

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



2024

JANUARY 2024

2024 began with 146 members from the close of 2023, many have renewed, and the remainder will have 60 days grace period to renew.

The newly elected officers and board members are as follows:

President: Julie Vogel

Vice President: Jay Matlock

Recording Secretary: Linda Walker

Treasurer: Judi McDowell

Member-at-Large 2024: Sally Bartosh

Member-at-Large 2025: Mary Gardner-Karcher

Member-at-Large 2026: Pam Lawson

Committee Chairs:

Cemetery Updates: Judi McDowell

Digital Technology: Julie Vogel

Education: Linda Polich, Linda Walker, Mary Karcher, Beth Hoffman, Betty Hagberg

Fundraising: Linda Polich

Funeral Card Indexing: Jan McKenzie

Historian: Judi McDowell

Librarian: Debra Van Sant

Mailing: Kathy Elliott

Publications: Betty Hagberg

Queries & Research: Team Members

Registered Agent: Beth Hoffman

Registrar: Ann Noyce



The first Lunch and Learn for 2024 was held on January 3 via Zoom only from 11:30 AM until 1:00 PM.

The topic for the month was Source Citations.

16 members attended, and the following handout was provided.



2024 Lunch & Learn Program –

Source Citations

January 3, 11:30 – 1:00

ZOOM Only

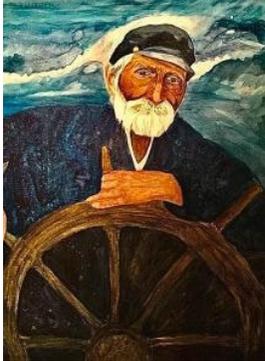
- I. General Meeting, Tuesday, January 23rd, 6:30 PM
Nancy Loe, on “Successful Genealogy Sources and Citation”
- II. Why Cite Sources?
- III. How to Cite Sources
 - a. The 5 “W”s - *Who, What, When, Where In, Where Is*
- IV. Tools
 - a. Research Logs – Negative Evidence
 - b. Templates & Cheat Sheets
 - c. Computer Support
 - o FTM, Roots Magic, Legacy Family Tree
 - o Family Search “Copy Citation” on images, Google Extensions
- V. Tips
 - a. What are your ‘best practice’ tips?
- VI. Challenges
- VII. Ask the Expert – Questions for Nancy



From Our Blog

An Unfinished Biography of Captain John McClurg

January 7, 2024



An Unfinished Biography of Captain John McClurg

By Jay Matlock

John McClurg is my first cousin three times removed. John was born in 1858 in Colerain Township, Lancaster County,

Pennsylvania. John's father, Samuel Jackson McClurg, was born in 1824 in West Nottingham, Chester County, Pennsylvania and died in 1861 at age 37 in Oxford, Chester County, Pennsylvania. John's mother, Rachel Collins was born in 1833 and died in 1870 also at age 37. Both events most likely were in Pennsylvania. So, you can see that John was an orphan when he was 12 years old. Until 1873, John lived with Thomas Coates, a wealthy farmer and, I believe, a relative. In 1873, John went to live with Joseph W Shellender, his guardian and my great-great grandfather. His wife was Rebecca Jane McClurg, and they were married in 1853, thus the tie between the McClurg's and Shellender's.

John had dreamed of sailing the seven seas and captaining his own vessel. He grew tired of the discipline of farm work and left Joseph Shellender in 1874 to become a captain. He walked away and declared "I'll never come home again until I'm captain of a ship."

Nothing was heard of John for many years, and he was presumed dead. His sister, Margaret (Maggie) Louisa McClurg Whiteside, had administered the estate of their parents, Samuel and Rachel. She had asked for her share of the estate which Joseph W. Shellender had been holding for John. Her attorney recommended she go to court to have John declared dead, legally.

Orphans' Court of Lancaster County records show the process which involved testimony from Thomas Coates as well as Mary Ramsey who appears in the 1880 census along with Maggie McClurg Whiteside as living with Thomas Coates as head of household. I assume Mary was a friend of Maggie's and knew John. She testified she last heard from John when he was in the West Indies. The court needed their testimony and after 12 weeks (about 3 months) had then passed for John or anyone else to appear before the Orphans' Court of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania to come forward and testify that he was alive. John was declared dead on August 17, 1887, and Maggie, as sole heir, was able to obtain John's half of the estate, \$140.40. Today that would be \$4,114.29 in 2023. Not an insignificant amount.

Now, fast forward to 1891, when John is 33 years old and has not been heard from in 18 years and legally is dead. He appeared in Philadelphia, delivering a load of mahogany for Peter Wright & Sons of Philadelphia in a vessel they owned. They had notified Maggie of his return, and she gave him his inheritance 21 years after his mother's death.

John remained true to his words: "I'll never come home again until I'm captain of a ship."

November 29, 2023

This is entitled "Unfinished" for good reason:

- I have not yet found record of John in any census record other than 1860 when he was 2 years old. Not surprising since he was probably at sea when the enumerator came around.
- I do not know if John married and/or had children.
- I have no direct evidence of the relationship of John to Truman Coates or Mary Ramsey.
- I have no information as to when John died.
- I am seeking information as to his seamanship career.



Monthly Board of Director meeting was held on Tuesday January 11, 2024 via Zoom at 6:30 PM. Eleven board members were in attendance.

Start by picking ONE of your ancestors ... just one.

Now look through all of your storage areas ...

- Filing cabinets
- Binders on a shelf
- Boxes in a closet
- Attached to your ancestors in your genealogy software
- Folders on your computer

... and find EVERYTHING you have gathered about this ONE ancestor.

Put the information in chronological order, and include

- birth, marriage, death records
- newspaper articles
- census reports
- city directory entries
- passenger lists
- military records
- photographs (digital and printed)
- Anything and everything you know about this ONE ancestor in one place.

Add stories

As you look through these pages, think about any stories you have heard about this ONE ancestor – either firsthand or stories that have been passed down through your family. These stories are what will bring your ancestor to life.

Write down the stories (handwritten, typed, whatever is easiest for you) and place them in your collection in chronological order.

Add historical events

Were there any significant historical events that occurred during that ONE ancestor's lifetime? If not, no worries. If there were, capture a newspaper headline of the event to include in your collection

You can finalize your collection in several methods:

- Family Tree Notebooks
- Microsoft Word
- Microsoft PowerPoint

Or just make copies of your documents and put them into a three-ring binder.

Congratulations ! You have just created a chapter for your family history book to share with your family! And, at the same time, you have organized your research for that ancestor in one place – easy to reference in the future.

Now, continue this method with the rest of your ancestors and you will have an organized collection which will become a treasure for your family for generations to come!

Let's share our progress at our next Writing Family History SIG in April!



The General Meeting for January was held on January 23, 2024. 27 members attended the Zoom presentation at 6:30 PM. Our guest speaker was Nancy Loe and her topic was **Sources and Citations**.

Nancy holds a dual Master's degrees from The Catholic University of America in American History and in Library Science with a specialization in archives administration.



From Our Blog

Past RICIGS Member Passes Away



Published [January 27, 2024](#)

Eulalia Garrett, of New Windsor, IL, was a past member of RICIGS. She passed away Friday, January 12th, 2024. Eulalia was very involved in RICIGS activities in the past.

Eulalia's Obituary follows

Eulalia H. Garrett

July 5, 1925 — January 12, 2024

New Windsor

Eulalia Hickok Garrett of New Windsor, IL, passed away at Allure of the Quad Cities on January 12, 2024. Per her request, cremation rites will be accorded. No services are planned at this time. Peterson-Wallin-Knox Funeral Home in Alpha, Illinois is assisting the family with arrangements and online condolences may be left to Eulalia's family at <http://www.petersonwallinknox.com>.

Eulalia was born in New Windsor, Illinois, on July 5, 1925, the daughter of Myron and Violet [Gebhart] Hickok. She married Rex W Garrett in San Antonio, TX on December 7, 1944. They farmed on the Garrett family farm and Eulalia later worked and retired from Deere & Co in their Corporate Planning Division. She enjoyed genealogy having traced her own family and Mercer County history. She was a member of the Historical Society of Aledo and donated her work to them to make it available to all. She was also a member of Alpha Xi Delta Sorority, Clara Lodge, Farm Bureau, the New Windsor

Presbyterian Church and was a founding member of the George Norris Legion Auxiliary Post #484.

Eulalia is survived by her daughters: Virginia (Scott) Stubblefield of Lewisville, TX and Rebecca Burris [Keith] Petrie of Brooksville, FL. Grandchildren: William (Jolie) Burris of Oakwood, IL, Angela [Mark] Milstein of Pacific Palisades, CA., and Alison (Bill) Taylor of Brooksville, FL. , Angela Bowman of Plymouth, Indiana, Courtney [Britt] Petrie of Boulder, CO., Hillary (Dave Prenske) Petrie of Brooklyn, NY., Robert (Denise) Stubblefield, and Amy (Bryan) Henderson. Great grandchildren include, Cole [Brittany] Burris, Carli Burris, Emma Milstein, Grace Milstein, Benjamin Milstein, Binyam Milstein, William Taylor, Jackson Taylor, Max Bowman, Ashton Bowman, Martie Prenske, Josh Kiser and Emily Kiser. Also surviving is a great-great grandchild, Wren Burris and multiple nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, sister and her husband, Marcia and Bill Johnson, brother and his wife, Wayne and Virginia Hickok.

Memorials may be made to the Hopewell Cemetery Maintenance Fund.



Lunch and Learn for February was held on the 7th via Zoom only from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. The topic this month was **Genealogical Proof Standard**. 20 members attended and the following handout was provided.



**2024 Lunch & Learn Program –
Genealogical Proof Standard
February 7, 11:30 – 1:00
ZOOM Only**

- I. What is the Genealogical Proof Standard?
 - a. Reasonably exhaustive research
 - b. Complete and accurate source citations
 - c. Careful analysis and correlation of evidence
 - d. Resolution of any conflicts
 - e. A well-reasoned written conclusion
- II. Why use it? (and When?)
- III. Intro to Case Study: Two Veronicas
- IV. GPS – Six Process Steps to Building a Solid Case
- V. Problem Solving Strategies
- VI. Proof Summary Examples
 - a. List view handout
- VII. Discussion Questions
 - a. Have you adopted the GPS in your research?
 - b. Has it helped the quality of your research?
 - c. Do you have examples of proof arguments to share?
 - d. Have you included proof summaries in your family stories?



Monthly Board of Director meeting was held on Tuesday February 8, 2024 via Zoom at 6:30 PM. Ten board members were in attendance.



From Our Blog

This week we highlight our first article in our Family Histories Collection! Enjoy!

Norah Helen Alsterlund



By RICIGS member Betty Hagberg

Published [February 13, 2024](#)

“Breaking News!

January 14, 1929

Amelia Earhart missing and feared lost near Albuquerque.

With
her in the plane is her secretary Norah Alsterlund.”

