Street.

Mr. Efflandt said the city asked for help from the prison because the park budget didn't provide for clearing the cemetery. The inmates, he said, will put in nearly 3,000 hours, equivalent to thousands of dollars had city employees done the work.

Mr. Efflandt said the cleanup became a priority after a complaint from a person who couldn't reach a relative's grave.

"We've had people coming out looking for the graves of a family member of a loved one," Mr. Genova said. "It was literally a lost cause before. Even with records, a month ago the chances were pretty slim you could find a particular grave."

Warden Otis Washington said the inmates approach the assignment with a good attitude and enthusiasm.



Guards watch as inmates from the East Moline Correctional Center clear brush from a jungle around these Riverside Cemetery graves in Moline time for Memorial Day. (Photo by Fred Marzoph)

"It gives the prisoners a chance to do something that breaks up the monotony of a day-to-day routine within the prison walls," he said. "They take it very seriously, and have pride in their work."

Other projects this summer for EMCOC crews include cleaning up after East Moline's June Jamboree, working in Moline's Memorial Park and doing several projects — including clearing a bicycle trail — in Milan.

"We think it's a good program," Mr. Washington said. "The inmates enjoy giving something back to the community."

Ne

Curious about ancestors? Genealogy group 'finds' them

By Susan Lewis
Correspondent

When you decide to trace your family's history, knowing where to start can seem like the hardest step.

The curious in this area don't have to worry, though. All they have to do is get in touch with the Blackhawk Genealogical Society.

Society member and former president Grace Eastland, Rock Island, has been involved with the group for years. She related that it was started in 1972 by Mrs. Phyllis Normoyle, and Mrs. Bernice Moseley.

"Mrs. Normoyle took a class from Darlene Paxton in Davenport. They felt that there should be a society in the Quad-Cities. This group got together and Mrs. Normoyle was the instigator. They wrote about 300 letters, contacted newspapers, radio stations, libraries," Mrs. Eastland said.

About three months later, the Moline Library said that they could have a meeting there. About 65 people came and 37 joined. Some of those charter members still belong today.

Today, the Society, under the presidency of Dean Ring, Rock Island, has a mailing list of about 200 people. "We try to publish at least one thing a year, in addition to our quarterlies," Mrs. Eastland said. "We also have forms available, and abstracts out of the newspapers."

Various members take on different jobs, such as preparing those abstracts. The people involved are very dedicated, Mr. Eastland said.

To be a member of the Society, though, you don't have to give the group a major time commitment. "There are those people who come to our meetings and just listen. And if they don't do anything special, they learn a lot to help them in their own genealogical research. That's basically what we're supposed to be doing — to help people who are doing research carry it out," Mrs. Eastland related.

A lot of the members are from out of town. Some have traced their roots in the area.

and join in order to find out about their ancestors here.

Besides having members from all over the United States, the Society also has members of all ages. "It's not just a bunch of old people," Mrs. Eastland emphasized. "We have a lot of young people joining. They're becoming more interested as time goes on. They're beginning to want to do this for their children, so they know who they are, where they came from."

"Not only that, but in the medical field this is becoming more important, to know what they died of, what their ailments were. It's becoming useful."

One of the more useful tools in doing genealogical research is the census. The 1850 census is one of the most informative, Mrs. Eastland said. "It tells you the head of the household, the names of the people in the households, and their ages," she explained. Others will even tell you where each person was born.

The Society is always ready to help genealogists, also. People from all over send in questions, and the group's corresponding secretary tries to answer. They also put them in the quarterly in case anybody has an answer.

While a lot of people do become interested in tracing their roots, many lose interest after awhile. At first, Mrs. Eastland explained, you learn all sorts of new things. But then, it becomes harder to find unknown items, and you slow down a bit.

Working also interferes, she added. "In order to do research, you have to do some traveling, you have to spend a lot of time in libraries, and if you're working every day, you can't do this. You have to wait until your vacation," she said.

More people are becoming involved with genealogy all the time Mrs. Eastland said, adding that it does run in cycles. "It depends entirely on what your lifestyle is and how much time you have to devote to it," she commented.

Contrary to popular belief, doing this research doesn't have to cost a

lot of money, Mrs. Eastland stressed. "I could be a total invalid and sit in my chair and carry on my research," she said. "There are some books that are absolute musts. The 'Handbook for Genealogists' tells you where to write anywhere in the United States."

There are a couple good ways to start doing genealogical research, Mrs. Eastland said. One is by taking a class. A couple are offered in the area. "The first thing I would do, though, knowing what I do now, is to join one of the genealogical societies. There's one in Scott County now, too," Mrs. Eastland said.

The two societies offer conferences every spring, and that's a good place to start, too. That way, you can find out if you like it or not.

The society sells accepted forms to fill out when requesting information. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, at the Iowa stake in Davenport, also offers forms. That's a branch of the Salt Lake City library, Mrs. Eastland said, and is an excellent research source.

The Iowa stake has access to everything that's in the Salt Lake City library, and the staff is very helpful, Mrs. Eastland remarked.

To join the Blackhawk Genealogical Society, just show up at a meeting. They're held on the fourth Tuesday of every month, at 7 p.m. They meet at the Union Federal building in Milan, across from the Cinemas.

Membership fee is \$6 a year for a single membership. There is a student membership for \$2, and family memberships are available. For \$100, you can get a lifetime membership.

If you're interested in your family's history, the Blackhawk Genealogical Society is sure to be able to help you gather information, and to help you have a good time doing your research. "It's kind of like detective work," Mrs. Eastland enthused. "We're all snoopy about our families, or we wouldn't be doing this...everybody has a horse thief in their back-ground. Sometimes you're surprised, and find some pretty neat stuff."

the newspapers."

Various members take on different jobs, such as preparing those abstracts. The people involved are very dedicated, Mr. Eastland said.

To be a member of the Society, though, you don't have to give the group a major time commitment. "There are those people who come to our meetings and just listen. And if they don't do anything special, they learn a lot to help them in their own genealogical research. That's basically what we're supposed to be doing — to help people who are doing research carry it out," Mrs. Eastland related.

A lot of the members are even from out of town. These people have their roots in Rock Island County,

and in tracing their roots, many lose interest after awhile. At first, Mrs. Eastland explained, you learn all sorts of new things. But then, it becomes harder to find unknown items, and you slow down a bit.

Working also interferes, she added. "In order to do research, you have to do some traveling, you have to spend a lot of time in libraries, and if you're working every day, you can't do this. You have to wait until your vacation," she said.

More people are becoming involved with genealogy all the time Mrs. Eastland said, adding that it does run in cycles. "It depends entirely on what your lifestyle is and how much time you have to devote to it," she commented.

Contrary to popular belief, doing this research doesn't have to cost a

day of every month, at 7 p.m. They meet at the Union Federal building in Milan, across from the Cinemas.

Membership fee is \$6 a year for a single membership. There is a student membership for \$2, and family memberships are available. For \$100, you can get a lifetime membership.

If you're interested in your family's history, the Blackhawk Genealogical Society is sure to be able to help you gather information, and to help you have a good time doing your research. "It's kind of like detective work," Mrs. Eastland enthused. "We're all snoopy about our families, or we wouldn't be doing this...everybody has a horse thief in their back-ground. Sometimes you're surprised, and find some pretty neat stuff."



Searching the past

Grace Eastland, member and former president of the Blackhawk Genealogical Society, is interested in learning about the history of families. Persons interested in tracing

their family origins are welcome to attend a meeting of the group, held the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Union Federal Building in Milan. (Photo by Susan Lewis)

Someone Special

Preserving, remembering the past is main interest in life

By Susan Lewis

Correspondent

NAME: Lucille Sampson.

HOMETOWN/CURRENT RESIDENCE: "I was born in Coe Township, in the house my great-grandfather built, and grew up there. I left in about 1939 or '40, and came to Rock Island, to go to business school. Then I went up to work at the Savannah Ordinance Depot. That was during the war.

"We got married up there and lived there for a year or so. Then Jim went into the army, and I moved back home and lived with my folks when my first child was born. Then I went back to Savannah for about five or six years. Then we moved to New Lenox. We moved to Rock Island in 1961."

EDUCATION: "I attended grade school in Coe Township, at Fairfield. That was a little country school, with all eight grades in one room. Then I went to Port Byron Community High School, and Rock Island Business."

OCCUPATION: "Volunteer. The Rock Island County Historical Society is the main thing now. I'm an archivist. You see that the collection is taken care of basically — conservation and preservation of the collection. I've been librarian for a number of years, too. You try and collect things that have to do with the history of the area. But an archivist basically is custodian of the collection.

"To collect things, you talk to people, and you think 'Who had to do with (this event)?' You talk to them about getting their collection eventually. Our newsletters publicize that we have need of photographs, genealogies, business histories — anything to do with Rock Island County, the rivers, and the Indians.

"I started there in May of 1974. I've been there almost every Thursday since then."

WHAT DOES SHE LIKE ABOUT IT?: "I love it or I wouldn't be doing it. I'm interested in history. Basically, why I started going over there was because of my interest in genealogy. Knowing that my great-grandparents came to this area, the logical place to look was the Rock Island County Historical Society. I had a friend interested in genealogy, and we both went over there. We saw that the collection needed some work, and we volunteered. I stayed, with my interest in history.

"People need to know about their past. I think it's important that you know who went before you and the things they accomplished. It's important that you know



LUCILLE SAMPSON AT WORK ON THE PAST

part of local history because they were all taken in Moline and Rock Island. There are some we'll never identify. We try to impress on people to identify pictures as you go, in pencil if you can. Sometimes ink bleeds through."

OTHER INVOLVEMENTS: "I used to volunteer at my church, First United Methodist. I go to visit shut-ins, and I help out once in awhile with the Blackhawk Genealogical Society. I also am on the Rock Island History Book Committee."

IF SHE COULD DO ANYTHING, WHAT WOULD HER FANTASY BE?: "To build a library for the historical collection. I might like to go back to Europe someday — Ireland, Sweden, France. I'd like to see where some of my ancestors came from."

HOBBIES: "I'd say genealogy and history are my hobbies. I do some genealogy. I love roses. Roses are my favorite flower. I've got some in my yard. They look kind of

obstacles she faced. It was very difficult for her to do what she had to do because of the male chauvanists who didn't think she was capable. And she was very capable. She could have been president.

"For all the traumas that Mrs. Kennedy has had in her life, I think that she has been an outstanding Christian lady. I don't know too many people who could hold up under what she's gone through. She had to have had a deep faith, or she couldn't have done it.

"(Locally,) I admire Miriam Weeks and Helen Marshall, too. Miriam is a very strong individual. She sets goals and organizes herself and completes her goals. She was one of three ladies that started the Girl Scout movement in this area.

"Helen has a marvelous sense of humor for one thing, and she loves reading and history. She's just a real nice individual. She has a wealth of information in her brain. She's kind of a walking history book as far as this area is concerned."

"Those women were kind of

Elsie Roba

Services for Elsie Knaack Roba, 71, of 902 West 16th St., Davenport, formerly of Moline, are 10 a.m. Friday at her church, Trinity Lutheran, Moline. Burial is in Moline Memorial Park.

Visitation is 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday at Trimble Funeral Home, Moline. Memorials may be made to the church or a favorite charity.

She died Tuesday at home.

The former Elsie Knaack was born March 10, 1916, in Moline, where she married Roy C. Roba Aug. 26, 1939.

She was an active in the church. She was a member of Good Will Circle and was the only woman to serve on the Tillberg Hall Building Committee.

The Robas were actively involved with genealogical research. Mrs. Roba had served as vice president of

the Black Hawk Genealogical Society, secretary of the Iowa Genealogical Society, founding president of the Dubuque County Genealogical Society, member of the Scott County Genealogical Society and the Chicago Genealogical Society.

She was also a member of the Rock Island County Historical Society, Thirty-Four Club, Putnam Museum, and Friends of Davenport Public Library. She had formerly been active in PTA and Cub Scouts at Garfield School, Moline.

Survivors include the widow, a son, William H., Davenport; two grandchildren; and brothers Clarence E., Kerrville, Texas, and Henry N. of Sandy, Utah.



Curious about ancestors? Genealogy group 'finds' them

By Susan Lewis
Genealogist

and join in order to find out about their ancestors here.

lot of money, Mrs. Eastland expressed. "I could be a total invalid and sit in my chair and carry on my research."

Book contains items from old Independent

By Helen Gordon

Milan city editor

The first four years of the former Milan Independent weekly newspaper have come alive again.

The Blackhawk Genealogical Society recently has published abstracts from the Independent from May 1902 through December 1906.

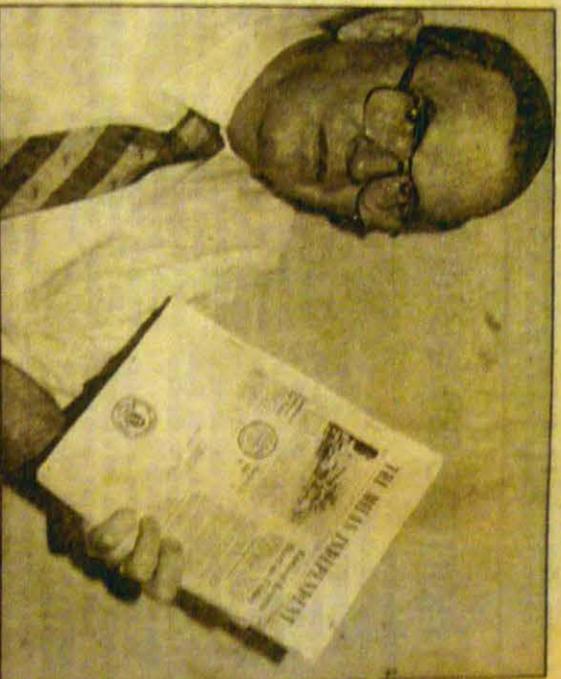
Beginning with the second issue of the newspaper, Janet K. Pease of Arvada, Colo., formerly of Moline who is a charter member of the local genealogical society, compiled the information.

The 250-page abstract include all of the information of genealogical value in the first nearly four years of the newspaper, listing births, marriages, deaths, probates, visits from out-of-county relatives, anniversaries and local histories.

In the left hand side on each page are the surnames of each person that is mentioned in extracts from the newspaper. There also is a 52-page index of over 3,000 names and places.

In the book is a 1905 map of Blackhawk Township that includes Milan and calendars for each of the four years. The calendars will pinpoint a date if the excerpt mentions only the day of the week when an event happened.

The cover of the book is a reproduction of the Sept. 1, 1970, front page of the Independent.



George McMaster holds a copy of the recently published compilation of genealogical abstracts from the former Milan Independent.

The first issue of the newspaper was April 5, 1902. Publication continued for 69 years until April 27, 1971,

when the office became the Milan branch of The Argus. The owners of the Rock Island daily also owned the Independent at the time the weekly Milan paper was discontinued.

All of the original bound volumes of the Independent, except for the

year 1925 that is missing, are stored at the Rock Island County Historical Society building in Moline.

The new genealogical book is available for \$10 plus postage and may be purchased by contacting George McMaster, 785-1613, or by mailing a check to Blackhawk Genealogical Society, c/o Publication Sales, PO Box 912, Rock Island, Ill. 61204-0912.

Abstracts from Milan Independent published

Helen Gordon

Staff writer

The first four years of the former Milan Independent weekly newspaper have come alive again.

The Blackhawk Genealogical Society recently published abstracts from the Independent from May 1902 through December 1906.

The abstract begins with the surnames of the newspaper and was compiled by Janet K. Pease, Arvada, Colo., formerly of Moline, a charter member of the local genealogical so-

ciety.

The 250-page abstract includes all of the information of genealogical value in the first nearly four years of the newspaper — births, marriages, deaths, probates, visits from out-of-county relatives, anniversaries and local histories.

On the left side on each page is the surname of each person mentioned in the extracts from the newspaper. There also is a 52-page index of names and places.

Blackhawk Township, which includes Milan, and calendars for each of the four years. The calendars will pinpoint a date if the excerpt mentions only the day of the week when an event happened.

The cover of the book is a reproduction of the Sept. 1, 1970, front page of the Independent.

The first issue of the newspaper was April 5, 1902. Publication continued for 69 years until April 27, 1971, when the office became the Milan branch of The Argus. The owners of the Rock Island daily also owned the Independent at the time the weekly Milan paper was discontinued.

Rock Island daily also owned the Independent.

All of the original bound volumes of the Independent, except for the year 1925, which is missing, are stored at the Rock Island County Historical Society building in Moline.

The new genealogical book is available for \$10 plus postage and may be purchased by contacting George McMaster, 785-1613, or by mailing a check to Blackhawk Genealogical Society, Publication Sales, P.O. Box 912, Rock Island, Ill. 61204-0912.



Plans retirement

Pamela Langston, retiring Rock Island Public Library reference librarian, sits in the library's historical room with some of her favorite volumes — geneological histories.

Mrs. Langston has worked at the library since 1946. (Photo by Anna Varela)

Reference librarian to retire

By Anna Varela

Staff Writer

"How do you join the French Foreign Legion?" "Is it raining in Moscow?"

These are a few of the unusual questions that Pamela Langston, retiring Rock Island Public Library's reference librarian, has had to answer over the years.

The job of a reference librarian is "never dull," she said. "You just never know what you're going to be asked next."

Mrs. Langston, who has worked at the library since 1946, did get answers for the French Foreign Legion and Moscow rain questions, but she said her first reference question didn't work out so well.

After spending about a week trying to track down the origin of the phrase "Mexican standoff," Mrs. Langston had to admit defeat.

"Some of (the questions) might seem a little strange, but to that person they're important."

She said she likes "the challenge sometimes of having a really sticky question and finding the answer to it."

Most calls to the library reference desk come from the average person at home who is attempting something. The library also gets a lot of calls from people in business who are looking for information on their industry.

ough questions, she said. "One of the things you have to learn as a reference librarian is to find out exactly what people want."

Born in Wellingborough, England, she went to high school at Wellingborough Girls' School. After graduating early, she worked for nearly a year in a library in that city before continuing her education at Homerton College, an affiliate of Cambridge University.

She majored in French, but after finishing her schooling, she taught English and math for two years in a boys' school.

Mrs. Langston came to the U.S. in 1946 after marrying a U.S. serviceman from Rock Island.

Caleb Langston, a former clerk for the Rock Island Lines, was with the 8th Army Air Corps in England. More recently he worked as an upholsterer with the 11th Street Glass Center. He is now retired.

Mrs. Langston began working in the library a few months after arriving in Rock Island. She started in the children's department in the afternoon, working at the circulation desk in the mornings. In 1948 she took time off to care for her children.

In 1950 she resumed working with the library, spending this time in the adult department. She worked as a reference librarian, and later in the geneological department.

ever since. She has also indexed the Rock Island Argus for the library over the past several years.

Mrs. Langston has several activities planned out for her retirement. She intends to devote more time to working with the Rock Island Historical Society and the Blackhawk Geneological Society.

A member of Beta Sigma Phi, a sorority that raises funds for local charities, she has also joined the Franciscan Hospital auxiliary and is challenged by London Times cryptic crossword puzzles.

She said many people have told her they would like to work in a library because they enjoy reading books. "If they only knew I have to get home before I have time (to read)," she said.

Now that she's retiring, "I'll probably have more time to read all the books I've put on my list over the years to read when I have time."

Mrs. Langston said she favors older classical works of both British and American literature. Among her favorite genres are historical novels, biographies, mysteries, suspense, and family sagas.

Her last day of work will be Aug. 28, but she will continue to volunteer at the library, working with geneological materials and indexing.

Mr. and Mrs. Langston have three married children: Bruce, 38, still living in Rock Island; and Greg, 37, and Elaine, 34, both living in Florida.

She has eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Librarian retires from answer hunt

By Anna Varela
Staff Writer

"How do you join the French Foreign Legion?" "Is it raining in Moscow?"

These are a few of the unusual questions that Pamela Langston, retiring Rock Island Public Library reference librarian, has answered over the years.

The job of a reference librarian is "never dull," she said. "You just never know what you're going to be asked next."

Mrs. Langston, who has worked at the library since 1946, did get answers for the French Foreign Legion and Moscow rain questions, but she said her first reference question didn't work out so well.

After spending about a week trying to track down the origin of the phrase "Mexican standoff," Mrs. Langston had to admit defeat.

"Some of (the questions) might seem a little strange, but to that person they're important."

She said she likes "the challenge sometimes of having a really sticky

question and finding the answer to it."

Most calls to the library reference desk come from the average person at home who is discussing something. The library also gets a lot of calls from people in taverns who have a bet riding on the outcome of her research, she said.

A major problem with helping people is that they don't ask specific enough questions, she said. "One of the things you have to learn as a reference librarian is to find out exactly what people want."

Born in Wellingborough, England, she went to high school at Wellingborough Girls' School. After graduating early, she worked for nearly a year in a library in that city before continuing her education at Homerton College, an affiliate of Cambridge University.

She majored in French, but after finishing her schooling, she taught English and math for two years in a boys' school.

Mrs. Langston came to the U.S. in 1946 after marrying a U.S. serviceman from Rock Island.

Caleb Langston, a former clerk for

the Rock Island Lines, was with the 8th Army Air Corps in England. More recently he worked as an upholsterer with the 11th Street Glass Center. He is now retired.

Mrs. Langston began working in the library a few months after arriving in Rock Island.

About 10 years ago she started working in the reference department of the library where she has been ever since.

Mrs. Langston has several activities planned out for her retirement. She intends to devote more time to working with the Rock Island Historical Society and the Black Hawk Genealogical Society.

She said many people have told her they would like to work in a library because they enjoy reading books. "If they only knew I have to get home before I have time (to read)," she said.

Now that she's retiring, "I'll probably have more time to read all the books I've put on my list over the years to read when I have time."

Her last day of work is today, but she will continue to volunteer at the library, working with genealogical materials and indexing.



PAMELA LANGSTON

Library to host genealogical workshop

The Rock Island Public Library will have its second genealogical workshop from 6:30-9 p.m. Wednesday.

The program is entitled "Court-house Records" and will relate to gathering information from any courthouse.

Speakers for the program include Henrietta Kinney, representing the Probate Division of the Rock Island County circuit clerk's office, on the topic of "Probate Records." Recorder of Deeds Dorothy Craig will speak on "Land Records" and County Clerk Richard "Dick" Leibovitz' talk will be on "Vital Records: Birth, Death and Marriage Records."

More than 100 persons attended the first genealogical meeting resulting in a shortage of seating. There will be adequate seating, however, for the remaining workshops.

Each workshop is a specialized program. It is not essential to attend each workshop consecutively, unless desired.

ond floor community room at the library. Refreshments will be served.

Genealogical workshop set

The Rock Island Public Library and the Blackhawk Genealogical Society are hosting their third Genealogical Workshop Oct. 28 beginning at 6:30 p.m. This session will be "Genealogical Information Available at Libraries."

The speakers and topics are: Lucille Sampson, archivist of the Rock Island County Historical Society, "Rock Island County Historical Society Records," Pamela Langston, former reference librarian, "Public Library Holdings," Vicki Oliver, librarian, "Records Available at the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center."

The program will be held in the second floor community room which is located at the Rock Island Public Library. The workshop will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Libraries host genealogical workshop

The Rock Island Public Library and the Blackhawk Genealogical Society are hosting the third Genealogical Workshop at 6:30 tonight in the library's community room.

Speakers for "Genealogical Information Available at Libraries" are Lucille Sampson, archivist of the Rock Island County Historical Society, Pamela Langston, former reference librarian, Vicki Oliver, librarian, on information at the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center.

The workshop is handicapped accessible, free and refreshments will be provided. No reservations are necessary.

Is Mental Illness Inherited?

Amish families offer a clue to manic depression

It is rare to find a chatterbox among the Amish of Lancaster County, Pa. Rarer still is a flamboyant personality, a braggart, a show-off or, at the other extreme, someone who is deeply depressed or suicidal. In this community of quiet-spoken, humble pacifists, such behavior "really stands out against the social landscape," observes Medical Sociologist Janice Egeland, who has spent more than 25 years

pressing afflicts about 1 in every 100 people. Because it causes its victims to oscillate between two extreme emotional states, it is also known to psychiatrists as bipolar affective disorder. In the manic phase, victims become expansive and extravagant, are often unable to sleep or eat, and may talk incessantly. Some assume airs of grandeur. The depressive phase plunges them into hopelessness, loneli-



Members of the Old Order Amish community out for a carriage ride in Lancaster County. An absence of such confounding factors as alcoholism, divorce and unemployment.

ness and boundless guilt, feelings that sometimes lead to suicide.

Researcher Egeland, who is from the University of Miami School of Medicine, and a group of scientists at Yale and M.I.T. confirmed that traditional Amish explanation. By employing the tools of molecular biology along with the handwritten genealogical records of Amish families, they showed that the mental disorder known as manic depression is indeed at least partly a matter of bloodlines. Their report, published in the journal *Nature*, conclusively linked cases of manic depression in an Amish family to genes in a specific region of human chromosome 11. "This is the first demonstration of a possible genetic basis for one of the major mental disorders," says Dr. Darrel Regier, director of the division of clinical research at the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). "The study ushers in a new era of psychiatric research."

Usually beginning somewhere between the ages of 15 and 35, manic de-

pression afflicts about 1 in every 100 people. Because it causes its victims to oscillate between two extreme emotional states, it is also known to psychiatrists as bipolar affective disorder. In the manic phase, victims become expansive and extravagant, are often unable to sleep or eat, and may talk incessantly. Some assume airs of grandeur. The depressive phase plunges them into hopelessness, loneli-

ness and boundless guilt, feelings that sometimes lead to suicide. Researchers have long suspected that heredity plays a role in some if not all cases, and the Amish present an ideal setting in which to test that hypothesis. Not only does bipolar behavior contrast sharply with the community's quiet ways, making it easy to diagnose, but a number of confounding factors that might contribute to such behavior are absent: alcoholism, drug abuse, unemployment, divorce and violence are extremely rare. In addition, the Amish have large families (seven children on average) and keep genealogical records worthy of Mendel. Best of all, they represent a closed genetic pool. All 12,500 Amish in Lancaster County are descended from 20 or 30 couples who emigrated from Europe in the early 1700s, and only a handful of outsiders have ever married in.

Though manic depression is no more common among the Amish than other groups,

Egeland's research turned up 32 active cases. All proved to have family histories of the disease going back several generations. Curiously, all of the 26 suicides documented in the community since 1880 occurred in just four of these families.

The study published last week focused on one 81-member clan. Fourteen members had been diagnosed with manic depression and another five with other mental disorders. Thanks to unusual cooperation from the family, the researchers were able to obtain blood from each member and then isolate DNA from each sample. Using so-called restriction enzymes, they "cut" the DNA into segments. When they compared gene segments from manic depressives with those from normal family members, they found a discrepancy in a region of chromosome 11. Their conclusion: a gene or group of genes in or near this region confers a predisposition to manic depression.

The researchers also confirmed that children of individuals with this genetic anomaly have a 50% chance of inheriting it. However, only 63% of those carrying the gene show signs of the disorder, which suggests that other factors—perhaps environmental—also play a role in bringing on the disease.

Does the same genetic defect play a role in all manic depression? Not necessarily. Two studies also published in last week's *Nature* revealed no link between the chromosome 11 site and manic depression in six non-Amish families prone to the disease. Still, these findings do not undermine the important discovery of a genetic basis for the ailment. Instead, observes NIMH Psychiatrist Sevilla Detera-Wadleigh, who led one of the other studies, they suggest that more than one gene may be involved in manic depression.

The next step for scientists will be to identify the particular gene or genes responsible for manic depression. This will enable them to understand the biochemical basis for the disease, which could lead to better treatments. (The drug lithium carbonate is effective in 70% to 75% of cases.) It could also lead to tests for the diagnosis and identification of people at risk for bipolar disorder.

Egeland hopes for a more immediate benefit from her work. "Too often,"

she says, "personal embarrassment and social stigma are associated with an illness whose cause is beyond the control of the individual." That stigma should be lessened and more people should be encouraged to seek treatment now that scientists have confirmed the source of manic depression can indeed be *in blut*. —By Claudia Wallis. Reported by Andrea Dorfman/New York and Dick Thompson/Washington



Researcher Egeland



Checking out history

Rock Island County deputy clerks Paula Goering, Sandra Lenz and Carol Smolenski, left to right, look at some of the historical documents which were found in

the basement of the county courthouse. The findings will now be preserved on microfilm. (Photo by Terry Herbig)

History uncovered in courthouse basement

By Patrick Seitz
Staff writer

Historical documents dating back to 1836 are being dusted off and dragged out of the basement at the Rock Island County courthouse so they can be preserved on microfilm.

Wills, adoption records and other probate documents are being cleared out to make room for more storage space, said Circuit Clerk Ted Nelson. About 3.2 million documents are expected to be microfilmed over eight months at a cost of \$114,000, he said.

Deputy clerks sorting through old filing cabinets downstairs have found many fascinating documents, including John Deere's will. The farm implement magnate, who died May 17, 1886, at the age of 82, left the bulk of his business stock to his four daughters.

Probate court clerk Paula Goering said workers have found records of other famous area residents and even uncovered the first will ever filed in the county.

The first will was filed in January 1836 by John Butler who made arrangements to have his young son and daughter live with friends until they became adults, if he died. He also parceled out his clothing to relatives.

Ms. Goering said she enjoys reading the handwritten 19th Century wills, because they go into considerable detail.

One elderly widow reported her worldly possessions as a spinning wheel, cooking stove, horse, carriage and cow, among other things, Ms. Goering said. "I would just as soon look at those instead of some of the famous ones," she said.

County workers have spent months pouring over disorganized stacks of brittle, yellowing court records in the musty, claustrophobic basement.

Deputy clerk Sandra Lenz said the dull and dirty basement work gets exciting whenever someone is startled by a giant cockroach.

Her boss, Mr. Nelson, said courthouse employees always know when a large insect has been sighted.

"When you hear a loud scream, you know they've seen a bug big enough to throw a saddle on," he said. Clerks have also confronted mice and centipedes in the labyrinthine basement, he said.

Ms. Goering said the old records are in surprisingly good condition. Many of the documents on legal-size sheets were folded into thirds for storage and some had to be ironed to unbend them, she said. Fading ink is another problem, she said.

Microfilming the documents will not only preserve history, but also make more space and empty badly-needed filing cabinets, Mr. Nelson said.

Mr. Nelson said the Illinois Supreme Court has the final say on who gets to keep the original records, like the Deere will, after they are microfilmed. Historical societies and the county have expressed interest in keeping some of the notable documents.

Beginning genealogy seminars offered

Beginning Genealogy seminars will be conducted by Scharrlot Goetsch Blevins from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., March 12 and 19. For more information, or the location, call 324-7326. Seminar topics will be record keeping, interviewing relatives, types of records and where to find them (such as birth, marriage, probate, etc.) and reading old census records. Ms. Blevins is an author and lecturer on genealogy throughout the U.S. and has traveled to England and Germany, conducting research. She is past president of the Iowa Genealogical Society and founder of the Scott County, Iowa Genealogical Society and the Muscatine County, Iowa Genealogical Society. She is now working with the Institute for Regionale Forschung of Schleswig-Holstein, West Germany on emigration/immigration research. She is a member of the Instructor Development Committee of the National Genealogical Society and currently serves as president of the Federation of Genealogical Societies.

Tracing immigrants

Swedes to visit R.I. center

By MARY OTTO
Dispatch Correspondent

Two Swedish researchers who have been tracking down information about the immigration of about 2,200 people from Kristdala, Sweden, in the 19th Century will be in Rock Island next month to interview the immigrants' descendants.

Bjorn-Ake Petersson and Alvar Ahl, both of Ronneby, Sweden, will combine data culled from immigration records in their homeland with area research.

Volunteers with the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center at Augustana College, Rock Island, have been combing church records to discover what happened to the immigrants.

The project has been going on at Swenson for more than a year.

The Swedish researchers hope to talk to as many descendants of the Kristdala

settlers as possible.

ANYONE WHO wishes to contact the researchers should call the Swenson Center, 794-7204 or the Augustana Lutheran Church, Andover, 478-8126 for an appointment.

"Before you come to see Petersson, gather up your records," said Lilly Setterdahl of the Swenson Center. "The exact dates are important and hard to remember."