Who was Norah Alsterlund? And how did a Moline girl end up flying around with Amelia Earhart?

The next day Norah wrote the following to her mother in Moline: ” ... yesterday heard that papers and even a radio had reported Amelia and me lost. Would have wired you immediately that of course this was not so, but did not hear the rumor before it was denied. We went up for an hour at Albuquerque but found passes closed and could not get through, so came back and sat down. Apparently Field Manager did not report us in to the various stations he notified.”

Norah Helen Alsterlund was born June 4, 1905 in Moline to William and Louise (Jamieson) Alsterlund. She graduated from Moline High School in 1923 where she was class president.

After attending the University of Michigan for one year, she enrolled at Smith College, in Northampton, MA majoring in English. While at Smith College, she organized an innovative furniture exchange to help low income students. She graduated with honors in 1927.

After college she was hired by Cosmopolitan Magazine where she was assigned to work with Amelia Earhart who had a regular column on aviation. She left Cosmopolitan to serve as private secretary and assistant to Amelia and followed her to work for several years at the Transcontinental Air Transport Company, a predecessor to TWA. This company was the first to offer transcontinental air service from New York to Los Angeles and marketed its services to businessmen. Norah explained that one of Amelia's jobs was to make women more comfortable with flying so that wives of businessmen would not discourage their husbands from flying.

About 1933 Norah went to work for the U.S. State Department, first at the U.S. Consulate in Buenos Aires Argentina, and later in Bogota, Columbia. She left the State Department for a time in the late 1930's to get a master's degree from the University of Michigan. Norah spent World War II at the U.S. Embassy in London and was named vice consul there in 1950, one of the first women to hold such a position. In 1955 she testified before Congress on the scope of Soviet activity in the United States. Later she worked in Genoa, Italy and at her retirement she headed the consular office in Athens, Greece.

After nearly 30 years with the State Department, Norah retired and taught English for a number of years at Millersville State College, Pennsylvania. She died in 1996 and is buried in Riverside Cemetery, Moline. A scholarship has been established in her name at Augustana College, Rock Island.



The DNA Special Interest group met on February 20, 2024, via Zoom from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM. 15 members attended and discussed incorporating DNA into your genealogy. The following handout was provided.



DNA Special Interest Group 20 February 2024 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Zoom Only

*Join us to share ideas and expertise
on incorporating DNA into your
personal genealogy*

PRESENTATIONS

Don't wait to ask older generations to take a DNA test!

Examples of what you can learn from older generations that you can't find in your own DNA.

A fascinating case study of using DNA to find the biological parents of an adoptee.

ROUND ROBIN

- Share your DNA discoveries

started working with one of their Historians, who happened to be a distant cousin on my mother's side.

My Mayflower ancestors were John Billington, his wife Ellinor/Eleanor and their son Francis. They all came over on the Mayflower along with another son, John Jr., who died at a young age and had no children. Francis Billington married a widow, Christian Penn Eaton. She came over on the Anne in 1623 and married Francis Eaton, who came on the Mayflower. Christian is a distant cousin to William Penn. I looked at the book, "Mayflower Families Through Five Generations, Volume 21, John Billington." My 4th Great Grandmother Hannah Kingsley along with her husband George Hawkins, are listed in the book. I thought this shouldn't be too hard to find the documentation that I needed from me to my 4th Great Grandparents.

I had the book, Genealogy of the Elderkin Family with Intermarriages by Dyer White Elderkin, published in 1888. He was married to Cornelia Walker, sister to my 2nd Great Grandfather Daniel Walker. This book showed that Daniel married Sophia Hawkins. It also lists their children and has my Great Grandfather Denzil J. Walker listed as Jesse D.

The 1860 Census record for my 2nd Great Grandparents Daniel Walker and Sophia Hawkins showed them living in Warren County, PA. Sophia's parents Jesse & Hannah Hawkins were living with them. This was how I found out who Sophia's parents were. My Great Grandfather Denzil J. Walker was 2 and is listed on this Census record as Jesse D. I figured this was a nick name.

I found the marriage record for Hannah Kingsley & George Hawkins and their son Jesse Hawkins birth record in the Ricker Compilation of Vital Records of Early Connecticut, the Barbour Collection. That gave me documentation to my 3rd Great Grandfather Jesse Hawkins. I knew that the 1860 Census record was not enough proof and I needed some other record to show that Sophia Hawkins was Jesse's daughter.

I thought maybe the Elderkin Family book would give me the proof I needed, but the IL Mayflower Historian didn't think that the Mayflower Society would accept

the book as a source. So my application was put on hold until I could find more documentation.

Sophia was born in New York and I figured that Jesse and Hannah Hawkins were probably married in New York as their three children that I found were all born in New York. I found the cemetery in Chautauqua County, NY where Jesse & Hannah are buried. I contacted the sexton numerous times trying to get information, but he would never call me back. I contacted the Warren County, PA clerk's office to see if they had a death record or will for Jesse Hawkins. They told me they had a fire years ago and there were no birth or death records before the 1890's. I contacted Chautauqua County NY for a will for Jesse and there wasn't one. I contacted two different genealogy societies and got no response from them. It's really hard to find documentation from New York and I thought someday I'll have to go there and do research.

My friends were getting tired of hearing me whine. In July 2017 I went to the New England states with my friends Kitty Humphrey and Deb Van Sant. They were nice enough to let me stop at the cemetery in Warren County, PA where my Walker family are buried and then we went to New York to the cemetery where Jesse & Hannah Hawkins are buried. Right across the street from this cemetery was where the town Historian lived. I talked to her, but she had no new information for me. We went to the county clerk's office and only found a land record for Jesse Hawkins. No will.

When we were in Plymouth, MA, we went to the Mayflower Society library. I asked them to check my descendant line to see if anyone had joined with my 4th Great Grandmother Hannah Kingsley. No one had. There were members that joined with her siblings, but not her.

In September 2017 I attended the IL Heritage Weekend in East Peoria, IL. This is a weekend when numerous lineage societies get together and have their meetings. It's a great way to find out if you are eligible to join other societies. As I listened to the IL Mayflower Society have their meeting, one of the Historians mentioned that the Mayflower Society in Plymouth was publishing more Mayflower Family books. They are adding more generations and she said they just published a part 2 book to Volume 21 the John Billington family. I had just been in Plymouth in July and the book wasn't published yet. The genealogy Gods must have been smiling

down on me. I talked to her after the meeting and she said she had the new book at home and she would email the pages that had my line. A few days later when I opened the email from her, I got teary eyed when I read the information because

there was my Great Grandfather Denzil J. Walker/Jesse D. listed in the book. The Mayflower Society had used the Elderkin Book as a source for the information. A book that I've had since 2012 and was told that they probably wouldn't use it as a source and now they have.

All I had to do now was prove myself to my Great Grandfather. No problem. I had his marriage record, his death certificate, which listed his father's name. I also had a copy of his father's will, which showed that his correct name was Denzil and not Jesse D. I also had a copy of his obituary which listed a brother James Walker living in Warren County, PA.

The IL Mayflower Society Historian submitted my application to Plymouth, MA in October 2017 and it was approved in January 2018. I did the genealogy happy dance.

Some of my famous distant cousins who are also related to the John Billington family are:

James A. Garfield, 20th President of the U.S., actor Richard Gere and Countess Mercy Lavinia Warren Bump the wife of Tom Thumb.

The only thing left for this family that I want to find is Jesse Hawkins' wife Hannah's maiden name. She was born 3 Mar 1787. The 1850 Census says she was born in MA and the 1860 Census says she was born in CT. She died 25 Mar 1864. The hunt continues.

My advice is to never give up on your genealogy research. Someday, you just might find that gem of information that you've been looking for.



on February 27, 2024, Dr. Michael Lacopo was our general meeting speaker. He came to us via zoom at 6:30 PM. His topic was **Incorporating Social History into your Research.**

Dr. Michael D. Lacopo was born and raised in northern Indiana surrounded by an extended family always willing to tell tall tales. Intrigued by his maternal family's claim to be kinfolk of Abraham Lincoln, and his paternal family's stories of murder and mayhem, he took to genealogical research in 1980 to substantiate these family stories. 28 members attended.



From Our Blog

Family Histories Collection – Jacob and Mary Frances Bingman

By Judi McDowell

|Published February 27, 2024



This week we highlight another article from our Family Histories Collection from RICIGS member, Judi McDowell. Judi found that she did have Rock Island County connections! *Cemeteries, obituaries, and Find A Grave, oh my!*

Jacob and Mary Frances Bingman

By RICIGS member, Judi McDowell

When I first joined the Rock Island County Genealogical Society, probably in the 1990's; I did so to learn more about research techniques.

Most of my maternal ancestors migrated from the East through Ohio and Indiana, passing through Illinois on their way to Iowa and further West. I was quite sure I did not have any Rock Island County connections. But, in 2012 I found an obituary for my Great Aunt, Mary Francis (Alexander) Bingman, sister to my great-grandfather.

She died in Rock Island and was buried in Chippiannock Cemetery. I added her to Find a Grave, and in 2014 I visited Chippiannock to find her headstone. I found her, her husband, and several children in the family plot. I added the children to Find a Grave but for some reason did not add her husband.

In 2016, a woman added Mrs. Bingman's husband, Jacob Bingman, to Find a Grave and included a photograph of him and his wife along with a photo of his newspaper obituary. I was delighted and surprised when I saw the photo because I had that same photo as part of my collection of "unknown" people. That photo also alerted me to another photo in my collection of unknowns taken by a Rock Island photographer of a family in the late 1880's, a husband, wife, and 5 children. I am not usually good at recognizing people from photos, but there was no doubt in my mind this was the Bingman family.

The obituaries of this couple provided information about them living in Rock Island for many, many years and gave me my Rock Island County connection. It also made me thankful for Find a Grave and the people willing to share photos and information.



Left: Bingman Family Members (Not in Order)

Jacob F. Bingman (1839-1914), Mary Francis (Alexander) Bingman (1848-1921), Mary Belle Bingman (1865-1940), Milton Bingman (1870-1938), Freeman Bingman (1872-1939), Sandy Alexander Bingman (1875-1956), Maud Estella Bingman (1882-1904), Deceased prior to photo: Nettie Bingman (1868-1880)

MARCH 2024



From Our Blog

Family Histories Collection – Pvt. Sylvester Butler

Published [March 2, 2024](#)



This week we highlight another article from our Family Histories Collection from RICIGS member, Kathy Elliott. Kathy used her ancestor's Civil War service as a Union patriot to apply to the National Daughters of the Union. Read about the information Kathy found in her research on Sylvester Butler and his family!

Pvt. Sylvester Butler from Maine to Nashville and Beyond

By RICIGS member, Kathy Elliott

Sylvester Butler enlisted in Company "K" 86th Regiment of Illinois Infantry Volunteers on August 11, 1862 in Princeville, Peoria County, Illinois. He died at Nashville, Tennessee on March 5, 1863 of chronic diarrhea. This brief statement covers the extent of my great-great grandfather's service as a Union patriot during the Civil War. But as I became interested in the possibility of applying for membership in the National Society Daughters of the Union I discovered much more about him and the family he left behind.

Sylvester was born in South Berwick, York County, Maine in 1826, the son of Ivory and Sarah Butler. During the time the Butlers lived in Maine their two sons Ivory C. and Sylvester were born. By 1840 the family has moved to Colchester, Chittenden, Vermont.



In addition to the parents and two sons they also have a daughter less than 5 years of age. By 1850, like so many other families of their generation, the Butlers had moved west and were living in Peoria County, Illinois. Ivory Butler and his two sons Ivory C. and Sylvester, were engaged in farming. About this same time another family, Daniel and Sarah Pike and their six children, had moved west from New York. The Pike family is listed in the 1850 census in Lake County, Illinois and

includes a

24 year old daughter Maria and a 19 year old son James who were both from

New York. However, the census taken at Washington Island, Wisconsin on September 24, 1850 lists a James Pike living as a boarder in the Samuel Graham household. This James Pike is also 19 years old, was born in New York and now works as a fisherman.

The marriage record of Sylvester Butler and Celistia Maria Pike indicates they were married at West Harbor, Washington Island, Wisconsin on December 21, 1853 by a Samuel Graham, probably the same man her brother boarded with, since he lived in West Harbor, Washington Island is located in Lake Michigan about 70 miles NE of Green Bay and is accessible only by boat. How did Sylvester Butler from Peoria County, Illinois and Celistia Pike from Lake County, Illinois meet and marry on Washington Island, Wisconsin? I'll probably never know, but Wisconsin entered the Union in 1848 and was actively recruiting settlers so this may have been the reason. In June of 1855 the State of Wisconsin took a census.

While information is limited, Sylvester Butler is listed as head of household along with two females. The 1860 Federal Census for Illinois shows the family living in Princeville, Peoria County, Illinois. At that time Sylvester is working as a farmhand and, besides his wife Celistia Maria, the family includes four daughters; Sarah Jane (born in Wisconsin), Mary Augusta, Frances (my great-grandmother) and Vesta (who died in 1866). The three younger daughters were all born in Illinois. In August of 1862 Sylvester Butler enlisted in Company 'K', 86th Regiment of Illinois Infantry Volunteers in Princeville, Peoria County, Illinois. A fifth daughter, Emma Sylvester, was born in January of 1863 and was only six weeks old when her father died on March 5, 1863 in Nashville, Tennessee.

Sylvester died at General Hospital #7 in Nashville and was buried in the temporary burial grounds associated with that hospital. In July of 1866 the Nashville National Cemetery was established in Davidson County, Tennessee approximately six miles northeast of Nashville's city center. The remains of soldiers removed from temporary burial grounds around Nashville's general hospitals and surrounding Civil War battlefields were interred in the newly established cemetery. Sylvester Butler was buried in Section E, Grave 1302 at that time.

Celista Butler applied for a widow's pension for herself and her daughters in July of 1863 and was awarded \$8.00 per month for herself and an additional \$2.00 per month per child until they reached the age of 16 years. Celista managed to support herself and her family on this amount by working as a washerwoman. Her in-laws were still living in Peoria County and possibly they were able to help her as well.

According to the 1870 census of Princeville, Peoria County, Illinois all four surviving daughters were enrolled in school.

Celista never remarried and continued to reside in Princeville, Illinois until her death on October 17, 1905.

When I started I knew that I had Edwards relatives buried in the Princeville Cemetery because we would put flowers on the family plot on Memorial Day when I was a young girl. I really did not know anything about them though. After getting involved in genealogy I not only found out just who those relatives are, but also discovered that my great-great-grandmother, Celesta Butler, is buried there also. As the old saying goes, it's a small world.



The Lunch and Learn for March was held on March 6 in person only from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM at the Butterworth Education Center with 15 members attending. The topic this month was **Organizing On The Go**. The following handout was provided.



Lunch and Learn Program 06 March 2024 Organizing On The Go

*How can we organize our genealogy research?
Let me count the ways!*



We need to have our research organized **AT HOME** ... but it's also helpful to have a **"TO GO"** Binder to take along to a family reunion, library, or other research facility.

ORGANIZING AT HOME

We need to have a system so that we can find information quickly. Here are a few thoughts:

- Do you use a genealogy software program?
 - Lots of reports available
- Do you use a consistent file naming system?
 - Use the same naming system for your digital AND paper files
- Do you have color-coded folders or binders?
 - This may help keep surnames sorted
- **REMEMBER:** No right or wrong way – just find a system that works best for you.

DISCUSSION: How is your genealogy research organized at home?



Lunch and Learn Program 06 March 2024 Organizing On The Go

ORGANIZING ON THE GO

When you are going to a library to research your family history, what do you take along?

How about creating a To-Go Binder that contains:

- Pedigree Charts
- Family Group Sheets
- Outline Descendancy Reports

This binder of information may be helpful if you are attending a family reunion, too! If family members see the information you are gathering, they may have more info and stories to add.

DISCUSSION: Does anyone use their Smart Phone or Tablet as a To-Go tool? Other ideas?

RESEARCH LOG

- Keep track of what and where you have researched – at home and away - so you do not waste time "re-researching" the same thing!
- Also keep track of who you receive photos and other heirloom items from ... this info will be helpful if you are putting together a Family History book.

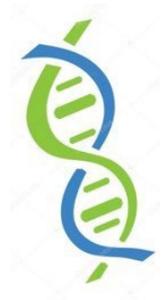
One Final Tip: If you are using Family Tree Notebooks to compile your family history, you can bring along that binder(s) ... then you will have everything all together.



From Our Blog

DNA Musings No. 28: Don't wait to test the older generations

by [Betty Hagberg](#) | Published [March 7, 2024](#)



I'm so glad I asked my maternal uncles and aunt to test. Don't wait. I received my uncle's DNA test results the same day his obituary appeared in the newspaper.

What can you learn from older generations that you can't find in your own DNA?

I decided to put this to the test as I study my 3rd great grandparents Louisa Moseley and James Brabazon Murphy. I already know quite a lot about this family, but I don't have any contacts with current descendants who are still in England. Their daughter Norah Helen, my 2nd great grandmother, immigrated to the United States in 1867. Most of her 8 siblings stayed in England. The U.S. and English families were in contact as recently as the 1960's. But the connection has been lost.

Can DNA help?

FIND A DESCENDANT OF A DISTANT ANCESTOR

I started by looking at my ThroughLines on Ancestry. James Brabazon and Louisa show 10 DNA descendants, but in looking at them, they are all in my immediate family here in the U.S. So, I switched to my Aunt Marilyn's DNA test – she has 11 matches the additional match is Charles.

Charles has a public tree! His tree shows he is descended from a sister of my 2nd Great Grandmother Norah. I will add him to my tree, and as I do so, I'll verify his tree. Since I already have his grandparents in my tree it should be pretty easy. Although his contact information doesn't show where he is living, his grandparents died in England, so there is a chance he is still living

there. Maybe I have found an English contact! I've sent a message and am hoping for a reply.

What else can I learn from this DNA match?

PROVIDE EVIDENCE OF A GENETIC RELATIONSHIP

The DNA match of Charles and Aunt Marilyn gives me *evidence* that James and Louisa are **my biological** 3rd Great Grandparents. My relationship with Aunt Marilyn has already been established through our DNA match. My family tree, verified through genealogical research, shows Charles and my Aunt Marilyn are 3rd Cousins Twice removed. Their Most Recent Common Ancestor (MRCA) is James Brabazon and Louisa Murphy. The 20cM they share is in the range for this genealogical relationship.

UNCOVER NEW COMMUNITIES THAT SHOW DISTANT ANCESTRY

The *DNA Communities* provided by Ancestry have proven quite accurate in identifying ancestral locations within the genealogical timeframe. My Aunt Marilyn has two communities that I don't – providing specific locations to look at when working to identify where my ancestors come from.

Do you have older generations in your family that you could test? Don't wait!



The March Board of Directors met on March 14, 2024 via Zoom at 6:30 PM with 11 members in attendance.



From Our Blog

Exonerated for Witchcraft in 2022

By Judi McDowell | Published [March 16, 2024](#)



The last person from the Salem witch trials was just cleared in 2022.

In the woods of Salem, Massachusetts, there is a summit called Gallows Hill, where the darkest days of the town's history occurred. Here, nearly 20 people

lost their lives

by execution after being accused of witchcraft during the infamous Salem witch hunts of 1692 and 1693. One of the accused, a 22-year-old woman named Elizabeth Johnson Jr., was pardoned from execution but not cleared of charges until 2022, leaving her name sullied for more than three centuries.

Toward the end of the witch-hunting frenzy, the governor began sparing the accused from execution, including Johnson. In 1711, colonial Massachusetts lawmakers passed an act that reversed the witchcraft convictions of 22 individuals, but Johnson's name wasn't among them. She petitioned to have hers added, and it is unclear why she was left out. Legislation clearing additional names continued to trickle in over the decades, as recently as 1957 and 2001, but

Johnson was never listed. Finally, in 2021, students at North Andover Middle School (in the town adjacent to Salem) learned about the matter in class and urged their teacher to take action. The teacher alerted state Senator Diana DiZoglio, who sponsored an amendment to clear Johnson's name. On May 26, 2022, 329 years after she was wrongly accused, Elizabeth Johnson Jr. was finally exonerated, making her the last known person convicted of witchcraft in Salem to be cleared of the charges.

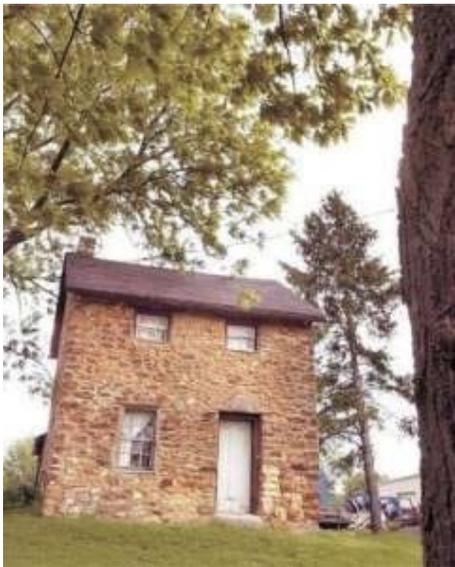
From [historyfacts.com](https://www.historyfacts.com)



From Our Blog

Family Histories Collection – William and Peter Carr

Published [March 19, 2024](#)



This week we highlight another article from our Family Histories Collection submitted by RICIGS member, Ruth Evans. Ruth’s ancestors, Peter and William Carr, were early pioneers of Rock Island

County. The William Carr Cemetery and the “Little

Stone House” are still landmarks in Rock Island, Illinois. Read about how the Carr family came to this area and were involved in the Black Hawk War.