The researchers are scheduled to stay in Andover during their visit.

At 10 a.m. Sept. 2 they will be at a coffee in the Swenson center to meet the researchers who collected information from the local church records. The Swedish pair will also bring computerized records of their own research, Setterdahl said.

News of the Swedish-American research has spread through the United States through Swedish language magazines.

"We have had response from New Jersey, California and Florida," said Setterdahl.

SOME OF THEM write that "we are so surprised you are interested in Kristadala," Setterdahl said. "A person in Kansas said they were almost crying because someone is so interested in us (the descendants)."

Kristadala is an interesting example of group emigration, said Joel Lundeen, acting director of the Swenson Center.

Starting in the mid-1850s, about 2,200 people left Kristdala, in southern Sweden to come to America.

About 60 percent of them settled in Western Illinois.

The Swedish researchers hope the information exchange will be a two-way exchange. They hope they can tell Kristdala descendants about their Swedish ancestors.

They plan to attend a service Sept. 25 at Jenny Lind Chapel in Andover when Bishop Sven Lindegard of Vaxjo, Sweden, will preach a Swedish sermon.

The service will be followed by a luncheon in the Augustana Luther Hall, so members of the community can meet the bishop and researchers.

BLACKHAWK GENEALOGY SOCIETY will meet at 7 p.m. in the Union Federal Savings and Loan building, Milan. A show-and-tell program will be given, with questions and answers. Anyone interested in genealogy is invited to attend.

SHORT OF HOT WATER?
CALL 797-1289
ALLISON-ALBRECHT
PLUMBING & HEATING

VAN HOE
Funeral Home
1500 6th St.
East Moline
Dial 755-1414

HEBREW GENEALOGY

Grocery business pioneer Isador Pesses, 94, dies

Isador A. Pesses, 94, whose East Moline grocery was the forerunner of Eagle Food Centers, died Wednesday at Franciscan Medical Center, Rock Island.

Mr. Pesses, 1804 16th St., Rock Island, opened his first store, Eagle's Kash & Karry Market, in 1921 at 11th Street and 15th Avenue, East Moline. His store carried fresh fruits and vegetables, and many varieties were seen for the first time in the area.

Services are 11 a.m. Friday at Western Funeral Home, Rock Island. Burial is in Rock Island.



There is no visitation. Memorials may be made to the building fund of Tri-City Jewish Center or a favorite charity.

Mr. Pesses was born June 15, 1893, in Odessa, Russia. His family came to the United States in 1905, and to Rock Island in 1908. He married Sarah Weindruck in 1918 in Rock Island. She died in 1934. He married Ann Deines Nov. 12, 1935, in Chicago.

He was a member of Tri-City Jewish Center, Rock Island, and B'nai B'rith.

Survivors include the widow; daughters Ma Jodish and Adele Kasher; both of Rock Island; sons Louis and

Genealogical conference set in Moline

Jo White Linn, Salisbury, N.C. will be the featured speaker at the 14th Annual Quad-Cities Genealogical Conference set for April 16 at the Moline Viking Club.

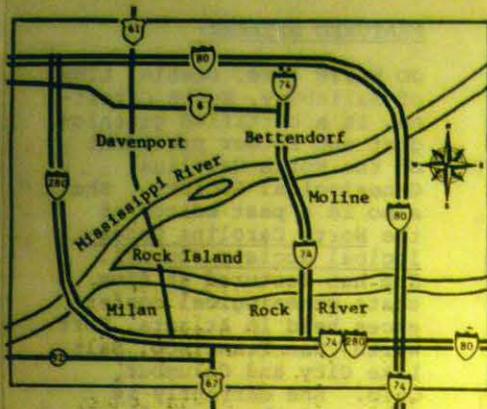
Jo Linn is a certified genealogist and former president of the North Carolina Genealogical Society. She also is a past editor of that state's Genealogical Society Journal. She has lectured at state genealogical conferences held in Atlanta, Fort Worth, San Francisco, Salt Lake City and Columbus, Ohio. She currently is editor of the Rowan County, N.C., Register and advisor to the Magazine of Virginia Genealogy.

Genealogical Society

The Blackhawk Genealogical Society will meet Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Union Federal Savings and Loan Building, Milan. Gene McCarley and Harold Hall, members, will present a tape recorder and a VCR program, "Look and Listen," an aspect to recording family genealogy.

The Society's book collection is housed upstairs at the Moline Public Library and on Feb. 27 from 1 to 4 p.m. a member will be present to assist with genealogy research and use of the collection. Visitors are welcome and need not be a member to attend the meeting or the re-

1988



Take I-74 to 23rd Ave. exit in Moline. Go East on 23rd Ave. to 41st St.; then go North to Viking Club entrance. Look for sign on east side of 41st St., 1400 block.

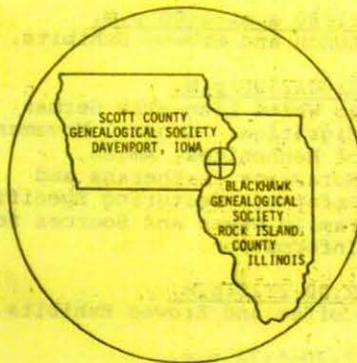
Please Note: The conference committee plans to begin and end the program on schedule for the convenience of those who are attending from out of town.

For more information: Call Lorraine Ring at 309/788-5906 or Delores Lay at 319/386-3484.

COMMERCIAL GENEALOGICAL EXHIBITORS HAVE BEEN INVITED!

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL QUAD CITIES GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE

Saturday, April 16, 1988
8:30 a.m. to 3:40 p.m.
Viking Club of Moline
1450- 41st St., Moline, IL



Sponsored by
Scott County Genealogical Society
Blackhawk Genealogical Society

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT # 71
ROCK ISLAND,
IL 61201

DELMAR B. MOORE
569 - 21ST AVENUE
ROCK ISLAND, IL 61201

Quad Cities Genealogical Conference
P.O. Box 932
Moline, Illinois 61265

April 21, 1988

BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY will meet at 7 p.m. April 26 at Union Federal Savings and Loan Building, Andalusia Road, Milan. Grace Eastland will lead a discussion on "Recording Your Genealogy - Pittfalls and Suggestions." Guests are welcome.

Area Newell Dailey

1988

Newell Harvard Dailey, 79, Port Byron, died Friday at University Hospitals, Iowa City. Services are 11 a.m. Monday at Gibson Funeral Home, Port Byron. Burial is in Zuma Township Cemetery.



Visitation is 2 to 5 p.m. today. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Mr. Dailey was born June 27, 1908, on Oakwood Farm, Zuma Township, Rock Island County. He attended Zuma School, a one-room school which his grandfather and father also attended.

He graduated in 1925 from the then newly established Hillsdale Community High School as salutatorian of his class. He graduated in 1930 from Augustana College, Rock Island. During his junior and senior years at Augustana, he was editor of the Augustana Observer, a weekly college newspaper which was rated by the Illinois College Press Association as the best college weekly in the state in 1928-29 and the second best in 1929-30.

He was a founder of the Alpha Delta journalistic fraternity.

He was employed at Eastin Pictures, Davenport, from the time he graduated until 1942.

He served in the Army Air Corps from 1942 to 1945 as a weather observer at bases in the United States, England, Northern Ireland and France, exiting with the rank of staff sergeant.

He then attended the University of Iowa, graduating in 1953. He taught high school in Geneseo from 1953 to 1955; and in Mason City, Iowa, from 1955 to 1957.

He taught as professor of education

Genealogical group will meet Tuesday

MAY - 1988

There will be a meeting of the Blackhawk Genealogical Society at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Union Federal Savings and Loan Building, Andalusia Road, (across from the cinemas), Milan. A videotape on "Pre-1820 Census Records" and "How to Find Birth, Marriage and Death Dates Prior to 1900" will be shown.

Visitors are welcome. For more information, call Grace Eastland at 784-7023 or Christine Cox Lage at 755-2056.

at Central College, Pella, Iowa, from 1957 until he retired in 1976. He served as a placement counselor for graduating students.

He was a member of the Rock Island County Historical Society, having served as past officer. He was active in the Iowa Genealogical Society, as well as several other state and local genealogical societies. He was a recognized expert on genealogy.

He was a former member of Zuma Methodist Church.

Survivors include sisters, Wilamine Ashdown, Galesburg, and Jeanette Cohoon, Bradenton, Fla.; brothers, Lyman, Sacramento, Calif., and Robert, Macomb, Ill.; and several nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

William Shaw

1988

William Curtis Shaw, 64, of 2920 24th St., Rock Island, died Sunday at Moline Public Hospital.

Prayer services are 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Knox-Larson Funeral Home, Rock Island, followed by masonic services conducted by Trio Lodge 57, Rock Island. Burial is in Masonic and Oddfellows Cemetery, Benton, Ill.



Visitation is 2 to 4 and 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. Memorials may be made to Shriner Crippled Children's Hospital or First United Methodist Church, Rock Island.

Mr. Shaw was born March 16, 1924, in Benton. He married Muriel Ishmael Nov. 26, 1959, in Sesser, Ill.

He was a security manager 32 years for the State of Illinois.

He was a World War II Army veteran.

He was a member of Independent Order of Oddfellows Lodge 284, Benton, where he had been past noble; Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem No. 23, Rock Island, where he was past Watchman of Shepherds; a past Worthy Patron of Rock Island Chapter 269, Order of Eastern Star; past president of Rock Island Hi-12 Club, and past State Chaplain; and a member of Benton Masonic Lodge No. 64 AF&AM; Scottish Rite Consistory, Valley of Moline; Mohammed Temple of Peoria; Black Hawk Shrine Club, Rock Island; Black Hawk Genealogical Society, Rock Island; and the Frankfort Area Genealogical Society, West Frankfort, Ill.

Survivors include the widow and numerous nieces and nephews.

BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY 7 p.m. at Union Federal Savings & Loan Building, Andalusia Road, Milan. Visitors welcome; information, call Grace Eastland, 784-7023, or Christine Cox Lage,

755-2056, program: "Local Sources for Beginners."

Rock Island/Milan

J. Kenneth Baker

J. Kenneth Baker, 81, of 2139 30th St., Rock Island, died Sunday at Lutheran Hospital, Moline.

Services are 10 a.m. Wednesday at Knox-Larson Funeral Home, Rock Island. Burial is in Rock Island Memorial Park Cemetery.

Visitation is 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, with a Masonic service at 7:30 by Lodge 658

AF & AM, Rock Island. Memorials may be made to Shriners Crippled Children's Hospital or Central Presbyterian Church, Rock Island, where he was a member.

Mr. Baker was born March 23, 1907, in Pueblo, Colo. He married Lorraine Simmon Oct. 26, 1929, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

He was product manager and service department manager 27 years at Red Jacket Manufacturing Company, Davenport, retiring in 1972.

He was a 59-year-member of Lodge 658 AF & AM; 50-year-member Scottish Rite Free Masonry, Valley of Moline; a member of Kaaba Shrine, Davenport; and member and past president of Blackhawk Genealogical Society. He was a member of Moline High 12; DeMolay Legion of Honor, Rock Island; member and past patron of Order of Eastern Star, Chapter 269, Rock Island; member of American Association of Retired Persons Chapter 40; Order of Rainbow Girls, Grand Cross of Color; and a volunteer at Lutheran Hospital.

Survivors include the widow; a daughter, S. Ann Hunter, Iowa City, and a granddaughter, Sabrina.



Genealogical Society - Blackhawk Chapter: 7 p.m. Tuesday, Union Federal Savings and Loan Building, Andalusia Road (across from the Cinemas), Milan. Program: "Bookshare." Bring books of genealogical interest to share. Information: Grace Eastland, 786-7023, or Christine Cox Lage, 755-2056.

BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY 7 p.m. at Union Federal Savings and Loan Building, Andalusia Road, Milan; research success stories shared, members to take items owned by an ancestor; visitors welcome; information, call Christine Cox Lage, 755-2056, or Zelma Hendricks, 755-2809. FEB 28

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY 7 p.m. at Union Federal Savings and Loan Building, Andalusia Road, Milan; program on inherited diseases by Nancy Gray of United Medical Center, Moline; visitors welcome; information, call Christine Cox Lage, 755-2056.

BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY 7 p.m. at Union Federal Savings and Loan Building, Andalusia Road, Milan; program on inter-library loan by Pam Langston; take genealogical white elephants for sale; visitors welcome; information, call Christine Lage Cox, 755-2056.

Royal Genes Too Diluted to Help Bush

To the Editor:

A July 5 news story reports that Burke's Peerage has traced Vice President Bush's family tree to the 1400's and monarchs of Britain and France. "The genes or chromosomes for leaders come forward whether it's kings or presidents," Harold Brooks-Baker, publishing-director of Burke's Peerage Ltd., says in an attempt to explain the frequency with which United States Presidents have been descended from European royalty. "You cannot hold back the genes."

The proportion of George Bush's genes that could have come from his royal ancestors is vanishingly small if we apply the coefficient of relatedness, used in genetic studies. Assuming that none of the links between Mr. Bush and his royal forebears have been broken because of misidentified paternity and that generations have averaged about 30 years, only .000119 percent of the Vice Presidential genome could have come from Charles II of England, only .003032 percent could be from Henry VII of England and Louis XII of France, and only .001526 percent could be from Henry VIII. The total royal percentage is .005177.

President Reagan's ties to the 11th-



Bob Gale

century Irish king Brian Boru are even more obscure. Only about .0000029885 percent of Mr. Reagan's genetic makeup could have come from the High King.

Thus, if you want to know who should be the next President, blood won't tell.

LEE CRONK
Cincinnati, July 7, 1988

The writer is a visiting scholar and lecturer in the department of anthropology, University of Cincinnati.

Genealogical seminar set for July 27

A genealogical seminar, Heritage Quest, will be presented at 6:30 p.m. July 27 at Asbury Methodist Church, 18th Street and Mississippi Boulevard, Bettendorf.

No admission fee will be charged, and reservations are not necessary. Those interested in learning more about family history are invited.

Speakers will be Leland K. Meitzler, managing editor of Heritage Quest magazine, and Bill Dollarhide, author of Map Guides to the U.S. Federal Census. He also developed the Dollarhide System for genealogical research and record-keeping and Family Research Manager, computer software for genealogists.

Those wishing further information about the program may contact Don Southwood, 355-8404, or Delores Lay, 386-3484.

GENEALOGISTS!

Come To

The Everton Publishers, Inc.



WORKSHOP "FAMILY TREE CLIMBING CAN BE FUN"
Date 20 September 1988
Place Moose Lodge # 190 4410 9th Street
Rock Island, IL
Time Doors open at 5:30 pm for registration
6:00 - 10:00 pm Program

Joseph Hall is director of the research division. Lee Everton is a computer consultant, and they are ready to share their expertise.

Each person attending will receive a one year subscription of "THE GENEALOGICAL HELPER" or an extension of your current subscription. Bring your mailing label.

A special packet will be given to each participant at the door. Come prepared to work! Bring completed family group sheets or pedigree charts of ancestor names you want to search. Printouts of the "Roots" Cellar and computerized Family File will be available for you to use.

Special discounts will be given on materials and advertising. A large selection of genealogical books and aids will be on display.

Food may be purchased at the workshop.

BGS publications will be available for sale. For information call Bernice 787-2434, George 786-1013, Dorothy 786-3058.

Make your check payable to the BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY. Your canceled check will be your receipt.

EVERTON WORKSHOP

Cost: Pre-registration, before 3 September...\$16.50
Registration at the door 20.00

Name _____

Address _____

Mail to: BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
* Dorothy Darland
1406 26th Street
Rock Island, IL 61201

Harriet Darling

Services for Harriet C. Darling, 91, of 2140 2nd St., Moline, are 1:30 p.m. Friday at Wendt Funeral Home, Moline. Burial is in Riverside Cemetery, Moline.

Visitation is 3 to 5 and 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday. Memorials may be made to a favorite charity or her church, First United Methodist, Rock Island.

She died Tuesday at home.

Miss Darling was born May 3, 1897, in Rock Island.

She had been a school teacher 39 years, working the last 14 years at Riverdale School District, Port Byron. She retired in 1970.

Miss Darling was family historian and great-granddaughter of Rock Island County pioneers Peter Henry and Eva Catharine Simmons, who immigrated to the United States from Meisenheim, Germany, in 1833.

Her great-grandfather was a commissary sergeant in the Napoleonic Army and saw five brothers killed. Wanting to spare his seven children from more bloodshed, he and his wife eventually moved to a farm in 1850, on property that is now Pinnacle Golf Course near Milan.

In 1976, Miss Darling was among 24 of the 50 Simmons descendants honored at ceremonies at Black Hawk College. Her parents were the late Phillip Darling and Marie Simmons.

She attended Augustana College, Rock Island; and graduated in 1918 from Northwestern University. She had done graduate work at University of Iowa.

She was a member of Friends of Rock Island Public Library; Black Hawk Genealogy Club; Rock Island County Historical Society; Moline Womans Club; University of Iowa Alumni Association; 50-year member of Order of Eastern Star 269 Rock Island; and a former board member of Rock Island YMCA.

She was a member of Black Hawk Unit of Illinois Retired Teachers Association.

Survivors include a niece, Pat Mouser, Indianapolis, Ind.; and a nephew, Phillip H. Darling, Buena Park, Calif.



Bush, Quayle may be cousins

BOSTON (AP) — President-elect George Bush and Vice President-elect Dan Quayle may be more than just running mates. A genealogist who specializes in the lineage of presidents says Bush and Quayle are 10th cousins once removed.

The two are also related to Abraham Lincoln, and the man thought to be Marilyn Monroe's father, said Gary Boyd Roberts, a genealogist at the New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston.

Bush, a Yankee, and Quayle, from a wealthy Indiana newspaper publishing family, both have 17th century roots in New England, Roberts said.

Roberts has spent almost a decade researching Bush's ancestry, which will be included in his upcoming book on presidential lineage, timed to coincide with the 200th anniversary of George Washington's inauguration April 30.

Roberts is director of publications at the genealogical society, the nation's oldest and second largest.

"Part of my mission is to show how one goes out from one's self to one's family to the community and to various groups around the nation," Roberts said. "If you look at pedigree, you can tell about patterns in culture."

Bush, he said, is only the third of what he calls "Social Register" presidents. The first two, Republican Theodore Roosevelt and Democrat Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who were distant cousins, were closely connected to New York society.

Both are WASPS

Both Bush and Quayle are WASPs — white, Anglo-Saxon, Protestants — with a twist. They both have strong ancestral ties to the South as well as New England, Roberts said.

According to Roberts, Bush is distantly related to 10 American presidents, including Franklin Pierce, the 14th president (fifth cousins once removed); Lincoln; Ulysses S. Grant; and B. Hayes and William

Howard Taft; Calvin Coolidge; Franklin Roosevelt; Richard Nixon; and Gerald Ford, the most distant relation (11th cousins once removed).

Bush also is descended from British royalty going as far back as 12th century King Henry I, the son of William the Conqueror, said Roberts.

Mayflower ties

Quayle "almost certainly" has some royal ancestry but Roberts has not thoroughly researched his family tree. And he had ancestors on the Mayflower, including Miles Standish and John Alden. Quayle's father is a member of the Mayflower Society.

But that honor, as Roberts explains it, is not uncommon. There are an estimated 20 million to 30 million people descended from the 23 families who survived passage on the Mayflower Roberts said.

Bush's and Quayle's common ancestor was James Hamlin, who died in Barnstable in 1690. Bush and Nixon, as well as former presidents Hayes and Taft, are descended from Robert Foote, of Shalford, in the English county of Essex, who died in 1608.

Bush and Franklin Delano Roosevelt share an ancestor in Anne Marbury, the noted religious reformer, heretic and a founder of Rhode Island, who was killed by Indians on Long Island in 1643.

Roberts discovered one of both Bush's and Quayle's more celebrated relatives — Marilyn Monroe — through another genealogist affiliated with the society, Richard Brenneman. Brenneman has documentation to show that Bush and Quayle share a common ancestor with Monroe's supposed father, Charles Stanley Gifford, who was born in Rhode Island in 1888 and died in California in 1965.

Most Monroe biographies cite Gifford as the man Monroe's mother claimed was her father. Monroe's mother never married Gifford but Monroe and Gifford made contact with each other over the years.

Rock Island history book on sale

"Rock Island: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow," a 250-page book on the history of the city, will be on sale Saturday and again on March 24 and 25 at the First National Bank of the Quad-Cities branch, 30th Street and 18th Avenue, Rock Island.

The hardbound volume includes historical essays and anecdotes contributed by more than 50 area residents — historians, public officials and private citizens.

The book, priced at \$27.95, was commissioned by the Rock Island Sesquicentennial Task Force and sponsored by Royal Neighbors of America, First National Bank, Writers Studio of the Quad-Cities, THE Rock Island Bank and the city of Rock Island. Proceeds will be divided between projects to establish a Midwest writing center in the Quad-Cities and a new library facility for the Rock Island County Historical Society.

Rich Johnson, Moline, prepared the nearly 500 photos featured in the book, which was edited by Bj Elsner of Rock Island. Illustrations and dust jacket are by William Hannan, Moline, and editorial advisers were N. Lucille Sampson and Pamela M. Langston, both of Rock Island.

Books are available at the Rock Island Hy-Vee store, Augustana College's Rune Stone bookstore and Readmore at City Line Plaza, Moline.

1988

We wish to acknowledge the 450th Anniversary of the arrival of the Casillas' to this continent.

1538 Don Francisco Casillas left Spain and came to Florida to join the explorer Hernando De Sota who from 1539-1543 explored the territories of Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and northeast Texas.

1538 Don Diego Casillas left Spain and joined the expeditionary forces that conquered South America. He remained in Asuncion, Paraguay.

1539 Don Domingo Casillas arrived in Mexico.

1918 Our parents Ygnacia and Leonor Casillas arrived in Silvis, via El Paso, Texas.

The Casillas Family in the Quad Cities

BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY 7 p.m. at Union Federal Savings and

Loan building, Andalusia Road, Milan; research success stories shared; members to take items owned by an ancestor; visitors welcome; information, call Christine Cox Lage, 755-2056, or Zelma Hendricks, 755-2809.

Tuesday

BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY 7 p.m. at Union Federal Savings and Loan building, Andalusia Road, Milan; program on using computers in genealogy by Mary Starbeck; take written questions to be answered in April; visitors welcome; information, call Christine Cox Lage, 755-2056, or Zelma Hendricks, 755-2809.

Call 291-2131.

APRIL 1989
BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY 7 p.m. tour of Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, third floor of Augustana College Library; non-members welcome.



JANET PEASE

JANET PEASE of Arvada, Colo., daughter of Keith and Irene Pease of Moline, has been named top D.A.R. American History Teacher of the Year for the State of Colorado. The honor was conferred on Miss Pease at a luncheon March 21 at the state D.A.R. meeting at Colorado Springs.

Miss Pease, a former Moline resident, started her teaching career at Arvada West High School in the fall of 1968, after receiving her bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Iowa, Iowa City. She is very active in genealogy circles and has had many genealogical articles published in Antique Week and The American Genealogist magazines. She also has four volumes of Abstracted Court Records from Grant, Harrison and Pendleton Counties in Kentucky in conjunction with the Grant County Historical Society in Kentucky.

Miss Pease was honored last year as one of the top 10 teachers in Jefferson County, Colo.

Keith Pease is retired from Clifton Precision Co., where he was associated as a purchasing agent. Mrs. Pease is retired from the offices of

Dr. Robert Milax, a Rock Island neurosurgeon, where she was an emergency secretary.

sharing is caring

GOD bless you...

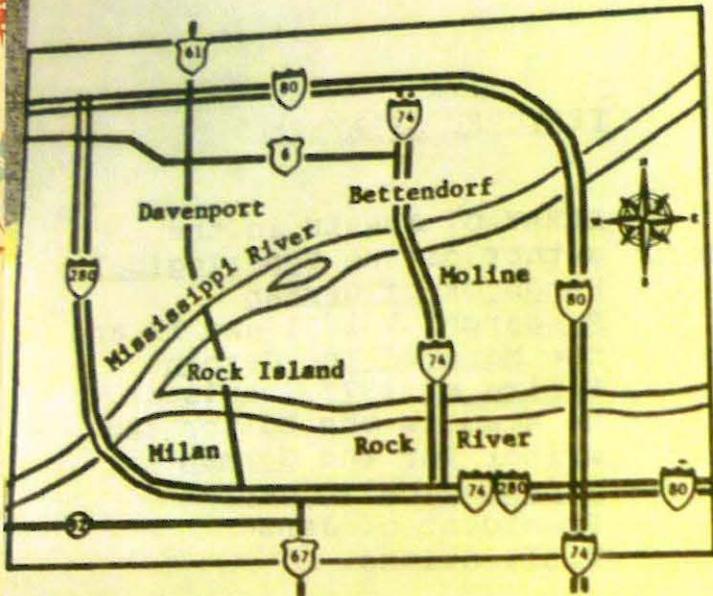


"need has no season"



Above, Rock Island Mayor Bob Millett kicks off the annual Christmas kettle campaign for the Salvation Army. The Salvation Army hopes the drive will raise \$300,000 to serve about 14,000 Quad-Citians. Mr. Millett is chairman of the drive which saw bell ringers and the familiar red kettles posted through the

1989



FIFTEENTH ANNUAL QUAD CITIES GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE

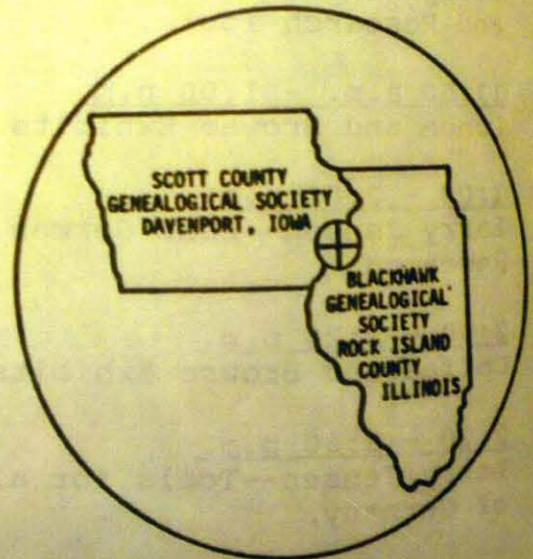
Saturday, April 15, 1989
8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Viking Club of Moline
1450 - 41st., Moline, IL

Take I-74 to 23rd Ave. exit in Moline. Go East on 23rd Ave. to 41st St.; then go North to Viking Club entrance. Look for sign on east side of 41st St., 1400 block.

Please Note: The conference committee plans to begin and end the program on schedule for the convenience of those who are attending from out of town.

For more information: Call Lorraine Ring at 309/788-5906 or Delores Lay at 319/386-3484.

**COMMERCIAL GENEALOGICAL
EXHIBITORS HAVE BEEN INVITED!**



**Sponsored by
Blackhawk Genealogical Society
Scott County Genealogical Society**

FEATURED SPEAKER:

LARRY O. JENSEN is the author of the Genealogical Handbook of German Research, Vol. I and II and the Maps of the German Empire of 1871 (revised). He also is the Editor and writer for the German Genealogical Digest and President of Jensen Publications.

Jensen has presented genealogical lectures on German research in Europe and throughout the United States and Canada. He is presently employed as the Area Specialist for the British Isles, Ireland, Scandinavia, Continental Europe and South America at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. He is the former Group Manager of the Salt Lake City Genealogical Library's European Section. He has a BS degree from Brigham Young University and is an Accredited Genealogist.

Jensen lectured at this conference five years ago.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

- 8:00 - 8:50 A.M.
Registration and Browse.
- 8:50 - 9:00 a.m.
Welcome and Announcements.
- 9:00 - 10:15 a.m.
Larry Jensen--Finding the place of origin of your Emigrant Ancestor.
- 10:15 - 10:35 a.m.
Coffee and Browse Exhibits.
- 10:35 - 11:50 a.m.
Larry Jensen--References and Research Tools.
- 11:50 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Lunch and Browse Exhibits.
- 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.
Larry Jensen--East German Research.
- 2:00 - 2:20 p.m.
Coffee and Browse Exhibits.
- 2:20 - 3:30 p.m.
Larry Jensen--Tools for all of Germany.
- 3:30 - 3:40 p.m.
Closing Remarks, Door Prizes.

- Registration Form -

REGISTRATION FEE: \$17.50--Includes speaker, coffee breaks and buffet luncheon. Please submit Registration Form with check before April 7, 1989. Late registrations do not include luncheon. Cancellations will not be honored after April 12th. Make check payable to the QUAD CITIES GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE and mail with Registration Form to the QUAD CITIES GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE, P.O. Box 932, Moline, IL 61265. If you desire confirmation, enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope or postcard; Registrar will return it to you. Otherwise, your cancelled check is your confirmation and receipt.

NAME _____

PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

For additional registrations, list names and addresses on separate sheet and include \$17.50 for each person. For more information, call Delores Lay at 319/386-3484 or Lorraine King at 309/788-5906.

Note: Registration is limited to 250 reservations.

April 20, 1989



A committee is forming a Rock Island High School Alumni Association. Committee members are, from left, Dan Mortier, Rocky director of development; Jody Allen; Marilyn Wendland, Christine Lage; and Sandra Stolt. The association would arrange alumni activities and help graduates keep in touch with one another. A newsletter three times a year also is planned. (Photo by John Greenwood)

Rocky alumni association being formed

A committee has been formed to develop a Rock Island High School Alumni Association.

The association would provide alumni activities, keep graduates in touch with one another and enhance the relationship between Rock Island High School and its graduates.

Members of the committee are Jody Wendland Allen, class of 1972; Gary Bender, class of 1966; Christine Cox Lage, class of 1965; Sandra Stolt, class of 1962; and Marilyn Wright Wendland, class of 1945.

A newsletter will be produced and sent to each

of the association members three times per year. It will include information about what is happening at Rock Island High School, facts about graduates, class reunion information and announcements of Alumni Association events.

The first event planned by the Alumni Association, an "Alumni Football Night," is scheduled Sept. 15. Alumni are invited to attend the football game beginning at 7:30 p.m. Appetizers and a cash bar are planned after the game at Knights of Columbus, Rock Island.

Each alumni event will recognize a class or group of classes for achievements. The first Alumni Night will recognize members of the 1969 varsity football team, the last undefeated Rocky football team.

Membership dues for the Alumni Association are \$10. A membership card and window decal will be sent upon receipt of dues. For more information about membership, please contact Rock Island High School, 793-5950, or one of the members of the committee.

In the workplace

Lee Womack, of Lee Womack Insurance Agency, Moline, received recognition by the Property Casualty Insurer West Bend Mutual Insurance Co. for outstanding performance in the company's agency incentive program for 1988. . . . James E. Schick, Davenport, a Modern Woodmen of America representative for the Rock Island area, attained the Fraternal Insurance Counselor designation. . . . Five local Allstate insurance agents received Honor Ring Awards from their company; Del Newton, Don Kline, Steve Rosales, and Jeff LaPoe, all of Moline; and Jan Elliot of Milan. . . . Bob Wachtel, Geneseo area Prudential representative, was named Employee of the Month in March. . . . Parker Andress, Aledo area Prudential representative, was named Employee of the Month for March. . . . Bruce C. Steffens, Moline, completed the 1988-89 Illinois Academy of Family Physicians' postgraduate program, "Medicine for Today," designed to help physicians keep up with the latest medical-science developments. . . . Six John Deere Insurance Company employees at the company's Moline home office earned Certificates in General Insurance, awarded by the Insurance Institute of America: Julie V. Atwell, personnel supervisor; Linda E. Holmes, commercial rating coordinator; Diane F. Lovell, programming clerk; Ruth G. McElhiney, claims supervisor; Craig D. Rowlands, personal lines underwriter; and Michael E. Sigwalt, claims adjuster. . . . Janet J. Lower, personal lines customer service representative for Elliott, James & Wilson Insurers, Davenport, recently passed the Iowa State Exam to become a licensed casualty and property insurance producer. . . . Dick Cleve, who owns Ziebart Service Center, Moline, received an award from Ziebart Corp. for the Highest Sales volume in Used Car Rust Protection.