Carr Family Story

By RICIGS member, Ruth Evans

The threshing barn on the former Carr farm is rare. It is located just south of Rock

Island’s Saukie Municipal Golf Course. The farm belonged to William Carr, one of

Rock Island County’s earliest pioneers. William and his brothers, Peter and Benjamin, settled near the banks of the Rock River, today’s 38th Street, in 182829. One of William Carr’s homes survives as “the little stone house”.

Not only is the barn old — built in 1848 — 12 years before the start of the American Civil War — but it is a threshing barn, constructed for the specific and single purpose of threshing and storing wheat. Threshing is the act of separating grain from its husk, and in the days before mechanization this was done by hand, with a farmer actually beating the husks with a flail or stick. The grain, such as wheat, fell to the floor and was collected, and the chaff blew away. The barn was a three-bay, swing-beam threshing barn. The floor is wood planking with three distinct areas, or bays, inside. One bay was for threshing and the other two were for storage of the grain or the wheat bundles as they were brought in from the fields. Threshing barns originated in Europe and were built in northern Illinois from the time of settlement through perhaps the 1860's.

The family of John and Sarah (Wolliver) Karr departed New Jersey about 1805, arriving in Marietta, Washington, Ohio about 1807. John and Sarah and their family, Elisha, Peter, William, Jemina, Benjamin, James, and David loaded their belonging in a flat boat. Elisha's wife Mary (Scott) Karr and their 3 children, Julie Ann and twins James Harvey and Elizabeth were in the group. Also included in the boat was Peter's daughter, Elizabeth. Peter's wife, Sarah, died in Ohio. These pioneers floated down the Ohio River and poled up the Mississippi River. Sometime after this the name was changed from Karr to Carr, except for John, Sarah, and Elisha.

After arriving in present day Cass County, Illinois, John and all their sons purchased land. Peter was given a land grant on 3 July 1828 in Morgan County, Illinois, signed by President John Quincy Adams. It is said that they needed money to pay the required amount of \$1.25 per acre, so William, Peter, Benjamin, and James walked to Galena, Illinois to work in the lead mines at \$10.00 per month.

William and Peter located in what is now Rock Island, Illinois in about 1828. The only people living there were the Sauk and Fox Indians, and the soldiers at Fort Armstrong which had been established in 1816. William and Peter began a ferry service across the Rock River at what now is called Carr's Island. William began to amass a great portion of the northern Rock River bank by homestead, deed and mortgage. His first home was a log cabin built in 1828 on the bank of the Rock River near the foot of today's 38th Street, but in 1844-1845 he had

“the little stone house” built from sandstone quarried on the farm. The outside dimensions of the original two-story structure are about 18×18 feet and contains one room on the first floor and one upstairs.

Peter and Benjamin arrived in present day county of La Fayette, Wisconsin in 1826. They settled in the north end of the town of Benton, at what was then called “Buzzard Roost”, but by 1829 it was known as “Meeker’s Grove”. They were farmers and miners. Between 1835 and 1849, there were flush times in the mining portion of the town of Benton. Mineral was plenty and prices generally ruled high. The more prominent mines then operated in those times included “Buzzard Roost”, owned the Carr’s. All of the mines were immeasurably fruitful and enriched their owners and workers.

Black Hawk was not a civil chief, but was an influential leader of the Sauk tribe. He was born in 1767 near the junction of the Rock and Mississippi Rivers in the village they called Saukenuk. He was well acquainted with the Carr family. Saukenuk (Rock Island, Illinois) was the center of the Sauk’s universe. They raised corn, melons, squash and other foods in the summer, then in winter they moved west to Iowa for hunting game. In the spring they returned to Saukenuk. One spring they returned to find white men and families living in their lodges, building fences across their fields. William Carr was among those who took away by armed force the land long occupied by Black Hawk and his people.

The Black Hawk War (6 April to 2 August 1832) wasn’t so much a war as a four-month series of skirmishes as Black Hawk and his band of followers moved through Illinois up into Wisconsin. The last battle, at Bad Axe, Wisconsin, on the Mississippi River, wasn’t so much a battle as a massacre. Amazingly, Black Hawk slipped away, saving himself while his people were slaughtered and scattered.

Eventually, Black Hawk settled not far from Fort Madison, Lee County, Iowa, and died in 1838 of natural causes and was buried. His body was dug up by a grave robber, the bones cleaned and wired together and put on display. In 1855, the building in which they were stored burned to the ground, the bones with it.

The war with the Sauk and Fox Indians, including Black Hawk, prompted enlistments from Benton, Wisconsin, and among them was Peter Carr. They

formed a portion of the company commanded by Captain Hall, furnished their own guns, horses and camp equipage and went into camp at Blue Mounds, Wisconsin. Peter was prominent in the war and was appointed to Colonel.



Although the Carr name has largely faded from memory, there is still the Carr Cemetery located at 44th Street and 45th Avenue in Rock Island, Illinois and the bridge built during 2005-2007 over the Rock River joining Rock Island and Milan, Illinois.

In a newspaper poll asking the public what to name the bridge, the winning entry turned out to be Carr's Crossing. Peter and William Carr were Quad-City development pioneers. However, some veterans' groups made themselves heard after the election, at the offices of elected officials. That led to the compromise. The bridge is officially known as Veterans Memorial Bridge at Carr's Crossing.

John and Sarah (Wolliver) Karr, Elisha and Mary (Scott) Karr are buried in Karr Cemetery, Cass County, Illinois. Peter's first wife Sarah (unknown) Karr is buried in

Ohio. Peter's second wife, Jane (Jamison) is buried in Illinois City Cemetery, Illinois

City, Illinois. Peter Carr and third wife Sarah (Burnham) Carr are buried in Carr Cemetery, La Fayette County, Wisconsin. William and Eliza (Tureman –1st wife) Carr are buried in Carr Cemetery, Rock Island, Illinois. William's 2nd wife Mira (Mayhew) is buried in Carr Cemetery, Rock Island, Illinois. Jemina Carr and husband John Wagner are buried in Carr Cemetery, Rock Island, Illinois.

Benjamin Carr (never married) is buried in Carr Cemetery, La Fayette County, Wisconsin.

James and Mary (Reavis) Carr are buried in Avon Cemetery, Avon, Fulton, Illinois. David and Julia (Wells) Carr are buried in Karr Cemetery, Cass County, Illinois.

Peter was my great-great-great-grandfather. He was born in 1797 in New Jersey. His oldest daughter, Elizabeth, was born in 1822 in Marietta, Washington, Ohio.

She was my great-great-grandmother. Elizabeth married Adolphus Dunlap on 27 August 1840 in Edgington, Rock Island, Illinois. Elizabeth died 7 January 1906, and Adolphus died 20 July 1889. Both are buried in Chippiannock Cemetery, Rock Island, Illinois. My grandparents were Lucy (Dunlap) and David “Dave” McAfee. Lucy and Dave are buried in Wapello Cemetery, Wapello, Louisa, Iowa. My parents are Eloise (Corey) and Mathew McAfee. Mathew is buried in Wapello Cemetery, Wapello, Louisa, Iowa. Eloise is still living. My name is Ruth (McAfee) Evans.



Thomas MacEntee: author, educator, student, advocate, marketer, storyteller, entrepreneur, and that “genealogy guy” who helps you accomplish your family history goals.

Thomas MacEntee was our guest speaker at the General Meeting held March 26, 2024. His topic was **“After You’re Gone, Future Proofing Your Genealogy Research”** The meeting was held via Zoom at 6:30 PM with an attendance of 30.



On March 27, 2024, the Belgian SIG met via Zoom from 6:30 to 7:30 PM to discuss Belgian Research. 9 members participated. Mary Gardner-Karcher sent the following email with the meeting details

Last year, we wrapped up six sessions on navigating civil and church records in Belgium. This session is being established in order to check in with you on progress - whether it be to celebrate your successes or hear about barriers you have experienced. I am also hoping for open dialogue to see if there is interest in additional classes, one-to-one assistance, etc. We covered A LOT of material, so I want to ensure your needs were met.

April 2024



The April Lunch and Learn was held in person on April 3rd at the Butterworth Education Center from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. 8 members were in attendance and the following handout was provided on the topic of Organizing Favorite Websites.



Lunch and Learn

April 3, 2024

11:30-1:00 (in person only)
Butterworth Education Center

Organizing Favorite Websites

Session Purpose: Share Tips & Tricks for keeping access to online resources at your fingertips. What works for you? What are your favorite sites?

Online Website Indexes

Cyndi's List www.cyndislist.com

Stephen P Morse's One-Step Webpages Stevemorse.org

Family Search Wiki https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Main_Page

Country & Region-Specific Indexes

Genealogical Societies

Historical Societies

Newspaper Archives

Browser Support

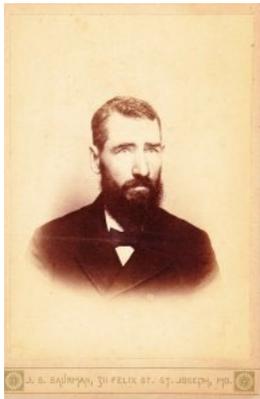
Bookmarks, Favorites & Folders
Profiles Across Devices

Additional Tools

URL shorteners (tinyurl.cc, bitly.com)
Family Tree Software – FTM, Roots Magic Spreadsheets



From Our Blog
Published April 4, 2024



Family Histories Collection – Liberty Madison Chilton

This week we highlight another article from our Family Histories Collection from RICIGS member, Jan McKenzie. Read about the life of Liberty Madison Chilton, his first-hand account of his service for the Union Army in the Civil War, and his journey to become a medical physician!

Recollections of Liberty Madison Chilton

By RICIGS member, Jan McKenzie

Liberty is my first cousin twice removed. I found the Chilton Family File in the Casey County, KY Public Library.

NOTE: Spelling and grammar have been intentionally left as they were in the transcript I was given. — J.L. McKenzie

“I write this so my posterity may know where I came from and how I got here. I was born in Casey County Kentucky on Sept. 7, 1838 on the dry fork of the south fork of Green River about ten miles from Liberty the County Seat of Casey County Kentucky. My father’s name was James Madison Chilton. His father was named Liberty Chilton a preacher of the Christian Church. He was from North Carolina.

My grandmother on my father’s side was named Betsy Gabbard — Irish people. Her and grandfather settled in heavy woods and cleared out a little farm on the South fork of Green River and lived there until they died. They had five children. My father the oldest his name as I have said James Madison Chilton, born Oct. 17, 1811. Charles Chilton, his oldest brother; lived 1/4 mile of father and George Chilton, next oldest brother and William Chilton the youngest boy died in August before I was borned in September and Rachael Chilton was the baby girl of Grandpa Chilton’s family. She married a man by the name of Roberts. Hughy M. Roberts. They are now alive in Adair County Kentucky this 1894.

Uncle Charles Chilton married a woman by the name of Barnet. He died in 1890 at the age of seventy years. He was a Baptist preacher. His children are scattered some in Kentucky, some in Texas and some in Arkansas. Uncle George Chilton and children — all but one live in Kentucky. Ther were two boys –Jim who is dead and George who is alive so far as I know and the rest were girls I think — four girls. Uncle Charles children were three boys and four girls. Oldest one Jep and Millard. Aunt Rachel had six or seven children. I dont know much of them — They moved down in Adair County Kentucky out of our neighborhood so I lost track of them.

My father the oldest married Rachel Clifton (born June 6, 1820) by her had six children — me the oldest Fortunatis and Gilla [NOTE 1] the three boys are all here in Gentry County, Mo. Now their ages are me first Patsey William next, Sophia Elizabeth next then Fortunatis next and Gilla –baby. [NOTE 2] My father settled right in a bottom of heavy timber, cleared it out, made a farm of some two or three hundred acres. I helping do the most of it. Father died in 1862 with Typhoid fever. He was exposed by me. It was war times.
[Editor’s Note 1: Virgil S.] [Editor’s Note 2: The six children were: Liberty Madison, born Sep 7,1838; Patsey William, born c 1841; Sophia Elizabeth,

born c 1845; Mary Charles “Polly”, born c 1848; Fortunatis M., born Mar 13, 1851 and Virgil S. “Gilla”, born c 1855.]

Now my grandfather on my mother's side was named Isaiah Clifton a preacher of the Christian Church and was well thought of as a man and preacher. His wife before marriage was Sophia Canady, sister to old Uncle Robert Canady one of the first settlers of this Gentry County Missouri over by Albany Mo. They had two boys and four girls Aunt Patsey being the oldest child. She married William Huff and moved to Morgan County, this state along about 1842 and lived close to Syracuse, Mo. where Uncle Will died and Aunt Patsey lives down there 2 now if alive. Next Aunt Polly who married A. Thomas first — had four children boys and 2 girls. He died. Then last man a Cravens. Uncle Liberty Clifton next oldest married a Northrip [NOTE 3] and moved to Laclede County this state close to Lebanon Mo. Then the next oldest my mother and the next Aunt Lizzie who married George W. Riggins, Crit and Billie's father.

Then the next and baby was Uncle Isaiah who lives at this time if alive in some county made from Laclede and some other county in Missouri. [NOTE 4] He used to live about five or ten miles from Lebanon, Mo.

[Editor's Note 3: Liberty married Mary Shelton. It was his brother, Isaiah, who married (first) Drusilla Northrip] [Editor's Note 4: Isaiah was in Laclede Co. MO by 1860 and lived there until he died in 1912.]

My grandparents on my mother's side came from Virginia. Old Job Clifton came to Kentucky from Virginia when Kentucky was a territory and settled on the South fork of Green River. [NOTE 5] He (Job) was my grandfather's father (Isaiah Clifton's father). Also the Canadys came from Virginia — my grandmother's maiden name was Canady. There is kinfolk by the name of Shearers in Virginia — my great grandmother's name was Shearers — Old great great grandfather Shearers was immensely rich in negroes but my grandmother's mother and her father ran off to Kentucky and married [NOTE 6] and never went back after any estate — lived and died never heard from them.

[Editor's Note 5: Job Clifton was in Surry Co. NC at the time of the 1790 Census. He owned land in Lincoln Co, (which became Casey Co), KY by 1802.]

[Editor's Note 6: John Canady and Mary Shearer married in 1787 in Campbell Co VA. They later moved to KY]

Now my grandfather had a brother named Thomas Chilton a great Babbit preacher, and his children are scattered. He lived in Mercer County Kentucky and I think moved to Missouri in his old age in Johnson or Jackson County, Missouri. This is all I know of father's uncles — and mother's uncle Josey Clifton was a preacher in the Christian Church. moved to Illinois in ? county when it first came into U.S. and her uncle John Clifton went to Arizona along in the 40's — I just can't recollect about it now — this is about all I can recollect about my ancestors.[NOTE 7] [Editor's Note 7: Josey moved from KY > IL > IA > TX. John moved from KY > IL > AR.]

To begin with me, as I said before, I was raised on a farm and worked there till I was about 19, going to school some in the fall. We only had 3 months school, and I would have to stay home about half that time to help pitch fodder, cut up corn or something else — so at about 19 I told father I intended to go to school so I went with John C. Osborn, Sally Liggett's brother to Bradfordsville in Marion County Kentucky to James Burdette and Stephen A. Colier to school one school year and part of another and by this time I was so I could teach school so I taught our District School for \$25.00 per month and boarded at home then that winter — taught a subscription school — by spring I had about \$150.00 so I made a crop that summer and sold it to father for a horse and sold the horse for \$40.00. That made me nearly \$200.00 so I thought I could put my designs into effect — that was to study medicine.

So I told father what I intended to do. He tried to persuade me out of it, but no — be a doctor I must so I made the arrangement with Dr. J. W. McGowin of Mintonville, Casey County Kentucky. So I went there in the fall of 1860 and studied that fall and winter, also that spring and summer — so that summer the war broke out and all the young men went to the war and I must go also. So first of November 1861 I enlisted at Camp Dick Robinson in Lincoln County Kentucky — then served in U.S. Army until January, 1863 when discharged reason of disability at Nashville, Tennessee.

While in the army I was in four battles. Came very near to being in the Shiloh fight — we did not get there on account of skirmish duty we had to do in Kentucky we got in 20 miles of it could hear of them. We were ordered to patrol the country for stragglers and hold all we caught on both sides.

The first fight was Mill Spring 19 day of January, 1862 on Sunday. but before that I had been in two or three skirmishes at Wildcat and Mount Acilla, Kentucky and two or three other picket fights. I did not have a very hard time after the first year in the army for Dr. R.H. Weaver, surgeon of the 6th Ohio was in charge of a hospital at Tullahoma, Tennessee and he had found out I had studied medicine some. He had me detailed to help the Stewart. I soon got so I could fill them and he would not let me go and I was glad of it. Then we moved to Nashville, Tenn. and established Hospital No. 14 in the city so I had a nice time — all I could eat and drink when we had it. But I got sick and had to go home to get well and aimed to go back to Dr. Weaver when I got well but things changed lots. Before I got back Weaver had been changed to the field and I did not care to be made a target of so I staid home and out of the Army.

During the winter of 1862, Captain Jenkins was killed and that threw my first Lieutenant Captain and second, first and the boys elected me second Lieutenant and sent in for me to come out and receive it, but I thought I would rather stay where I was and Dr. Weaver said for me not to go and he would keep me as long as he was in charge of a hospital. But after the Millspring fight the next was at Lebanon, Tennessee in May, 1862. Then the next was at Malvern, Tennessee for the number of men engaged there was as hard a battle as fought in the war. Now after going into the hospital service I was sent out with the ambulance corps that put me in the Stone River fight at Murphysborough, Tennessee — that was a fight I will never forget as long as I retain my senses. This battle was fought — that is the main fight in a cotton field just west of Murphysborough, Tennessee about two miles long by one wide. Stone River on the north and thick cedar bushes north of the river and a mountain on the south with an old mill at its west end and Murphysborough on the east and a big white farmhouse on the south on the mountain side that mill house and farmhouse and in Murphysborough we made preparation for the wounded — and this field was strewn with dead, dying and wounded in all kinds of ways, from the old mill to the river.

Now the river made a bend here left the hill on the south running north and then bending back to the mountain having about four or five hundred acres and a nice field and up on the hill and over in the cedar thicket was such a good place for the enemy to hide. But there was lots of poor fellows killed

there. That battle lasted seven days and was a running fight for four or five days from seven miles east of Nashville to Murphysborough. Some nights our men would camp on the ground they did the night before then they would gain some and be a little east of that morning until about the 5th day our men began to push and then gain a little every day until the seventh day. That was a hard day for both sides as the day was spent in this field and about 3:00 p.m. the rebels crossed little Stone River into Murphysborough then our men followed.

That night the rebels made a thorough retreat south toward Montgomery Alabama. Our men did not follow — we were cut to pieces too much — we had to bury the dead. That was a job to hunt them up all through the woods from seven miles east of Nashville to Murphysborough and dig a trench long enough to hold — for it took a trench about one mile long for each side. Just thrown in like hogs and dirt thrown on them. Poor fellows died for their country and to be buried like a dog. But they did not stay there. They were taken to a nice cemetery and put in there close to Nashville and nicely cared for. I know one man in Kentucky that lost three sons in that fight by the name of Dye. Some regiments went into that fight and lost every staff officer and about all the privates. One Kentucky regiment lost all but about 100 men on that battlefield.

I could hear after the battle was over the crys and curses and hollering of the men. Some praying some cursing, and some hollering for water. The awfulist noise I ever heard in my life. I never will forget one poor fellow had his under jaw shot off and could only make a kind of noise but pointed to the river. It was water he wanted but could not drink it after getting it. That was what war does for the enlisted men. God forbid there will ever be any more wars. And those that escaped with their life if they draw a little pension some people will try “breaking up the government”. Who saved this government for them to enjoy. Those that went out and stood the camp life and those that was killed. I dont think that any living will get paid for what they went through with laying out in snow, rain, cold freezing to the ground, riding in the dust for 3 or 4 days and nights.

I rode three days and three nights once after Morgan on an old turnpike road where the lime was 2 inches deep. I could not see the man just before me —

only when the wind would blow the dust away. It was not so bad at night. I was in Co. H that threw me about the middle so imagine when we stopped for to eat some at night and feed our horses we had to use pond water almost thick with frog eggs and slime but it was good — horses and men both used it. We eat raw bacon and crackers and washed it down with that water. Our horses eat oates that we preped from the farmers for them. Then mounted and rode all night until about 10:00 a.m. then dismounted to eat a snack, feed our horses what we had foraged for them.

Oh it was awful — the last morning we came up with Morgan and whiped him in 2 brick buildings — one to the right a schoolhouse and one to the left a courthouse at Lebanon Tennessee and there is where Col. Walford was wounded — also Lieut. Jenkins that is Clint. We captured about 500 men and killed 300. Then we went to Murphysborough, Tenn. and recruited men. And there was the beginning of my hospital career. Lieut. Clint Jenkins had me detailed to nurse him and when he went home I went to Shelbyville Tenn. into a hospital No. 2 and from there to Tulahoma, Tenn. and from there to Nashville Tenn. where discharged.

When we left Kentucky and marched to Nashville in the winter or spring of 1862 I had with three others to guard a wagonload of ammunition through at we crossed Cumberland River at Greensborough we had a skirmish with 4 or 5 rebels but we hit two and killed one. The others lift on double quick so we expected reinforcements that night but we drove all night and not slow at that.

About 2 or 3 a.m. we stoped to feed and rest and eat some but we was soon on the go. Two went before and two went behind the wagon and when we crossed the Baron's River the people told us we would never get no farther because the country was full of bushwhackers -but we had to go as long as we lived. We was scared. I pretty bad one eavening we saw about two men riding towards us armed but when we stoped and prepared for battle when they got in about 100 yards we halted them and to our happy surprise they were Union soldiers on a scout so they gave us encouragement to push on. When we got to Ridgefield east of Nashville our troops were just driving the rebels out of Nashville and we crossed the river on a pontoon bridge then we rode safe.