Genealogical Conference set April 15

Larry O. Jensen of Pleasant Grove, Utah, will be the featured speaker at the 15th annual Quad Cities Genealogical Conference April 15 at the Moline Viking Club.

Registration fee for the all-day session is \$17.50, which includes presentations, morning and afternoon coffee and buffet luncheon. Checks should be sent to the conference at P.O. Box 932, Moline 61265. Literature will be available, awards will be given and exhibits are planned.

Author of two handbooks of German research and maps of the German empire in 1871, Mr. Jensen is editor of the German Genealogical Digest. He is employed as area specialist for the British Isles, Ireland, Scandinavia, Continental Europe and South Africa at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City.

Additional information may be obtained from Lorraine Ring, 788-5906, or Delores Lay, 386-3484.

Bernice Shager 1988

MOLINE — Services for Bernice J. Shager, 94, of 2307 13th St., will 3 p.m. Sunday at First Congregational Church, Moline. Inurnment will be in Lawn Ridge Cemetery, Rochelle, Ill.

He died Feb. 15 at Moline Lutheran Hospital.

He retired in 1959 as an engineer after 33 years at International Harvester Works, East Moline.

Mr. Shager married Pearl Heintz Lilley in 1917 in Rockford, Ill. She died in 1973.

Memorials may be made to Rock Island County Historical Society Library Building Fund or the church.

He was a veteran of World War I.

He was a member of the church and its choir; Quad-City Coin Club; International Harvester Retirees Club; Genealogical Society; and Tri-City Photography Club;

Survivors include a daughter, Grace Eastland, Rock Island; four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

**Zonta chooses
Eva Johnson as
Woman of the Year**

Zonta Club of Moline-Rock Island has selected Eva Johnson of Moline as Woman of the Year at a recent luncheon meeting held at W.L. Velie's, Moline.

Mrs. Johnson has been a member of the classified service organization for professional women since 1951.

She was director of the Visiting Nurse Association in Moline from 1954 until her retirement in 1969.

Currently serving as historian, she has held a number of posts including president in 1958-59.

In her capacity as delegate, she has attended international conventions in Germany; Montreal, Canada; San Francisco, Calif., and Mexico.



EVA JOHNSON

Rock Island/Milan

Mildred McCarley 1989

Mildred L. McCarley, 69, of 621 39th St., Rock Island, died Thursday at United Medical Center, Moline.

Services are 10:30 a.m. Monday at Wheelan Funeral Home, Rock Island. Burial is in Memorial Park Cemetery, Rock Island.

Visitation is 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday. Memorials may be made to First United Methodist Church, Rock Island, where she was a member.

Mildred L. Cockrel was born Aug. 9, 1919, in Decatur, where she married Eugene D. McCarley July 5, 1946.

Mrs. McCarley retired in 1980, after 30 years as a clerk-secretary for the former Chicago-Rock Island and Pacific Railroad.

She was a member of the Blackhawk Genealogical Society, and the American Association of Retired Persons.

She enjoyed exotic cooking and collected sheet music of the '30s, '40s and '50s.

Survivors include the widower; a daughter, Sheila A. Jackson, Moline; a son, Thomas, Richmond, Va.; and two grandchildren, Eddy M. Jackson and Thomas E. Jackson, both of Moline.



Life

Researching family tree can reveal your health risks

By Holly Mullen

Knight-Ridder Newspapers

Myra Vanderpool Gormley traces her roots back to 15th century Switzerland and 16th century Holland. One of her distant Swiss relatives was a "witch" — a midwife, actually — burned at the stake after a baby she delivered died of complications. Another ancestor was a bigamist, married to five women at the same time.

It's all intriguing fodder for a historical novel, one that Gormley, a 49-year-old Tacoma, Wash., resident, may write someday. But while sifting through dusty family records, she found more practical information: that she may eventually develop glaucoma or arthritis, and that even though her grandfather died of heart disease, she did not inherit the problem.

Armed with that information, Gormley, a certified genealogist and genealogy columnist for the Los Angeles Times Syndicate, worked up a three-generation pedigree chart and took it to her physician.

"We know that glaucoma is very

"In the last few years, I've seen that people are very much trying to find themselves, even their medical histories. The baby boomers are coming of age. They want a way to identify themselves . . . Physicians and genetic counselors require a pedigree chart, anyway, and doing one can, in many cases, help put your mind at ease."

— Myra Gormley, genealogist and writer

inheritable. We also know we can't prevent it, but now we have the information, and we can treat it early if it happens," she says.

Put your mind at ease

There are more than 3,000 genetic diseases in this country. Many are rare, with obscure, multi-syllabic names. Some plague certain racial or ethnic groups, such as cystic fibrosis (predominantly white children of European descent), sickle-cell anemia (mostly blacks) and Tay-Sachs disease (predominantly Jewish children of Eastern European ancestry). Many are congenital and appear at birth or shortly after. Still others, such as Hunting-

ton's disease, lie dormant and fail to show up until adulthood.

Only by carefully researching a family pedigree can a person be sure of a disposition toward such diseases, Gormley says. Her new book, "Family Diseases: Are You at Risk?" (Genealogical Publishing Co., \$14.95), offers information on how to research and write a pedigree, as well as background on genetic diseases from the rare to the commonplace.

"In the last few years, I've seen that people are very much trying to find themselves, even their medical histories," Gormley says. "The baby boomers are coming of age. They want a way to identify themselves.

The trouble is that our families have been so uprooted and mobile that we have to dig a little for our answers."

The person with a rare, potentially fatal disease likely will have to research a family tree eventually, Gormley says. "Physicians and genetic counselors require a pedigree chart, anyway, and doing one can, in many cases, help put your mind at ease."

Even for those who will never suffer from a rare genetic disease, some of the most common killers in United States — heart disease, certain types of cancer and diabetes — run in families. Researchers also have pointed to alcoholism and osteoporosis, the bone-thinning condition in women, as having a possible genetic link. Knowing how and when they appeared in your family tree can help you make important lifestyle changes, such as cutting back on saturated fats and smoking in your diet, quitting smoking or starting an exercise routine.

"We know that the risk for breast cancers, colon cancers and skin

cancers is often inherited. Breast cancer in a woman's mother, grandmother or sisters is something to watch out for," says Gormley, whose book spun off from two feature stories she wrote on genetics and genealogy. Part of her research includes access to 200,000 impeccably kept pedigrees belonging to the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Trace pedigree

But you don't have to be a genealogical sleuth to make a family pedigree. For basic medical information, you need only trace back to the grandparents on both sides of the family, including your own siblings, suggests Gormley.

Gathering oral histories from relatives is an interesting way to start, but don't count on the information being reliable. "Family history is a very sketchy thing," she says. "You may have heard all your life that Grandpa died of 'old age.' But you probably never heard of a contributing cause. A little digging and

inheritable, might turn up."

She doesn't discount family information, but suggests you use it as a starting point. The most dependable information comes from accessible records, such as:

- Death certificates (contact the appropriate state's health department; there probably will be a fee)
- Newspaper obituaries (contact the hometown paper)
- Insurance company records (write to the home office, for starters)
- Hospital records (ask your personal physician to help you get access to records)
- Medical records (again, ask your physician for help)
- Census records (the LDS Family History Library may be of help; contact the library, 35 N. West Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84156; phone (801) 531-2331)
- Military records (you'll need NATF Form 88; contact the National Archives, Washington, D.C. 20408; phone (202) 523-3228)

The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the
paths of righteousness for His name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
for Thou art with me;
Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me
in the presence of mine enemies:
Thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life: and I
will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

THE TWENTY-THIRD PSALM

In Loving Memory
of

MILDRED L. MCCARLEY

Wife of
Eugene D. McCarley

DATE OF BIRTH

August 9, 1919
Decatur, Illinois

DATE OF DEATH

April 6, 1989
Moline, Illinois

PLACE and TIME of SERVICE

Wheelan Funeral Home
Rock Island, Illinois
Monday, April 10, 1989
10:30 A.M.

OFFICIATING

Rev. Steve Long
Community Christian Church
Moline, Illinois

INTERMENT

Memorial Park Cemetery
Rock Island, Illinois

PALLBEARERS

Darrel Dotson Dr. Maynard Engstrom
Richard Guthrie Lester Willhite
Kenneth Roberts James Behrens

Tues. August 15, 1989 at 7:00p.m.

Dr. Norman Moline will give us a tour of the Loring Map Library. It contains over 80,000 maps and is the Regional Depository for the U.S. Geological Society and The Defense Mapping Agency for overseas maps. It is in the New Science Building at Augustana College. Enter off 38th Street across from Lincoln Park.

Illinois woman haunts historic cemeteries

LEXINGTON, Ill. (AP) — What may seem like a macabre hobby to some is like an addiction for Verda Gerwick, a cemetery chaser who's set foot in dozens of graveyards in central Illinois.

"There's nothing like it in the world," Mrs. Gerwick, 70, said with a giddy laugh. "Chasing cemeteries is obsessive worse than dope."

"Everytime I hear of a new one, I get a mad desire to close the shop and dash out to see it."

Mrs. Gerwick views her hobby as something of a public service. She makes detailed information for families wanting their family histories and, at the same time, is able to satisfy her intense curiosity about the past.

Recording history

"We've recorded every birth, death and marriage in McLean, Woodford and Livingston counties going back to 1900," she said. "We have beautiful records. We've discovered cemeteries the counties didn't know existed and traced people back to the first settlers in the 1830s."

Most days Mrs. Gerwick can be found in the the Lexington Genealogical and Historical Society on Main Street of Lexington, a town of 1,300 located about 60 miles east of Peoria.

But on Sunday, she's likely dodging poison ivy in some long-forgotten graveyard, rubbing cakes of

cleanser on weathered limestone tombstones to help her read the eroding names and dates.

"A lot of the old 1830 and 1840 stones are more beautiful than the stones made today," she said. "I photograph each one because tomorrow, that stone may be gone and I'll have the only record of it and the people who lived here."

Mrs. Gerwick said she's fascinated by the stories the tombstones tell, whether it's a disease that wiped out an entire family, a war that claimed a soldier or information about American Indians who lived in the area.

"I learn something everyday I spend in a cemetery," she said. "I've developed a total appreciation for

the people who settled this land. I can't imagine how they existed in those days with all their trials and tribulations."

Mrs. Gerwick became interested in cemeteries 26 years ago when she researched and wrote the history of a local church and cemetery to satisfy an argument at a ladies club over the original owner of the land.

"I was hooked immediately and never went to another ladies club meeting," she said.

She founded the 200-member genealogical society in 1965, the second one in the state, and later helped found the state society in 1968.

BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
1989 Programs

Meetings are held the 4th Tuesday at Union Federal Bank, Milan, IL

**Book
share**



JANUARY 24

Members are asked to bring books of genealogical interest to share. We will discuss interlibrary loans and rental books. Ancestor charts submitted by members will be available at the meeting.

SHOW N'TELL

FEBRUARY 29



Members are asked to bring an item that has belonged to an ancestor and tell something about the article and/or the ancestor. Or you may tell about an extraordinary research experience.

COMPUTER

MARCH 28

Genealogy



Mary Storbeck will present our program about computers and genealogy.

BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

1989 PROGRAMS

WHEN: 7:00 p.m., 4th Tuesday

WHERE: Union Federal Bldg. (East entrance) Milan, IL. (across from Cinemas)

MARCH 28



Computer

Genealogy

Mary Storbeck will present our program about computers and genealogy.

BE SURE to bring your written questions to the March meeting for Darlene Paxton to study prior to the April meeting.



APRIL 25

WHEN?

?

HOW

where

STUMPED?? Darlene Paxton will attempt to answer your questions.

MAY 23



Nancy Gray of United Medical Center will present our program about inherited diseases.

JUNE 27



Members are asked to share their knowledge and experiences in military research.

JULY 25

LDS

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd McClellan will present a program on researching in the LDS Library.



BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 3912
Rock Island, IL 61204-3912

Calendar of Events

1989

WHEN: 7:00 p.m., 4th Tuesday

WHERE: Union Federal Bldg. (East entrance) Milan, IL. (across from Cinemas)

AUGUST 22



A Visual Tour of the Allen Co. Genealogical Library of Ft. Wayne, IN. presented by Mr. Don Southwood of the Scott Co. Gen. Soc.

SEPTEMBER 26

LIBRARY NEWS

An up to date report on researching in the KDB room, Moline Public Library. Members are asked to share information on researching in other libraries.



OCTOBER 24

Pam Langston will present our program on researching via interlibrary loan.



Please join in a WHITE ELEPHANT SALE. Bring items of genealogical interest ready for sale.

NOVEMBER 28



Annual dinner at Bethel Wesley Methodist, Moline
Installation of officers
Program--Illinois, Prairie State Portrait

There is no meeting in December

If you don't keep their names alive, who will?



An invitation to place the name of a member of your family who immigrated to America in the only national museum created to honor them.

Over 17 million immigrants first set foot on American soil at Ellis Island. And, about half the population of America today can trace their ancestors to Ellis Island. But, whether your ancestors entered there, or through another gateway, here is a unique opportunity to show your gratitude, and to present your family with a gift that will be meaningful for generations to come: The name you designate can be permanently placed on the American Immigrant Wall of Honor at the Ellis Island Immigration Museum. You can choose the name of an ancestor or just your own family name. And you'll receive an Official Certificate of Registration.

To obtain more information write to:
Ad Council Ellis Island Foundation, P.O. Box ELLIS, New York, NY 10163



Keep the Dream Alive

The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc. is a charitable corporation to which contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. A copy of the last financial report filed with the Department of State may be obtained by writing to: New York State, Department of State, Office of Charities Regulation, Albany, New York 12231, or The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc., 52 Vanderbilt Avenue, New York, New York 10017-3608. Photo courtesy of California Museum of Photography, University of California, Riverside.

Augustana Hosts Swedish Immigration Lecture 1989

ROCK ISLAND, ILL. — Noted Swedish scholar, Dr. Lars Ljungmark will discuss Swedish immigration to North America, during an October 10 lecture at Augustana College. The 7:30 p.m. program is open to the public free of charge in the Denkmann Library Lecture Hall, 3520, 7th Ave. A guest and answer session will follow the lecture.

Ljungmark's lecture is sponsored by Augustana's Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, which holds the country's largest collection of archives related to Swedish immigration to the United States. Interest in the field of Swedish immigration and family genealogy in general, has been growing in recent years. In the Midwest, with its large populations of Swedish descent, many families have begun researching their "roots."

Holding degrees from the Universities of Uppsala and Gothenburg, Sweden, Ljungmark is currently Assistant Professor of History at Gothenburg. His study of the influence of American railroad companies promotion of land sales on immigrant settlement in Minnesota in the 1960s and 1870s has been published

under the title, "For Sale — Minnesota." A series of radio courses on Swedish immigration to the United States developed by Ljungmark was published as "Swedish Exodus."

Since 1986, Ljungmark has been a research collaborator with the project, "Ethnic Conflict and Cooperation in American Cities," a project administered by the University of Uppsala, Sweden, with the cooperation of the Emigrant Institute, Vaxjo, Sweden and the Swenson Center.

Augustana is the oldest college in America founded by Swedish immigrants and has long been a leader in preserving the Swedish identity in the United States.

Edward Reynolds 1987

Edward D. Reynolds, 79, of 2512 5th Ave., Moline, died Tuesday at home.

Services are 10 a.m. Friday at Trimble Funeral Home, Moline. Burial is in Drury-Reynolds Cemetery, Drury Township, Rock Island County.

Visitation is 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday. Memorials may be made to Baptist Temple, Colona, where he was a member.

Mr. Reynolds was born April 19, 1910, in Drury Township. He married Reba L. Blaine Sept. 25, 1937, in Rock Island; she died Feb. 11, 1985.

He worked for the Moline street department for 10 years, retiring in 1974. He was also a self-employed commercial mower for 13 years, retiring in 1986.

He was a member of Blackhawk Genealogical Society.

Survivors include daughters, Nancy Johnson, Moline, and Carol Dewey, Omaha, Neb.; sons, Neil Reynolds, Sterling, and Russell Reynolds, Moline; eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; sisters, Sophia Rogers, Davenport, and Mona Smith, Muscatine; and brothers, Cyril Reynolds and Ralph Reynolds, both of Muscatine.