Now I have been a little ahead in their history. In my school days after getting as much schooling as I could at the District School my father allowed me to go to select school provided I would pay my board by working of night and morning and Saturdays. I went up to Mintonville, Casey County Kentucky to O.D. Denhams. I went to him two winters working during crop times at home. I would feed and cut wood of nights and morning and at noon and cut hardwood of Saturdays for my board. In this way I got 2 or 3 winters schooling and I improved the time. Now after my school days and school teaching I went and read medicine some over a year and then I went into the army as I have said I have got to Nashville Tenn.

When I was discharged I went home got about well. I concluded to finish reading medicine. I read for two years steady and hard with Dr. Clel Pruet at Liberty the County seat of Casey Co. Kentucky. Then I went to Mintonville where I had read under Dr. McGowan. My old partner Dr J.W. Wesley who studied with me wanted to go to Louisville, Kentucky to attend lectures there one winter this was the winter of 1863. I'd taken his practice while he went so I practiced that winter and next summer there. Did not get enough out of it to pay board.

Hardily but left the old accts. for collection which was never done — so that winter of 1864 Old Man Stewart, the man I boarded with for 4 or 5 years — I had got to loving one of his girls M. A. Stewart.[NOTE 8] He sold out in Kentucky and was bent on moving to Mo. so I had to marry the girl or lose her and that I could not think so we married on Dec 23, 1865 then after that the old folks began to persuade us to come with them to Mo. and finally we agreede to come. We left for Mo 6th day of March 1866 and landed at J.W. Stewarts of 20 of March 1865 at night in Andrew

Co. Mo. After being there a few days I had no money and did not know what to do. I hated to hire out by the month and Dr. Saunders had just died at Whitesville Mo. and several persuaded me to go there and to into practice. How could I — I had no money, no medicine, but I confired with my wife she suggested to borrow \$200.00 of father to get me a horse and few drugs to begin with so I named it to him. He loaned it to me. I went to St Jo bought horse, saddle, drugs and I located at Whitesville in a day or two had a call.
[Editor's Note 8: Mary Ann]

Had good luck like all fools do in a little over a year I sold out to Dr. Brown for \$500.00 I thought I was a rich man. I moved to Island City in three months I got tired of there. Some friends advised me to move to Mt. Pleasant Mo. I did so on 17 day of June 1866 on Sunday. I was not there long before I got a good practice. I staid there until 1879 in Sept. when I moved to Stanberry Mo. My dwelling was among the first built in the town. This involved me in debt and to help all out in a year we had spent all we had and lots more to supply our house. It caught fire and burned all we had up with my books and accts. -that is literary not my medical only some — but my accts. book I got some those I recollect but I had the house insured for \$800.00. The Co. paid this and I gave this to have my present house to Pruden Bros. and Norton and they swindled me out of about \$500 of that and I had to pay about \$1300 for my house instead of \$800 as per contract and that is a sketch of my past life up to the present this April 17, 1894.

L. M. Chilton

P.S. More after this.”

This account was retyped from a typed transcript on February 19, 1991 by J.L. McKenzie. Misspellings and grammatical errors were not corrected as it is not known if they were made by the author or the original typist. One long paragraph was broken into several smaller ones for ease of reading.

“Editor’s Note:” indicates clarifying notes inserted by me, J.L. McKenzie. Liberty Madison was the nephew of, but was only three years younger than, my great grandfather, Isaiah Clifton.

Additional Notes on Liberty Chilton’s Life

(Liberty Chilton)...”was one of the original five trustees when the village of Stanberry [in Gentry Co, MO] was organized in February, 1880.” Per Gentry & Worth County MO History P.162/5

“The Wabash Mineral spring, located within the [Stanberry] city limits, are likely to prove a strong factor in its future prosperity. They possess rare medicinal properties... are now owned by Levi Lawn, but have been leased for twenty years by L. M. Chilton and M. F. Brown, and will be improved with bath

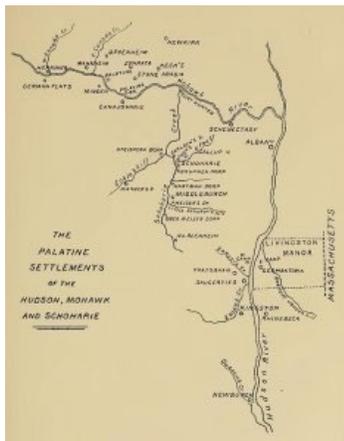
and boarding houses, walks, drives etc, and placed in charge of Dr. L. M. Chilton, a graduate of St. Louis Medical College and a physician of long and successful experience in the treatment of the prevailing diseases of this region. Dr. Chilton will spare no pains or expense in fitting up the springs and grounds for the reception of patients and pleasure seekers, and will be pleased to give any information desired concerning the value of these waters for the treatment of any or all diseases within the broad range of their curative influence.”

Per Gentry & Worth County MO History P.168.

(Liberty Chilton), “one of the leading physicians of Gentry Co, is a native of Casey County, KY and was born on the 7th day of September, 1838. His parents were James M. and Rachel Clifton Chilton. L.M.’s early life was spent on a farm, and he received his education at Bradfordsville, KY. Having made choice of the practice of medicine as a life vocation, he commenced reading with Dr. J.W. McGowen of Mintonville, and afterwards with Dr. Prewet as preceptors. After practicing for some years, he attended lectures and was graduated from the St. Louis Medical College. In 1863 he settled in Morgan County and afterwards returned to KY, and in 1865 came to Andrew Co, MO remaining one year. Subsequently he settled in Island City, Gentry Co, and thence in 1866 to Mt. Pleasant, where he remained in the active practice of his profession until the town of Stanberry was laid out in 1879. Dr. Chilton built and finished the first residence in the town. Professionally, he is a man of recognized ability and experience. He is a man of kindly feelings, and his heart as well as his judgment and conscience, prompt him to be very attentive to the sick and afflicted. He was married to Miss Mary Stewart, who was born and reared in Casey County, KY. They have one son, Cleo Madison. The Dr. is interested in the mineral springs in this vicinity.” Per Gentry & Worth County MO History P.374.

at London. Christian remarried. His second wife, Maria Eva Neff was also a Palatine. Christian and Maria had a son, Andreas.³ He was born in New York most likely in March 1711. His father, Christian, died in 1712-13. The widowed Maria married Wilhelm Lehman, Clement Schmidt's step son in September 1713. Christian and Maria's son, Andreas Aigler married Anna Maria Borters/Bortern. They had one child, Andrus,⁴ who was born March 7, 1732. Andrus/Andrew is my 5th Great Grandfather.

Hunter settled some of his Palatine charges on the eastern shore along the Hudson River. That place is now named Germantown. The others were settled on the western side. It is now named West Camp. Both locations are south of Catskill. The Naval Stores project was not a success. By 1712, Governor Hunter acknowledged same and stopped subsidizing the Palatines in New York. One of the reasons he stopped the subsidy is he had not been reimbursed by the government in London. This was due to a change in political parties in Queen Anne's government. Hunter suffered great financial losses during the years he paid subsidies to the Palatines. Later he would try to seek reimbursement from the Palatines.



The culture of the Hudson River Valley continued to experience the influence of the Dutch who had originally established trading sites with the local Indians as early as 1614. The "Dutch" traders and settlers were of many cultures and languages. The Dutch during their golden years in the 17th century had attracted individuals and families from the Rhine River and its tributaries and Scandinavia. The Dutch East Indies Company recruited the emigres and Netherlanders to man trading posts scattered across the world. In the early 1600's the Dutch did not attempt to conquer and establish colonies as the objective was to trade.

Andreas, his wife, Anna Maria and their son, Andrus lived on their farm bordering on the Cauterskill south of the town of Catskill. The Cauterskill emptied into the Catskill which flowed to the Hudson River. The farm was established by Andreas' step father, William Lehman. This farm was named as "Vlychey"⁵ in Andrus' Will. The land allowed for successful farming by the family for generations. By the 1920's the farm was no longer owned by the Eckler family. In the 1930's a family researcher found that the gravestones from what had been the family cemetery were piled along the banks of the Cauterskill.

Andrus, the second generation Palatine born in New York, was a member of the New York militia before the Revolutionary War. When the Province of New York was organizing for the Revolutionary War, Albany's Committee of Correspondence secured information about the number of men in its respective Districts who were supportive of the rebellion leading to the War. In the Cossackie District, Phillip Connine, Rev. John Schuneman and James Barker devised a Cossackie Declaration of Independence. The signers of that declaration were seeking freedom from the laws imposed by the English Parliament. Years later a copy

of this faded document was found in an attic at Albany. One of the signers of that Declaration was Andrus/Andrew Eckler who placed his "X" on it. Andrus/Andrew was married three times. The children from those three marriages ended up having differing allegiances towards the conflict. Below is a summary of the genealogy of Christian Aigler's family. Christian and Maria Eva [Neff] Aigler/Eiklor are my 7th Paternal Great Grandparents:

My 7th Paternal Great Grandparents

Christian Aigler/Eiklor (1671-1712/13) was 38 years old in 1709. By trade he was a stonemason.

m. 1st Eva **Catharine Schifferdecker**⁶

Child 1 – Daughter **Aigler**, b. 1701

Child 2 – **Eva Catherina Aigler**, b. 10 Jan 1703

Child 3 – **Maria Aigler**, b. 1705 Child 4

– **Johann Viet Aigler**, b. 1707

m. 2nd **Maria Eva Neff**⁷ in 1710 Child 5

– **Andreas Aigler**, b. 2 Jul 1711

Maria Eva Neff Aigler was widowed in 1712/13. She married secondly **Wilhelm Lehman, Clement Schmidt's** step son. Maria and Wilhelm had no children.

My 6th Paternal Great Grandparents

Andreas Aigler (2 Jul 1711 –aft 1761), m. **Anna Maria Borters** abt 1730

Only Child – **Andrus/Andrew J. Eckler** – (*5th Great Grandfather*)⁸

My 5th Paternal Great Grandparents

Andrus/Andrew J. Eckler (7 Mar 1732 – May 1805)

m. 1st **Maria Schramm** (7 Mar 1732 – May 1805), 14 Mar 1749

Child 1: **William Eckler** (9 Sep 1750 – 1807), m. 1773 **Marietje Lampman** (31 Aug 1754 – ?)

Child 2: **Maria Eiklor** (9 Aug 1752 – 1807), m. 1782 **Georg Burk** (1730 – bef Jul 1830)

Child 3: **Frederick Eckler/Eiklor** (Oct 1755 – aft 21 Apr 1834), m. 1781 **Sarah Barker** (17 Aug 1759 – Oct 1804)⁹

Child 4: **Elizabeth Eckler** (Sep 1757 – 6 Sep 1845), m. 1778 **Jesse Allen** (1754 – 24 Jun 1824)

Child 5: **John Eckler** (15 Nov 1759 – 15 Jan 1833) m. 1786 **Gertrude Witzen Brandow** (1766 – aft 1850)

m. 2nd **Elizabeth [May] Werner**, (May 1730 – May 1763), 25 May 1760

Child 6: **Jeremiah Eckler** (May 1763 – d.y.) Child

7: **Catherine Eckler** (May 1763 – d.y.)

m. 3rd **Marytje Brandow** (Feb 1742- Feb 1826), 1764

Child 8: **Peter Eckler** (22 Oct 1766 – 9 Mar 1847) sired **Maria Eckler** (21 Oct 1782) with **Elizabeth Barker**.

Peter married **Annetje Hannah Morris** (16 Sep 1771-18 Jan 1844) sometime around 1786.¹⁰

The marriages and in-laws for these first three Eckler generations were with their fellow Palatines. The exceptions were Elizabeth and Sarah Barker, George Burk and Annetje Hannah Morris. George Burk, who was born in a Germany, was not a part of the Palatine migration in 1709-10. Annetje Hannah Morris's father was not a Palatine. He was born in Wales. As to the two Barker sisters, they were both born in England at Blythe, Northampton shire. Their parents, James and Elizabeth Barker, the two sisters and the other family members came to the Province of New York in about 1767. Over the years Barker family members were in contact with members of the Andrus Eckler family. Andrus' farm being on the Cauterskill emptied into the Catskill near Barker's 6,000 acres. The Barker family lived at "Woodstock". In the 6,000 acres owned by their father, the Catskill coursed through the acreage and included a waterfall near their settlement at "Woodstock". After the Revolutionary War the "Susquehanna Turnpike" traversed their father's acreage in an east-west orientation. Both the Barker and Eckler families were parishioners at Reverend Schuneman's Dutch Reformed Church.

From information I have gathered over the years from various sources and documents, Andrus' family witnessed competing loyalties in his immediate and satellite families as well as with his in-laws. Some have suggested New York leading up to the War and conducting the rebellion, in reality it was a civil war. Certainly Andrus Eckler experienced it. His eighth child, Peter was too young, He was with his parents at "Vlychey". The two children born to Elizabeth [May] Werner-Eckler died shortly after Elizabeth gave birth. Apparently she died as a result of that pregnancy and birth. In her May family, there is a history of some members being Tories/Loyalists.

Andrus Eckler's in-laws from his marriage to Maria Schramm, were loyal to the Crown. And amongst the five children born to Andrus and Maria, William along with his wife, Maria Lampman and her parents loyal to the Crown. They removed to Canada.

No evidence has been uncovered that would indicate Maria or her husband, George Burk, were in any manner supportive of the Crown.

Frederick Eiklor was a veteran in the fight against the Crown. His father-in-law, James Barker supported the Rebel cause. He was a member of the Committee of Correspondence for the Coxsackie District of Albany. James' son, John Barker, like Frederick fought for the Rebels. Frederick and his wife Sarah's three children – Jane, Elizabeth and David married into families who supported the Rebels. Jane's father-in-law, Joseph Agard, was a veteran of that War for the Rebels. Also in support of the Rebel cause was Elizabeth's husband, Benjamin Woodruff. He was a Drummer Boy for his Rebel unit. David's father- in-law,

William Huyck, was a veteran of General Sullivan's campaign in Pennsylvania and Western New York for the Rebel cause.

Frederick filed for a pension for his service to the Rebel cause.¹¹ The pension did not meet the terms of the pension laws of 1834. Frederick did not name the specific dates of service he served under each individual officer. The pension file was returned to the Greene County Court for this information. The file was not updated. Likely, the frail seventy nine year old Frederick may have died.

Frederick and Sarah Barker had married during the War. After the War, they accompanied his sister, Elizabeth and his brother-in-law, Jesse Allen¹² to make a life at Bradford County, Pennsylvania. Elizabeth's husband, Jesse Allen was a soldier in a number of campaigns for the Rebels. He was in the Sullivan campaigns in Pennsylvania. Apparently he learned that there was considerable controversy in Pennsylvania concerning ownership of land. There were competing claims by the Indians, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania as well as by various ethnic groups and Benjamin Franklin. The pension file for Jesse Allen was generated by his children for the benefit of their mother. The various campaigns in which their father participated are cited in the file.¹³

John, similar to his brother, Frederick served for the Rebels. He received a pension. No evidence has been found that John's in-laws were anything but supportive of the rebellion. After John's death, his wife sought and obtained a widow's pension.¹⁴

The in-laws of Andrus' second wife, Elizabeth [May]-Werner included Loyalists. Some members of the May family supported the Loyalist cause. As to Elizabeth's first husband, I have not searched or found any information or evidence concerning their allegiances.

If the farmer Andrus had to contend with family members supporting differing allegiances, then it had to have endured in other families. I do not have the time or funds to research this issue in Greene and Albany counties. It would be a nice long research project to take the core families of this article and the Barker family members and neighbors to search out the complex relationships in the matter of loyalty to the Crown or loyalty to the Rebels. It is a complex of competing positions. Some historians have labelled the Revolutionary War as a cousin's war. The Andrus Eckler family is an example of that suggestion.

¹ The surname is variously spelled as Aigler, Eckler, Eiklor, Eichler, Akler, as well as other spellings.

² The personal histories of the New York 1709-10 Palatines are covered in the two volume edition of Jones, Henry Z., Jr., *The Palatine Families of New York, 1710: A Study of the German Immigrants Who Arrived in Colonial New York*. All named herein are the 1710 Palatines or their descendants except for a son-in-law and three daughter-in-laws for Andrus/Andrew Eiklor.

- ³ Andreas was named after his godfather, Andreas Ehlig. Andreas and Andrus are the English equivalent of “Andrew”.
- ⁴ Andrus is the Dutch rendering of the name.
- ⁵ The name is the Dutch word for “the flats.”
- ⁶ No death records have been located in Rotterdam, Netherlands or London, England for the 1710 Palatines. Christian lost his wife and four children who were born in the Palatinate. They perished before passage on the Lyon in 1710.
- ⁷ As with death records, no marriage record has been unearthed at London for this presumed marriage. Maria’s son was born about March 1711.
- ⁸ Note that the usage of the Dutch names by the family: Marytje, Annatje, and Andrus.
- ⁹ This family adopted the Eiklor surname spelling.
- ¹⁰ One major source for the names and dates in this genealogy can be found in The Eckler-Eiklor-Eaklor-Akler Family of Hudson Valley, New York and Bradford County, Pennsylvania, Paul E. Eckler, Wildwood, MO, 2012.
- ¹¹ Three Unsuccessful Eiklor Revolutionary War Pension Applications, The New York Genealogical and Biographical RECORD, Vol. 140, April 2009, p.101.
- ¹² Some Allen researchers believe Jesse and his father were part of the Green Mountain Boys. No precise information has been established for this assertion.
- ¹³ IBID.
- ¹⁴ IBID



The April Writing SIG was held on Tuesday April 9th in person at Butterworth Education Center beginning at 1:00 PM. 7 members attended and the following handout was provided.

**Writing Your Family History
Special Interest Group (SIG)
Tuesday, 09 April 2024 (In-Person)**

Agenda:

- **Show and Tell**
 - **Which writing projects are you working on?**
- **Several ways to compile and share your family history:**
 - **Family Tree Notebooks update**
 - **Other ideas?**

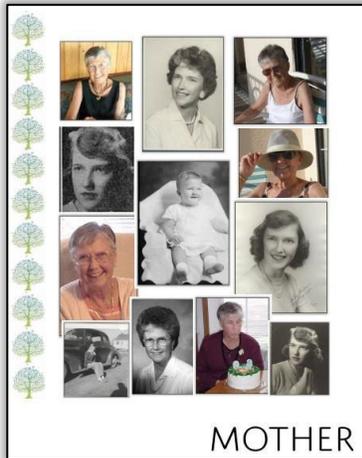
Have you written your life story?

- **Who knows the details of your life better than YOU!**
- **Include your life story as a chapter in your family history book ... or create it in a separate book to share with your family.**

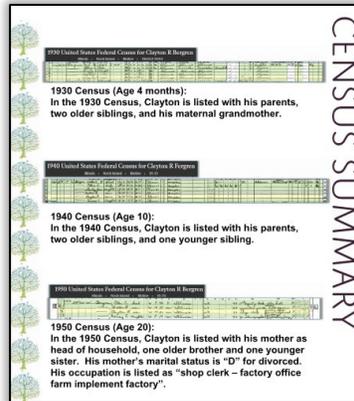
Family Tree Notebooks update:

Carly Morgan (owner) recently published a second book called “Family Tree Notebooks: Ideas”. There are lots of great examples for you to use!

One idea was adding a collage of photos to the Ancestor Divider.



There is also a Census Summary page where you can compare entries for several census years.



Another idea was to use scrapbooking embellishments to personalize your pages.



What creative ideas have you used?

**Writing Your Family History
 Special Interest Group (SIG)
 Tuesday, 09 April 2024
 (In-Person)**

Family Tree Notebooks Update (continued)

- If you are interested in this system, but not quite sure if it will work for you, go to www.familytreenotebooks.com website and sign up to be on Carly Morgan's email list. She will send you a few free PDF pages for you to test out to see if you like her method.
- New pages are added each month.
- Special deals are offered throughout the year.

Life Story

Have you written your life story? Think about how excited you would feel if you discovered a story that one of your ancestors wrote about his/her life ... not just copies of vital records, but first-hand stories about their lives. Here are a few ideas to include:

Scanned images of baby book	Residences with photos of homes if available	Random childhood memories
Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts	School pictures and awards	List of schools attended and favorite teachers
Church activities	Occupations	Clubs/Organizations
Automobiles you have had during your lifetime	Travel	Hobbies/Interests

Consider creating a treasure by writing your life story for generations to come! Happy Writing!

**Next Writing SIG – Wednesday, 17 July 2024 at
Butterworth Education Center 1:00-2:30 pm**



The April Board of Director meeting was held on April 11, 2024 via zoom at 6:30 PM. There were 11 members present.

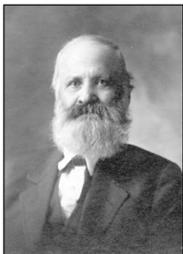
Family Histories Collection – Thomas C. Hall

Published April 17, 2024

This week we highlight another article from our Family Histories Collection from RICIGS member, Lorraine Hathaway. Read about the information Lorraine found in her research on her great-grandfather, Thomas C. Hall, who was born in Louisa County, IA and his service for the Union Army in the Civil War!

My Civil War Soldier, Thomas C. Hall

By RICIGS member, Lorraine Hathaway



My great-grandfather, Thomas Campbell Hall, was born 11 November 1839 in Columbus City, Louisa County, Iowa to Isaac Griffin Hall and Elizabeth House Hall.

Thomas enlisted in the Union Army on 16 July 1861 as a Private in Company C of the Fifth Iowa Regiment Infantry.