Dr. Birger Swenson, 94 1990

ROCK ISLAND — Dr. Birger Swenson, retired religious publisher, died Thursday at Silver Cross Nursing Center, Rock Island.

Dr. Swenson, 1209 21st Ave., Rock Island, was 94.



Dr. Swenson

Services will be 2 p.m. Monday at St. John's Lutheran Church, Rock Island. Burial will be in Rock Island Memorial Park.

Visitation is 2-5 p.m. Sunday at Wheeler Funeral Home. Memorials may be made to Swenson Research Center, Augustana College, Rock Island, or the church.

He joined the Augustana Book Concern in 1926 as field representative, was promoted to circulation manager, sales manager, acting manager and then to general manager in 1946.

When he retired in 1963, he was serving as associate executive secretary of the board of publications of the former Lutheran Church in America. He published his autobiography, "My Story" in 1970.

He was born in Aversstad, Skarstarr, Varnland, Sweden. He came to the United States at the age of 16.

He married Loyal Westerland in 1943 in Orion, Ill.

He was a 1924 graduate of Augustana College, Rock Island, attended the former Augustana Theological Seminary and received the honorary doctor of laws degree from Augustana in 1958.

He served in World War I as a member of the American expedition force in France.

In 1963, on behalf of the King of Sweden, he was named a commander of the Royal Order of North Star, an award given by the Swedish government to citizens of other countries who have made major contributions to further relationships with Sweden.

He was a member of religious publishing organizations; a member of the board of directors of the former Lutheran Book Concern, 1943-1948 and 1963-1965; was president of the Rock Island, 1967-1969; a trustee of Augustana Annuity Trust; and a life member of Rock Island Chamber of Commerce.

In 1981, he and his wife entered a \$600,000 gift to Augustana College, making possible establishment of the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, located on the Augustana campus.

Survivors include: daughters, Margaretta (Mrs. James) Magnuson, Moline; June Nordstrom, Chicago; and Mrs. Melba Lake Taylor, Chicago; nephews, Fred Westerland, Moline; and Carl Swenson, Cleveland, Ill.

1999

Heritage group helps Americans trace German roots

Residents take advantage of society's expertise

By Buzio Snyder
QUAD-CITY TIMES

The American Schleswig-Holstein Heritage Society is helping Quad-City residents preserve an interest in their German heritage.

Since being founded in January, the society has grown from about 50 members to more than 600 throughout the states.

The group recently sent 32 members — nine from Quad-City residents — to the Schleswig-Holstein area in Germany to learn first-hand from German and Danish genealogists about local sources of information for research.

The trip was specially scheduled so that the group could attend the North German Genealogical Society's annual conference.

The meeting with the European researchers saved the Americans time and money because the Europeans knew where records were located and could help translate them when they were found.

Arlene Levetaow, Davenport,

said she and her husband, Walter, are planning another trip to do more research. She said although they didn't have enough time to find any living relatives, they found records of her husband's great-great-grandfathers and great-great-great-grandfathers.

Levetaow and her husband attended seminars before the trip to learn the history of Germany and to learn where records were kept during different time periods.

"It's more difficult than most people would imagine," she said.

Scharlotte Goettach-Blevins of Davenport, coordinator of the trip, said six of the members met with relatives for the first time after their research.

"The German relatives were quite friendly and very receptive. They are extremely interested in what happened to their aunts, uncles and cousins who came to the United States," she said.

The society is planning two more trips for next year. For more information about the organization and its activities, write ASHHS, P.O. Box 21, LeClaire, Iowa, 52753.



Harry Boll/QUAD-CITY TIMES

GERMAN HERITAGE — Members of the American Schleswig-Holstein Heritage Society display souvenirs and a map from their recent family research tour of the Schleswig-Holstein

area in Germany. Members, from left to right, include Arlene and Walter Levetaow, Davenport, Jean Mumm, Durant, and Scharlotte Goettach-Blevins, Davenport.

Learn genealogy at cemetery
The Blackhawk/Scott County Genealogical Societies will co-sponsor a cemetery workshop Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m. at Chippawmuck Cemetery, Rock Island. Speakers will be Paul Maddy, Leann Horton and Roger Robinson. Information may be obtained from Everett Geunik, 535-3358.

9/15/90

Genealogical Society — Blackhawk Genealogical Society, 7 p.m., Tuesday, South Park Presbyterian Church, 1501 30th St., Rock Island. Program: Family research, general genealogy. Public invited. Information: Christina Lapp, 755-2056.

BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY — 7 p.m. business meeting at South Park Presbyterian Church, 1501 30th St., Rock Island. 7:45 p.m. program on medieval times, lifestyles and dances by the Society for Creative Ancestral Reconstruction. Refreshments. Call Christina Lapp, 755-2056.

BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY — 7 p.m. at South Park Presbyterian Church, 1501 30th St., Rock Island. Program on local records by Christina Cox. Public invited. Information: call Christina Cox, 755-2056.

BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY — 7 p.m. at South Park Presbyterian Church, 1501 30th St., Rock Island. Program on local records by Christina Cox. Public invited. Information: call Christina Cox, 755-2056.

BLACKHAWK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY — 7 p.m. in Community Room, Rock Island. Program: Family research, general genealogy. Public invited. Information: call Christina Cox, 755-2056.

Life

Dorothy Trimble a woman on the go

By Dorothy Buresh
Staff writer

Dorothy Trimble is a busy person.

Her list of organizations, written on the blackboard, would reach over her head. Despite two hip replacements the petite Mrs. Trimble carries on a schedule that might put a stevedore to shame.

A funeral director since 1958, she is active in the business of the Trimble Funeral Homes, located in Moline, Coal Valley and Aledo, which she co-owns with sons, Eric and Kent.

The former Dorothy Wilhelm was married in 1942 to Riley W. Trimble in her home town of Decatur and the couple moved to Moline in 1944, where Mr. Trimble joined the Knox Funeral Home, which he purchased in 1945. (That funeral home was once on 3rd Avenue and later moved to what is now the Mandarin Restaurant at the corner of 18th Street and 5th Avenue).

Juggles many roles

Since the death of her husband Mrs. Trimble has juggled her role of widow, mother, co-owner in the funeral home and of Staack's Florist, along with her varied interests in civic and church organizations.

"I enjoy people and take comfort from helping them in times of sorrow," she said. "People ask me if it doesn't depress me to be around death so much," she said. "I do not find it in the least depressing," she said. "Many people open up to me and tell me how they worked next to a coworker in the foundry and how much that person will be missed." Mrs. Trimble tries to find the right words of comfort to offer.

On the light side she collects elephants, having more than 800 in her collection which she houses in the Moline and Coal Valley funeral homes. "I also have many packed away," she says. The collection was started when she was a girl with a bottle of perfume shaped as an elephant, the gift of a cousin. Now she has elephants shaped of stone, wood, peach seeds, ebony, ivory and glass, many rare and exotic. "While we were courting, Riley would bring me an elephant tucked in a box of candy or a bouquet of flowers," she said.

Probably the thing that Dorothy

Trimble is best known for is her personally penned notes to friends. She never misses the chance to drop a line to those who have been promoted or honored in some way or bereaved. She credits her grandmother, Lucy Miller of Decatur, with instilling in her the value of note writing. Mrs. Miller was Supreme Oracle of the Royal Neighbors, and as such traveled a lot. She encouraged her grandchild to write to her about her activities, even though she was only 10 at the time.

Active in her church

Mrs. Trimble is an active member of First United Methodist Church of Moline and is a past member of the church board. Among her many other affiliations, she is a member of Literary Guild of Moline, a past director and member of the Salvation Army Board, a past president of the Moline School Foundation, a member of Moline Republican Women's Club, a member of the Board of Directors of the Rock Island County Historical Society and current corresponding secretary, Rock Island-Moline Zonta Club International. She also belongs to Blackhawk Genealogical Society, Rock Island County Historical Society Auxiliary, Moline Chapter 258 Order of the Eastern Star, and Quad-City Alumnae Club of Delta Delta Delta Sorority. She is also a member of the American Association of University Women.



Dorothy Trimble has to be one of the busiest women in Moline. Besides being involved in the operation of the Trimble Funeral Homes and Staack's Florist, she also belongs to numerous civic organizations and is active in her church. She also has more than 800 items in her elephant collection. (Photo by Gary Krambeck)

WW II romances stirred American melting pot



Pamela Sanders Langston met her husband, Caleb, in her hometown of Wellborough, England, during World War II. Here, they appear in their wedding



photo and at home in Rock Island today. For their story and the stories of other area war brides from England, see page D4. (Photo by John Greenwood)

By Frederick Cese
Seattle Times

At The Rose, a pub-restaurant in Cambridge, England, their courtship flowered. He was a U.S. Army Signal Corps sergeant stationed at a nearby U.S. air base where he repaired B-17 bomber radios damaged during attacks on Nazi Germany. She was a young English waitress.

Though the war ended in 1945, their love story didn't, so in 1946, the former Peggy Hunt sailed to America as Peggy Virden, war bride.

Until now, the story of how women such as Hunt took their place in America's great melting pot has been largely neglected by historians. That's true even though an estimated 1 million women — from 62 countries ranging from Albania to Iceland, Morocco to Yugoslavia — became GI war brides. About three-quarters of them moved to

War brides created wave of immigration

4 Q-C war brides reminisce about their romances and their move to America — D4

the United States in what was then the biggest single wave of immigration here since the 1920s.

The largest group comprised Britons like Peggy Virden. Even during the war, 30,000 were transported secretly to the United States with wounded American soldiers. That was followed by highly publicized military shipments of about 70,000 more between 1946 and 1948, some on the Queen Mary and others — including Virden — on less-famous vessels such as the Vulcania.

Finding them's a challenge

The full story of this romantic sidelight to military history seemed in danger of vanishing without academic record. So Virden's daughter, Jenel, 35, a University of Washington graduate student in modern history, is now seeking British war brides and writing a doctoral thesis on their unprecedented migration. Her work is funded by an English Speaking Union scholarship.

"I'm enthusiastic about this project," says Virden's Ph.D. adviser,

history professor Otis Pease, himself a World War II infantry casualty who convalesced in Britain. "I'm also surprised that scholars haven't picked up on this subject before."

But just finding the war brides presents a challenge.

"A unique thing about the British war brides is the way they were spread out all over the country," Virden explains. "That makes them different from many previous immigrants who came in ethnic groups and remained for years in ethnic groups, for example in Italian, Irish or Chinese neighborhoods."

Take Virden's own mother. At first she lived in Kellerton, Iowa (population 483), where her husband worked as a mail carrier. But in 1957, they moved to Everett, Wash., just north of Seattle. Peggy Virden says she prefers it because "the weather is more like England."

One "hook" that Jenel Virden (Please see BRIDES, page D4)

Q-C war brides share stories

Stories by Julie Jensen
Correspondent

Pamela Sanders Langston, Rock Island, met her husband, Caleb, in her hometown of Wellingborough, England, in August 1944. (See photo, page D1.) She had just returned from Cambridge, where she earned her teaching degree, and the American Army Air Corps MP had an office next to her uncle's law office.

"Actually, I met him in a pub," Mrs. Langston says, hastening to explain that an English pub is much different than an American tavern. "We were married in Wellingborough Feb. 12, 1945."

Mrs. Langston had had her fill of the war. "I had gone through air raids and was injured in one. I was walking down the street when I heard a roar. The sirens started, and a plane came in low. All I can remember is huge black crosses over my head, but I saw the doors open and the bombs come out. I was walking past a chemist's shop, and the restaurant on the second floor was filled with people who were killed. I just got cuts, bruises and gashes in my head. We weren't far from Coventry and Birmingham in Wellingborough and often got the leftover German bombs."

After their February marriage, Mrs. Langston left England April 30 on a hospital ship, arriving in New York May 5. "My husband met me there, and we drove back to Rock Island, getting here May 7."

"I was astounded at the amount of food here, and I found life very congenial," says Mrs. Langston. "The YWCA had something to do with bringing girls over from England, so I got a list of all the other English girls and went to visit them. I didn't have a car and walked and took buses all over Rock Island."

"We arranged to meet at the YWCA once a month and had wonderful times together — we still do. It's like home. The thing I kind of miss is that you don't have anybody to talk to about old times. Every year, two or three of the members go back to England, and we talk about that. We call ourselves the British Club, because we've had Welsh, Scottish, Irish and Australian members."

After 35 years "off and on" work as a librarian at Rock Island Public Library, Mrs. Langston is retired, now doing for pleasure what she once did for pay. "When I was working, I was getting paid for doing my hobby," she says.

The Langstons have three children: Bruce, Rock Island; Gregory, Coral Springs, Fla.; and Elaine De Lorenzo, Pompano Beach, Fla. Mrs. Langston became a U.S. citizen before the birth of their first child, Bruce.



Planned to wed another until she met 'Mac'

Joan Doddrell McAdams, Rock Island, lived in Streatham, London, and "was working in an office and planning to be married to someone else" when she was drafted and chose the Women's Auxiliary Air Force.

"After basic training, I was sent to a fighter base, RAF Duxford, not far from Cambridge. The American Army Air Corps was there

too, and J.D. (Mac) McAdams from Rock Island arrived there Jan. 6, 1943."

They met at a dance ("although he doesn't dance"), became engaged in April, and married in July.

"He had to get permission from his CO and Adjutant. They were very strict, and thought women just married Americans to get over here."

The McAdams' son Michael was born in June 1944, and she got a compassionate discharge. Mr. McAdams returned to the United States in 1945, and his wife and son came in 1946.

"I was so thrilled to be here," she says, "to see my husband and see some food. Because I had lived in London, it was difficult to find anything to do here at first, but I was very happy. Mac's folks were nice, and I

'They thought women just married Americans to get over here.'

was glad to be away from the bombing.

"We brought my mother over in the first year, but she didn't like it and went home. She didn't like the climate. We tried again, but she went home again, and I didn't get back to England for 10 years. Since the early 1970s, we have gone back every year. Something draws me back, but in two or three weeks I get it out of my system. After my husband retires (he's a machinist), I would like to stay for six months and take a flat."

The McAdamses have three children: Michael, born in England, who now lives in Davenport; Vicki Crompton Tetter, Bettendorf; and Melva Sierlacci, who lives in New Jersey. Their offspring have given them 10 grandchildren, including two boys named Steven.

Mrs. McAdams became a U.S. citizen in 1954, but she says, "You retain your British citizenship. I could go back and live there and receive all the benefits."



Met on a blind date, married years later

Molly White Pruter, Davenport, met her American soldier husband, Arnold, at Norfolk, England, on a blind date, but they weren't married until October 1953 in Windsor, Ontario.

She lived in Surrey, where she went to boarding school before the war, then moved with her father, who was in the Admiralty, to the Orkney Islands in the north of Scotland.

"We used to see American aircraft carriers and big ships," she says, "but it was a very secret operation. I also saw German barrage balloons and watched a German plane fly over the roof of our house. They say the first bomb dropped in the United Kingdom fell there, and it killed a rabbit."

They moved to Greenock near Glasgow and lived on a farm, and, she says, "I used to watch the Queen Mary and the Queen Elizabeth come up the Clyde loaded with troops."

She attended high school in the English Lake District in Bury St. Edmunds, Cumberland.

The Canadian marriage was the result of some immigration problems, and when Molly White went to visit a Canadian friend, the knot was tied.

"I'd always wanted to come to America, even before I met my husband," she says. "When I got here, I liked it very much. I was homesick at times and still do get that way after all these years, but my parents are here — in Geneseo."

The Pruters have two sons: Donald Emerson, who sells real estate in Davenport, and Rick, also of Davenport, who designs machines and medical devices and does professional drawing. He's married to the former Dawn Grossman, and they have two sons, Nicholas Emerson, 2 1/2; and Luke Richard, born Aug. 7.

Mrs. Pruter breeds and shows Pembroke Welsh Corgis, the breed favored by Queen Elizabeth II (she has six of them).

Mrs. Pruter says, "I had my first dog in 1949 from the same kennel where the queen got hers."

The crystal-clear diction of Britain is clearly discernible in the voices of these war brides who have been in the area for decades, a reminder of one sure gain from an earth-shaking ordeal.



Danced her way into heart of future husband

Mickie Braysher Moskowitz, Davenport, lived in Harrow on the Hill near the famous boys' school when she started dance lessons at the age of five, and she danced her way into the heart of Bill Moskowitz, a professional performer from Davenport who was in England with the 8th Air Force.

"They put on their own troop shows, and he was putting on shows too, so we combined them into one long show."

"I would call somebody from the audience up for my 'Me and My Dog' number and flirt with them until Bill took over and wouldn't give anybody else a chance."

Bill Moskowitz was sent home, and Mickie Braysher followed on a Norwegian freighter that was at sea 12 days.

"We were married Oct. 13, 1945, at the Black Hawk Hotel," she says, "and my family couldn't even come, but his family was wonderful to me. Everybody was so warm — they didn't give me a chance to feel homesick."

In the United States "everything seemed so possible," she says, "anything you wanted to do — a good

'They didn't give me a chance to feel homesick.'

life. I was still homesick, but after one visit to England, I was a Quad Citian."

She became a citizen after her first child was born, but, she says, "they called me 'the little war bride' for years."

Mrs. Moskowitz put her early training to good use in the Quad-Cities, performing with the Quad City Music Guild and Playcrafters and choreographing for the Guild and area colleges.

The Moskowitzes have two daughters: Sherida Josephson, Des Moines; and Charis Silver, St. Louis. Sherida is principal violist with the Des Moines Symphony and teaches at the Suzuki school. She is the mother of 14-year-old twin daughters, Danna and Rachel, who are also musicians. Charis, also a frequent performer in the Quad-Cities, has two sons, Jonathan, 6, and Benjamin, 2, and has just moved to St. Louis.

Brides

(Continued from page D1)

does have in her search for war brides is the fact that many enrolled in organizations like the International Wives Club that her mother joined in Everett. At its peak in the 1950s, the Everett club had about 30 members, including war brides from Japan, Greece and other na-

tions. Eventually it became a community-service organization before becoming more or less defunct, except for an annual potluck.

In their heyday, such organizations formed a vital support function for young women trying to cope simultaneously with the stresses of a new marriage, new children and a

new country. So Jenel Virden plans to look at club records and question the war brides on such subjects as where they met their husbands, what work they did during the war and whether their parents favored the union.

"Some parents in England weren't really pleased about having their daughters dating American servicemen," says Jenel Virden. "There was a saying at the time: 'U.S. servicemen have three big faults. They're overpaid, oversexed and over here.'"

Army feared dangerous liaisons

Most of the brides were agricultural workers in the Women's Land Army, munitions workers, servicewomen or secretaries, and most met their GI husbands-to-be in pubs or at dances. Within a few weeks of arriving in Britain in 1942, the first GIs were applying to their commanding officers for permission to marry their new English fiancées.

Virden plans to delve into official military records in Washington, D.C., and Red Cross records to reconstruct the complex politics of the war-bride issue. She says the U.S. Army tried to discourage such liaisons, "first, because it wanted the troops to focus on the business at hand, which was fighting the war, and, second, because it saw the marriages as just a passing fad, with possible post-war complications."

Both the British and American authorities also fretted that some women might be trying to take advantage of American servicemen, and that some American servicemen already married might be trying to take advantage of single British women.

Even 40 years later, some of those issues remain unresolved. Since 1964, several hundred British adults fathered out of wedlock by American servicemen have joined together in two organizations called Trace and War Babies to search for their American dads. However, the U.S. government has refused to

open military records to assist the quest.

American servicemen also began fraternizing with Continental women after the 1945 invasion, and although marriage to Germans, Bulgarians, Hungarians, Romanians and other Axis nationals was banned at first, the restrictions

were eventually eliminated in both Europe and Japan. "Everywhere the Yank troops go, they marry," Virden says.

The UW graduate student says her next study will be on war brides from formerly hostile nations. "It will be interesting to learn how they were received in the U.S.," she says.

Recently Virden made a sentimental journey to Cambridge and saw The Rose, where her parents first met, and St. Paul's Church, where they married. "I took photos, and got all teary," she says.

If you're a war bride and would like to contact Jenel Virden, you can reach her at (206) 543-5790.

St. Paul's Family history interests kids



Angela
Hull



Robby
Jordan



Aaron
Sullivan



Brandon
Gustafson

By Angela Hull
Argus student writer

My grandpa was a musician in World War II.

He played in a band, which was called the 215 Coast Artillery. He played in the Army Air Force band that entertained the troops in Alaska.

My grandpa usually had breakfast at about 7. Lunch was at noon. Dinner was around 5. He had it much better than those in service who had to fight the enemy. He could get up any time and go to bed at any time he wanted to.

My grandpa is proud to be an American and to have served our country.

By Robby Jordan
Argus student writer

My grandfathers and my dad all have something in common.

They are all pastors. They had their start in Wisconsin. My

grandpas were both in the Missouri Synod.

My Grandpa Musser was the first to become a pastor. He preached at many churches but ended up at Our Redeemer in Milwaukee. He died in 1983. His tapes of sermons are now played on a Milwaukee radio station on Sunday. His daughter, Linda, is my mom.

My Grandpa Jordan became a pastor and preached at about five churches. The church he retired from was Bethlehem Church. As I said he is retired, but guest speaks at many churches. He now lives in Hartford, Wis. His son is my father, Robert.

My dad has been a pastor for 12 years. He has preached at three churches and is now at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. My dad is a circuit pastor in the Wisconsin Synod. I think my dad is the best pastor in the whole world!

By Aaron Sullivan
Argus student writer

When my grandmother was young, she had only radio and a movie theater in which to find entertainment.

The rest of the time she had to find her own fun. In her neighborhood there were about 15 to 20 boys and girls. They would play together during the day and even at night under the street light. They played many games some of which were hide and go seek, kick the can and Truth and Consequence. Once in a while they would even play a trick on a car coming down the street. Half of the kids would get on one side of the street and the other half on the other side. They would then act like a rope was in the street and when a car came close one of the kids would yell, "Pull!" The car, of course, would come to a quick stop.

The children would then run away as fast as they could. I love my Grandma's stories.

By Brandon Gustafson

Argus student writer

I have a lot of relatives and one of them is the very famous Robert E. Lee.

One of my relatives in Texas is publishing a book about the first and last Eskwes that came to America. Robert E. Lee is in this book and is a distant cousin of mine.

Robert E. Lee was a general and the leader of the South in the Civil War. He was involved in many of the great battles of the war.

Robert E. Lee is on my mom's side of the family. Even though he fought on the side of the South I am proud he is my distant relative.

Some guards aided rebel escapes

Elihu C. Beckham of Tennessee was a Confederate prisoner of war at the Rock Island barracks during the Civil War when the 108th Regiment U.S. Colored Infantry was on guard duty there.

Sgt. Beckham, a member of Co. "K" 21st Arkansas, had been wounded and captured by Gen. Steele in Arkansas.



Marlene
Gantt

Images of the past

"The prisoners at Rock Island were guarded by negro Union soldiers for awhile," wrote Mr. Beckham. "They had orders to fire on us if we spoke to them while on guard. The order was read to us that we might not run unaware into unnecessary danger. There was a little ditch all around inside that we called the 'dead line' because the guards had orders to fire if we crossed that line. The parapet was about 18 feet high, with a platform on the outside about four feet from the ground, on which the guards were placed, about 50 or 75 yards apart," wrote Mr. Beckham.

"One day," he wrote, "a prisoner saw a guard he thought he knew." Apparently the guard had been a slave belonging to the man's father. (Many slaves had joined the Union army to gain their freedom.)

The Confederate prisoner and the guard had grown up together. Nonetheless, the prisoner was hesitant to speak to the prisoner. He knew the guard had orders to shoot if he spoke to him, explained Mr. Beckham.

"So he got as close as he could to the side and watched the guard until he got the opportunity to look back. Then he got behind the fence and called

the guard by name. The negro guard answered and instantly recognized his young master," said Mr. Beckham.

A discussion ensued about the guard helping the prisoner to escape. The guard told the prisoner to come back at a certain hour during the night and stand by a particular tree. He instructed the prisoner to give a whistle which he would answer. That night the prisoner went to the designated tree and waited quietly until he heard the relief guard pass. Then he whistled. The whistle was answered. Cautiously the prisoner crawled to the parapet. "The negro reached down his gun, the prisoner caught hold and held on," said Mr. Beckham. "The negro lifted the prisoner to the top, then set his gun down on his beat, hung his cartridge box on it and left with his young master. Neither of them had been heard of when I left the prison," said Mr. Beckham.

Mr. Beckham and the other prisoners often thought about escaping. Two prisoners who made an escape did so by disguising themselves as Union soldiers. They very cleverly made Union uniforms from some Federal overcoats. They cut them up, making themselves pants and blouses. The clothing was sky blue, said Mr. Beckham.

"Then they got some walnut roots and whittled them in the shape of the butt of a pistol, got old boot legs and made belts and pistol scabbards," wrote Mr. Beckham. The men fooled the gate keeper, who was an old veteran, said Mr. Beckham. The men chatted busily as they walked behind a wagon which was going through the gate. At the gate, a pistol was a man's pass, which the men appeared to have. One of the men was Newton Hawkins Smith of Missouri.

The Confederate prisoners, who often dreamed of a massive escape, were buoyed when the tide of the Civil War seemed to be turning in favor of the South at one point. They got

word that a raid led by the Southerners was headed in their direction. They planned to join those troops if they ever got here.

Mr. Beckham said there would have been eight to ten thousand men ready to go from the prison to help the fight. "There was an arsenal on the island," explained Mr. Beckham. He said it was not very strongly guarded.

"Our first dash would have been for the Arsenal," wrote Mr. Beckham. "If the river had not been in the way, I expect we would have tried it regardless of the raid," he said.

On Jan. 15, 1865, some of the prisoners at Rock Island were informed that they would be part of an exchange. On Jan. 16 a group of 289 prisoners was marched over to an empty barracks in the city of Rock Island. Mr. Beckham was there. "So there we were, 269 of us," wrote Mr. Beckham. "In one room 100 feet long without fire, nearly naked, and not a blanket to the man. As cold and weak as we were I did not think it possible for one man in the crowd to survive that night but we did. We went around in a circle in a trot or walk all night to keep from freezing. The room was very tight and we were so closely crowded and buoyed up with the hope of going South that we lived through the night which will no doubt, be remembered as long as there is one of that group alive. Not a single man laid down or even sat down during that entire night. If we had stopped I do not believe there would have been a live man in the house in two hours."

On Jan. 17 the group of prisoners left by train for Springfield, then to Cairo, where they were placed on an old Mississippi steamer for the journey South.

Information for this article was provided by the Blackhawk Genealogical Society, Rock Island.

Marlene Gantt, a Blackhawk cultural historian, lives in Rock Island.



A one-story addition would blend with the Rock Island County Historical Society House, 822 11th Ave., Moline.

Group makes plans for a new library

By Bj Elsner
QUAD-CITY TIMES

Rock Island County Historical Society is kicking the dust off a plan to build a new library facility.

A \$100,000 matching grant from an anonymous donor has renewed fund-raising efforts for a proposed 7,000-square-foot addition to the Society's Historical House and Museum, 822 11th Ave., Moline.

Historical documents, books and other materials on Rock Island County are stored in the basement of the Historical House.

James Sampson, past president of the non-profit Society, said the 700-square foot basement has never provided adequate storage or working space. "It wasn't intended to be

a permanent home, but over the years, every time we talked about building, everyone would say there's no money and we were defeated before we even started."

With the matching-grant offer, Sampson and his wife, Lucille, archivist and librarian for the Society, believe now is the time to move forward.

The donor, who is known to the Sampsons — and who they say will reveal himself when payment is made — has promised a dollar for dollar match, up to \$100,000, for donations raised between March 1 and June 30.

Since 1980, \$265,000 has been raised. The estimated cost of the addition is \$780,000. Officials hope corporate pledges will allow construction to begin within the year.

Librarian receives historians' award

Lucille Sampson, archivist and librarian for the Rock Island County Historical Society, received Illinois' highest honor for historians, presented at a recent banquet in Peoria.



Sampson

The Illinois State Historical Society presented the award to Sampson for her

Achievement, one of two presented this year.

Sampson, a Rock Island resident who has worked for 17 years as a volunteer at the county historical library, was nominated by fellow volunteers.

"It really makes this award special to know it was my coworkers who nominated me," Sampson said.

Sampson also was honored for co-authoring the book, "Rock Island: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow," a history of the city of Rock Island.

Wednesday, July 4, 1990

Descendants tip caps to famed frontiersman

GRANBURY, Texas (AP) — Davy Crockett probably wasn't born on a mountaintop in Tennessee. And nobody really thinks he shot a bear when he was only 3.

But that doesn't take anything away from the legend, at least for the 180 Crockett descendants gathering in Texas this week.

"Those kinds of things are interesting to read about, but they don't necessarily reflect the real Davy Crockett," said Leonard Stasney, one of the Crockett descendants holding their fifth biennial reunion at this town, 30 miles southwest of Fort Worth.

Davy's widow settled in Granbury after his death at the battle of the Alamo in San Antonio in 1836.

"The myth was bigger than the man," said descendant Sandra Weaver of Granbury, who wore a cloth Crockett doll with a real coon tail on the cap, the whole thing pinned to her shoulder like a huge corsage.

Ms. Weaver and Crockett kin traded tales about their famous ancestor Tuesday at the clan picnic, swapped gossip and argued over the best place to get a genuine coonskin cap.

They debated how often a

fighter could fire the muskets of Davy's day and whether Crockett was killed in action or, as some historians say, executed by the Mexicans after surrendering the Alamo.

"Davy Crockett went down swinging a rifle — he wasn't no coward," insisted Charles Edward Crockett Sr. of Falls City, Ore.

"It just doesn't matter," Ms. Weaver said. "All the men who died at the Alamo were heroes."

For the descendants gathered at Granbury's Plantation Inn, it's the search for a "real" Davy Crockett that matters most.

And according to them, that's not the Davy Crockett a generation of Americans knew from the Disney TV series that made the buckskin-clad actor Fess Parker an instant celebrity and prompted millions of youngsters to buy coonskin caps.

About 200 people belong to the non-profit corporation Descendants of David Crockett, based in Tennessee. Members must be blood relations to Crockett. Associate memberships are extended to cousins, historians and others who revere the pioneer.

"It's kind of exciting to talk to all the people that you are related

to that you don't really know," Stasney said. "It's just exciting to know that we can share the little

bits and pieces of information and learn a little more about who we are."

People's Pulpit

Complete obituaries benefit genealogists

Dear Editor, The Argus: This is in regards to Roger Ruthhart's article on obituaries from the Sunday, July 1, paper. I'd like to offer another thought on the subject.

Obits are a very important source of information to all genealogists. As a board member of Mercer County Historical Society, I can tell you that when researchers visit our Essley-Noble Museum in Aledo, they expect to be able to look for obits of their ancestors!

And, it is most helpful if these include the parents of the deceased, as well as full dates of births and deaths. It does no good to state they "died Tuesday," as in years to come, when looking at this article, we will not know the exact date of death, unless one has the entire page of the newspaper.

Our collection of obituaries includes quite old scrapbooks containing obituaries cut from newspapers. These are a goldmine of information, but we have no way of knowing from which newspaper they were taken, or the date.

All historical societies are delighted to receive these clippings and in our society library we have indexed the scrapbooks given to us. We have also gone through our local

newspapers and extracted vital information onto forms and indexed them.

Genealogists collect death certificates for each ancestor and for this, you must know the county where the deceased died. Many times, we are quite surprised to find death occurred in a far-away state when we expected to find the person died where he resided. This happens because of illness striking while on vacation, for instance.

Many times, the only way to know this little clue is by reading the obituary. County clerks are now restricting genealogists from purchasing death records of their ancestors, or charging extremely high fees, so obituaries are the next step in family research.

We in Mercer County are fortunate to have our local weekly paper, "The Times Record," print obits which relate names of the parents, full dates of birth and death, place when they occurred, to whom the deceased was married and the date and place. (See, we are never satisfied, always wanting more dates!) Too, relatives often do not know all the particulars to give for obituaries.

I do agree, however, all the flowery stuff and pallbearers names and etc. can be eliminated.

Several of us, all board members of Mercer County Historical Society, have read Mr. Ruthhart's article

and enjoyed it very much. When I said I was going to write and point out another use of obituaries, the ladies cheered me on!

By the way, Rock Island Historical Society also has a collection of obituaries in their archives.

CHERYL McCAW
and others from the
Board of Mercer County
Historical Society

R.I. ARGUS MAR. 8, 1990

Heritage League is organized

The Quad Heritage League has issued the first of its new series of quarterly newsletters.

Founded in the fall of 1989 to provide a coordinating structure for more than 25 heritage-related organizations in Rock Island and Scott Counties, the new organization is headed by Michael J. Smith, director of Putnam Museum.

In announcing the first issue of "Heritage," as the organization's newsletter is entitled, Mr. Smith stated, "The Quad City Heritage League will serve as a coordinating structure, a federation if you will, to encourage better coordination and collaboration among the more than 25 heritage-related institutions in

the Quad-Cities region.

"Members include libraries and museums, volunteer historic preservation groups and genealogical clubs. There is room for all who seek to preserve and interpret the past in our region. We are especially pleased to have worked with Quad City Vision for the Future in getting this coordination structure under way."

Organizations can join the Quad City Heritage League for annual dues of \$20. Individuals can subscribe to the League's quarterly newsletter for \$10 a year.

The League is headed by a board consisting of Mr. Smith as president; Glenda Weiss of Palmer Col-

lege Archives as vice president; Kermit Westerberg of the Swenson Swedish Immigration Center, Augustana College, as secretary, and Christine Lage of the Black Hawk Genealogical Society, as treasurer.

Additional board members are Gretchen Frick from the Deere-Wiman House, Amy Groakopf from the Davenport Public Library, Miriam Ingram from The Children's Museum, Roger Robinson from the Scott County Genealogical Society, Lucile Sampson from the Rock Island County Historical Society, James Warwick from the Rock Island Public Library, and Karen Williams from the Rock Island Preservation Society.

Information about the Heritage League may be obtained from any board member, information about the newsletter may be obtained by calling the editor, Iris Christensen, at Putnam Museum, 204-1183.

Thanks for successful Q-C discovery day

On behalf of the Quad City Heritage League I want to thank the people of the area for making "Discover the Treasures of the Quad-Cities" a huge success.

As one of the coordinators I was gratified with the response we had on May 20. It was wonderful to see close to 6,000 people come out to learn about their local history.

The day was great because of the people who rode the buses, my vol-

unteers, and the bus drivers. Because of the turnout, more bus drivers had to be called. My bus guides were wonderful, doing additional tours often without a break. And the people who came were fantastic.

I also owe a big thank you to the Heritage League's co-sponsors; KWQC-Channel 6, who wanted everyone to know how interesting our history is; the Quad City Council of Tourism, who realized that our history is an important asset; and

Metrolink, Bettendorf Transit System, and the Davenport CitiBus, who provided free transportation. They did an excellent job.

I applaud everyone who participated in "Discover the Treasures of the Quad-Cities." You definitely showed your best side, while discovering that our history is all around us.

Gretchen Frick, Deere-Wiman House, Moline

Library Lines

Designed and Edited by Leesa D. Gray
Volume 12 No. 5

Genealogy Collection

The Blackhawk Genealogical Society's Collection is now located at the Rock Island Public Library. The library is most pleased to have this collection of materials available for use for our patrons. This will augment our collection and the location is convenient for those researching at the Court House.

The genealogy collection is housed next to our Historical Collection Room on the first floor. The study carrel in that area is reserved for the convenience of the genealogy researcher.

Once again we welcome the Blackhawk Genealogical Society to the Rock Island Library.

James F. Warwick, Director

THE DAILY DISPATCH AND ARGUS

Saturday, July 21, 1990 B10

THE DAILY DISPATCH AND ARGUS

Saturday, July 21, 1990 B10

Twins enjoy sharing music, laughter and helping others

By Kay Danielson
Correspondent

When it comes to being active, twins Anne and Marie Ringquist have set the pace for most of their 78 years. And what's more, they continue to be involved in a variety of projects long after most people retire.

"We love work," said Marie. "It keeps you from thinking about yourself."

Longtime members of Bethel Wesley United Methodist Church, the women are officers of the church and United Methodist Women, sing in the choir, and play in the bell choir, among other things.

Church member Mary Ann Harvey nominated the twins as "Unsung Saints." "These twins do or have done more work for our church than most of us youngsters," said Ms. Harvey. "They are still encouraging and leading even though I'm sure it would be easier to retire."

Bell choir is enjoyable, Marie said, because "We have a good leader — he laughs with us."

They love teaching children

They consider teaching Sunday School a joy.

"If you can think of things to do that make children want to come, they will like it," Marie said.

Making rye bread is another example of what you might expect from these women. The fourth Thursday in October the church puts on a Swedish smorgasbord. The past two years there has been a shortage of bakers for the event so Marie figured how long it would take to make 100 loaves of the sticky dough bread.

"I bought extra pans and marked the days when I could bake eight loaves. Then I had to find people with freezers to put them in," she said and laughed.

"We don't find work a chore. It's fun and makes you feel good," said Anne. They attribute their attitudes to a wonderful family, the parents and three brothers.

Sisters never gave up hope

About the time the twins were ready to go to college, the banks failed and they lost all their college money not once but twice, they said. Still they worked and saved four more years and eventually graduated from college. They were teachers in Moline for 40 years.

Anne taught first grade, likes woodworking, making children's furniture and grows violets and roses.

"We do all our own yardwork, too," she said.



Unsung Saints

Marie was art coordinator for the schools, and is a potter and painter. They both do loomwork, weaving rugs, and do much of their own sewing and canning.

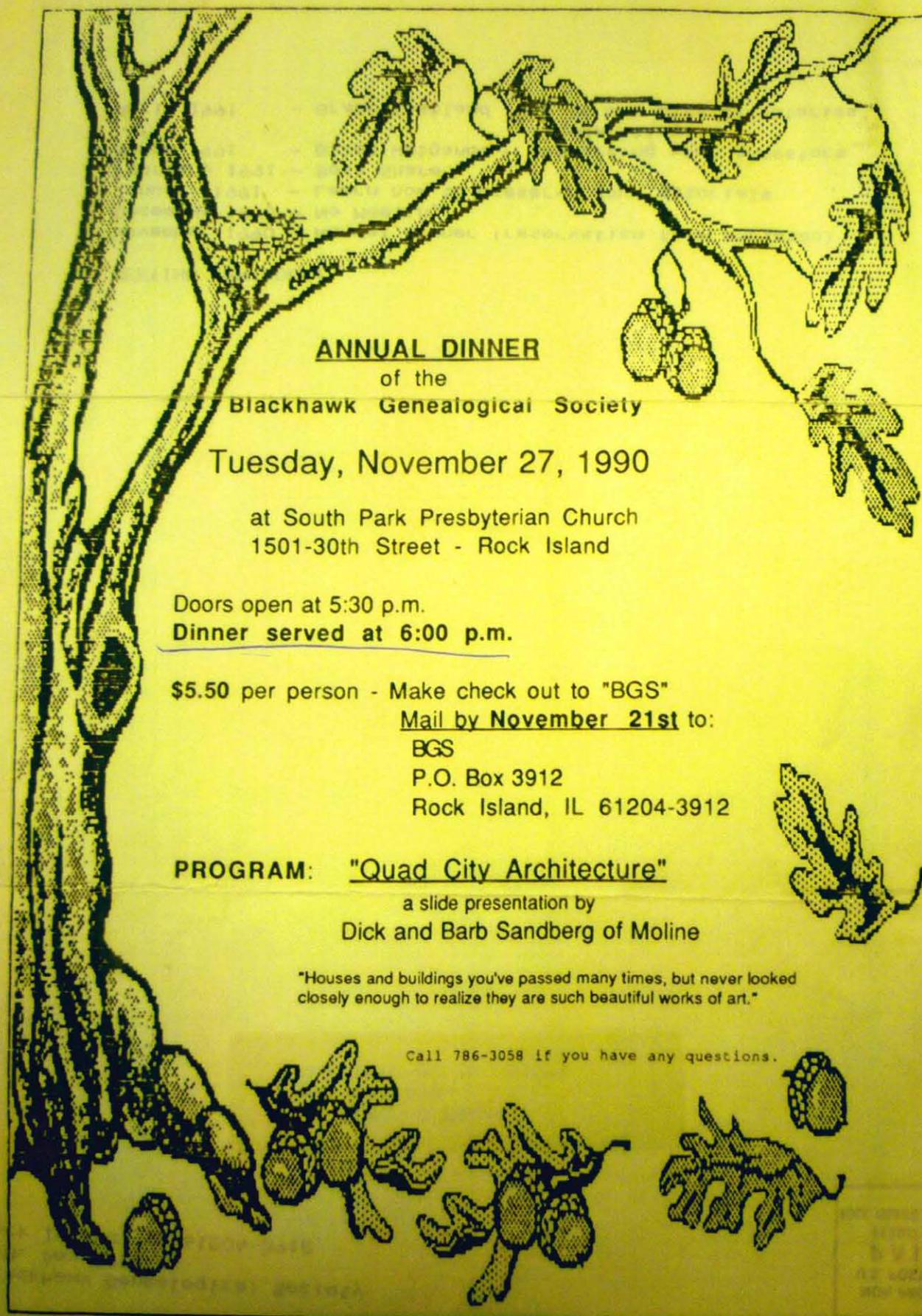
"I've always had to be an organizer because of getting lessons and supplies ready for seven classes a day," said Marie. "My head just plans and plans."

This planning is not only working for the church. They are also active in Delta Kappa Gamma Society, a retired teachers' group.

Laughter and energy are contagious when talking with Anne and Marie. Perhaps that is why Ms. Harvey calls them "an inspiration to all of us."



When Bethel Wesley United Methodist Church, Moline, wants creativity, Anne and Marie Ringquist have lots to share. The twins, both retired teachers, made the horses for this May mother and daughter banquet. (Photo by Todd Matney)



ANNUAL DINNER
of the
Blackhawk Genealogical Society

Tuesday, November 27, 1990

at South Park Presbyterian Church
1501-30th Street - Rock Island

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner served at 6:00 p.m.

\$5.50 per person - Make check out to "BGS"

Mail by **November 21st** to:

BGS

P.O. Box 3912

Rock Island, IL 61204-3912

PROGRAM: "Quad City Architecture"

a slide presentation by
Dick and Barb Sandberg of Moline

"Houses and buildings you've passed many times, but never looked
closely enough to realize they are such beautiful works of art."

Call 786-3058 if you have any questions.

Gerald Wood ^{d. 21 Dec. 1990}

Services for Gerald H. Wood, 80, Route 2, New Boston, formerly of Rock Island and Moline, are 11 a.m. Monday at Knox-Larson Funeral Home, Rock Island. Burial is in Greenview Memorial Garden, Silvis.

Visitation is 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday. Memorials may be made to Shriners' Crippled Children's Hospital.

Mr. Wood died Friday at Mercer County Hospital,ledo.



He was born Aug. 24, 1910, in Moline. He married Pearl Shepherd July 11, 1936.

He was a tool grinder and inspector at the former International Harvester Farmall Works, Navistar, for 40 years, retiring Aug. 24, 1970.

He was in Civilian Conservation Corps and Naval Reserves for 2½ years.

He was a member of New Boston United Methodist Church; a mason with Eureka Lodge 69, Milan; a member of Mohammed Temple, Peoria; Valley of Moline Consistory; Black Hawk Shrine Club; Milan Order of Eastern Star 326, past patron; Vashti White Shrine of Jerusalem, past Watchman of Shepherds; ZAL Grotto; Rock Island Loom; Black Hawk Genealogical Society; and Boston Bay Conservation Club.

Survivors include the widow; daughters, Marilyn Leenerts, Milan, and Gwen Gerbitze, New Boston; 16 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and a sister, Alta Brown, Scottsdale, Ariz.

Carl Heald ^{d. Fri. Nov. 30, 1990}

Services for Carl B. Heald, 60, of 940 39th Ave., East Moline, are 11 a.m. Monday at Trimble Funeral Home, Moline. Burial is in Rose Lawn Memorial Estate, Moline.

Visitation is 2 to 4 today. Memorials may be made to American Turners Society.

Mr. Heald died Friday at United Medical Center, Moline, after a lengthy illness.



He was born May 13, 1930, in Fort Madison, Iowa. He married Gay A. Waffle Aug. 19, 1955, in Moline.

He was a millwright at John Deere Foundry for 31 years, until leaving on disability in 1986.

He was past president of Moline Turners; past president of Turners District Board; and Region Seven Councilor of American National Turners. He was a member of John Deere Retirees, and Moline American Legion Post 246.

He was a Navy veteran of the Korean War.

Survivors include the widow; daughters, Lynn Heald, Chicago, Karina Heald, East Moline, Janet Strom, Moline, and JoAnn Shrum, Cordova; a son, Todd Heald, Moline; grandchildren, Taylor Heald, Chicago, and Nicole Heald, Moline; a sister, Ruth Fox, Stronghurst; a brother, Richard H. Heald, Moline; and his mother-in-law, Alice Waffle, Daventport.

Washington's a relative, by George

BRADLEY, III (AP) — He has George Washington's nose, he has George Washington's honesty and he has papers to prove he is the last living male descendant in George Washington's family.

But that doesn't mean 85-year-old William Augustine Washington, a retired tool and die maker in this Kankakee County town, is cocky about his heritage. He has always considered it "happenstance" to have been born kin to the first president.

Bill Washington is the last great-great-great-great-grandson of George's father, Augustine Washington.

Technically, he is not actually George's progeny, since the first president never had any children of his own. Instead, he is from the line of one of the George's half-brothers, Lawrence.

Some others also purport to be descendants of the noble Washington clan.

Nat Washington, 76, a former Washington state senator, says he is a descendant of George Washington's brother, John.

Thousands of descendants

The Washington family undoubtedly has thousands of descendants in the United States who can trace their heritage back to Augustine Washington. Bill came to the attention of genealogists in the mid-1970s.

One of the genealogists, John Washington of Maryland, wrote in a letter to Bill Washington that Augustine "had three sons, five grandsons, 11 great-great-grandsons, six great-great-great-grandsons, five great-great-great-great-grandsons and one great-great-great-great-great grandson, who is you."

Bill Washington and his wife of 63 years, Hazel, have two daughters, Inez and Joyce.

Bill's notoriety in genealogical circles never has affected his everyday life much, although he has been invited to ride in an occasional parade.

He also once got a warm reception at Mount Vernon, George and Lawrence Washington's home in Virginia, when caretakers learned who their visitor was and rushed to take his picture.

"I never paid any attention to it, really, until they came after me," he said of the genealogical researchers. "My first thought was it's a happenstance, it could happen to anybody."

"We should be wealthy, but we aren't," his wife said. "They say George Washington gave it all away to his friends."

No kidding

Here, from St. Louis Genealogical Society, via Don Volz of St. Louis, are the reasons for demise listed on six real death certificates:

1. "Went to bed feeling well—woke up dead."
2. "Don't know—never fatally ill before."
3. "Don't know—died without aid of a doctor."
4. "Worn out."
5. "Nothing seriously wrong."
6. "Blow to head with an axe" (Another man's wife was identified as the "contributory cause").

World Features Syndicate

Deceased parents, kin should be in obituaries

Dear Editor, The Argus: As an amateur genealogist who has found many "days-gone-by" gems of family history in newspaper obituary columns, my friends and I would like to see The Argus return listing parents and immediate kin who have died before the deceased.

The new insertion of activities and interests of the departed is nice and gives another insight.

This letter was prompted due to the death of a friend who was at my 50th class reunion in June. The missing information would have settled some questions.

PHYLLIS S. ANDERSON
Reynolds

* Mary Morrissey, of Moline, a former country school teacher in Iowa, was a retired associate professor at Black Hawk College. She was the first person in the area not of Belgian descent to receive the award in recognition of her efforts on behalf of the Belgian population in the community. She was responsible for Black Hawk College's collection of Belgian artifacts. A native of Winterset, Iowa, she studied genealogy in Washington, D.C. A member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Moline, she has been active in the Center for Belgian Culture for many years. At the age of 76 she learned to play piano and is still active in many area organizations.