Three of his brothers also enlisted in the Union Army: John E. Hall served in Company F of the Thirteenth Iowa Regiment; James Hall served in Company K of the Eighth Iowa Regiment; and Henry C. Hall served in Company A of the Ninth Iowa Regiment.

His family attended the Christian (Campbellite) Church in Columbus City, Louisa County, Iowa while he was growing up. However as an adult he

became a member of the Society of Friends known as the Quakers. The Friends were divided between their total distaste for war, and their hatred of slavery. So when Thomas joined the Union Army he served as a nurse in regimental hospitals. His service included the battles of Corinth, Mississippi; Iuka, Mississippi; Vicksburg, Mississippi; Jonesborough, Georgia; Chattanooga, Tennessee; and Nashville, Tennessee as well as many others.

He re-enlisted as a veteran in Huntsville, Alabama on 1 January 1864, and on 1 September 1864 he transferred to Company G Fifth Iowa Regiment Cavalry. He was mustered out of the Union Army on 10 August 1865 in Nashville, Tennessee.

Thomas married Indiana Carolina Ford on 26 August 1865 in Winfield, Henry

County, Iowa. She was born 27 February 1845 in Brighton, Washington County, Iowa. They were the parents of eight children: Carrie B. Hall born in 1866; Edward C. Hall born in 1868; Leora M. Hall born in 1870; Fredrick J. Hall born in 1873; Alonzo T. Hall born in 1876; Bertha R. Hall born in 1879; Iva N. Hall born in 1882; and M. Edith Hall born in 1887.

They lived in Columbus City, Louisa County Iowa until the spring of 1871. They lived in Red Oak, Montgomery County, Iowa until the spring of 1875, and then moved on to Jewell County, Kansas where they lived until 1879.

They were moving west in a covered wagon through Kansas when their horses were drowned while crossing a river. They lost all of their possessions in the swift river current. After that they lived in a sod house in Rooks County, Kansas until they were able to afford another wagon and horses. Family tradition has passed down that Indiana Hall had baked two pumpkin pies which were cooling in the window. A group of Indians on horseback rode by, and wanted the pies. She said to take them. So the Indians dumped the pies in a bag, grabbed two of their chickens which they killed, then dumped the chickens in the bag on top of the pies, and rode off.

In the Fall of 1881 they moved back to Louisa County, Iowa. In 1887 they bought a 40 acre farm in Salem, Henry County, Iowa where they raised their

children. In the fall of 1910 they sold the farm in Salem, Iowa, and retired to Ottumwa, Wapello County, Iowa.

Among the Quaker meetings they attended were: the Jewell County, Kansas Monthly Meeting; the Chalk Mound Monthly Meeting in Rooks County, Kansas; and the Cedar Creek Monthly Meeting in Salem, Henry County, Iowa. After they moved to Ottumwa, Wapello County, Iowa in 1910 they were received at the Albia Monthly Meeting at Albia, Monroe County, Iowa.

Thomas applied for a Civil War pension in 1887, and was awarded \$30 a month. He died on 2 April 1917 in Ottumwa, Wapello County, Iowa. His widow, Indiana Ford Hall, applied for a widow's pension , and also received \$30 a month. She died on 15 February 1924 in Ottumwa, Wapello County, Iowa. They are both buried in the Shaul Cemetery in Ottumwa, Iowa.



Standing is Bertha Hall, Alonzo "Lon" Hall (my grandfather), May Hall, and Iva Hall. Seated are: Indiana Ford Hall, Edith Hall, and Thomas Hall. This photo is circa 1895.

The April General Meeting was held on April 22, 2024 via Zoom at 6:15 PM. This month members could assemble as a group at the Moline Public Library to view the Zoom presentation with fellow members. If this was not convenient members could also watch from home. D. Joshual Taylor was the guest speaker, and his topic was: **Beyond Belief: The Wealth of Genealogical and Historical Societies.**



D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS, FUGA is a nationally known and recognized speaker and author on genealogy and family history. Passionate about the diverse and dynamic field of genealogy, Joshua is the President of the New York Genealogical & Biographical Society (NYG&B). He is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including RootsTech's Distinguished Presenter Award, the Federation of Genealogical Societies Award of Merit, the Rubincam Youth Award from the National Genealogical Society, and was named as one of *Library Journal's* Movers and Shakers in 2017. He served the genealogical community as the President of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) from 2013-2016 and was a member of the FGS Board of Directors from 2007-2019. Joshua's website is found at <http://djoshuataylor.com/> Five Members attended in person at the Moline Library and 20 on Zoom.

May 2024



The Lunch and Learn for May was held on May 1st at the Butterworth Education Center from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. 10 members were in attendance and the following handout was provided on the topic of Courthouse Records.



Lunch and Learn

May 1, 2024 11:30-1:00 (in person only) Butterworth Education Center
Courthouse Records

Session Purpose: Share Tips & Tricks for accessing Vital Records and other documents at courthouses.

Agenda:

Types of records

- Vital Records – years can vary from State to State and County.
 - Birth Records
 - Marriage Records
 - Death Records
 - Divorce Records
- Wills & Probate
- Land Records

Some County Clerk offices now have Genealogy rooms where you can research for your records either in books or on a computer. Once you find your record, the clerk can find the original and make a copy for you.

Some County Clerk offices look up the information for you. Most now have the information on computers, but some still have records in books.

Prices can vary for copies.

Tell us about some of your research trips to Courthouses. What did you find?

Useful Links:

Family Search United States Court Records Wiki.

It contains useful guidance as well as links to each State's websites. Click

[United States Court Records • FamilySearch](#) or Copy & Paste:

[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United States Court Records](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Court_Records)

[Vital Records | State Historical Society of Iowa](#)

<https://history.iowa.gov/history/research/collecons/vital-records>

Library of Congress Guide: Illinois Courthouse Records

[Courthouse Records - Illinois: Local History & Genealogy Resource Guide -](#)

[Research Guides at Library of Congress](#) <https://guides.loc.gov/illinois-local-history-genealogy/courthouse-records>

Genealogical Research Illinois State Archive

[GenealogicalResearch\(ilsos.gov\)](#)

https://www.ilsos.gov/departments/archives/gen_research.html



The May Board of Directors meeting was held on Thursday May 9th via zoom at 6:30 PM. There were 7 members in attendance.



On Saturday May 11, 2024 a special event was held via Zoom from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Member William Simmon presented a program entitled **“Show, Don’t Tell: Using Video to Share Family Stories.”** He demonstrated how to create family story videos, gave inspirational examples, and provided a handout with step-by-step instructions for others to create their own videos. The following flyer was distributed to members and local libraries to promote the event. 19 members and guests attended.



Join us for a Free Virtual Presentation!

Sponsored by Rock Island County Illinois Genealogical Society

"Show, Don't Tell: Using Video to Share Family Stories"

This program will go over the pros and cons of using video to share family history stories and get into the weeds of what's actually involved in the process, how beginners can approach making videos, and some best practices to keep in mind.

Saturday, May 11th . 10:00 am to Noon

Presented by William Simmon



William Simmon is an award-winning documentary filmmaker and educator based in northern Vermont. In 2020, William became interested in researching his family's roots in Rock Island County, IL. This eventually led him to combine his newfound interest in genealogy with his work as a filmmaker and storyteller. To see William's short video of the Simmon family in Rock Island County, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2zzThIRNTQ>

To request a Zoom invitation to the presentation, email info@ricigs.org

RICIGS Member Darrel Hagberg in the news.

This story originally published on May 19 in the Moline Dispatch and also featured on KWQC TV

Darrel Hagberg worked on the KONE tower decades ago. Now, a little over 60 years later, he is working on the tower in a new way.

Hagberg built a scale model of the KONE tower, showcasing his idea for potential reuse as Moline plans to redevelop the area. The KONE tower model is built out of wood and foam and has gone through three different designs.



A look at Darrel Hagberg's idea of turning Moline's KONE tower into a multi-layer observation deck on Wednesday, May 15.

His overall vision was to make it more than a standing monument and something that immerses visitors in the surrounding nature.

"About the overall concept of the tower is using it as an observation area with emphasis on nature," he said.

Hagberg even incorporated eagles into the design idea for the tower. His idea renames the tower as 'The Bald Eagle Tower'.



Tina Beard, owner of Tamarack Genealogy, is a genealogy & local history librarian at a mid-sized Chicagoland public library. She holds a Masters of Library and Information Science degree with a specialization in Archives/Preservation from Dominican University in River Forest, IL. Tina has won multiple research and digitization grants over the years to preserve and digitize historic documents and photographs. She lectures nationally on various topics.

On May 28,2024, Tina was guest speaker at our general meeting. Her topic was **Military Records Online**. The meeting was held in person at 6:15 PM in the Bronze Room of the Moline Public Library. The meeting was also on Zoom for those who could not attend in person. A Whiteys gift card was given as a door prize after the presentation at the library and those members then went to Whiteys for an ice cream treat. 8 members attended in person at the library and 7 members watched on Zoom.

June 2024



The June Lunch and Learn was held in person on June 5, 2024, at the Butterworth Education Center from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Two topics were presented: Including Family Letters in your genealogy and a round robin discussion of what's new with you. 13 members attended. The following handout was distributed.



Lunch and Learn

June 5, 2024
11:30-1:00 (in person
only) Butterworth
Education Center

Family Letters and What's New with You?

*Family Letters: Organizing, Storing, and Using in your
Genealogy*

- Case study
- What are you doing with your family letters?

Resources:

“Preserving Old Family Letters”

<https://education.myheritage.com/article/preserving-old-family-letters/>

“Voices from the Past: A Family Letter Transcription Project – Part One”

<https://familylocket.com/voices-from-the-past-a-family-letter-transcription-project-part-one/>

Discovering your heritage
Identifying relatives to contact
Other?



The DNA SIG was held on Tuesday June 18, 2024 via Zoom from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM. 6 members attended and the following handout was provided. The topic was **How Have You Used Your DNA results.**



DNA SIG

June 18, 2024

Zoom 1 – 2
p.m.

How have you used your DNA results?

- Building your family tree
 - Ancestors
 - Distant cousins
- Confirming your genealogy research
 - Have there been surprises?
- Breaking down brick walls
 - Adoptions
 - Unknown parentage
 - When few traditional sources available
- Discovering your heritage
- Identifying relatives to contact
- Other?

Let's share how we have been able to use our DNA in our family history research.



The Board of Directors meeting was held on June 20th a week later than usual due to a scheduling conflict for the President. It was held via zoom at 6:30 PM with 8 members in attendance.

JULY 2024



Lunch and Learn for July was held on the 3rd at the Butterworth Education Center from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. The topic was "**Grandma's Box, Show and Tell.**" 10 members were in attendance and shared photos, jewelry, autograph books, and even a cane, items they had inherited. The following email was sent with details of this session.

Our July Lunch and Learn will be Wednesday, July 3rd, 11:30 AM at the Butterworth Education Center.

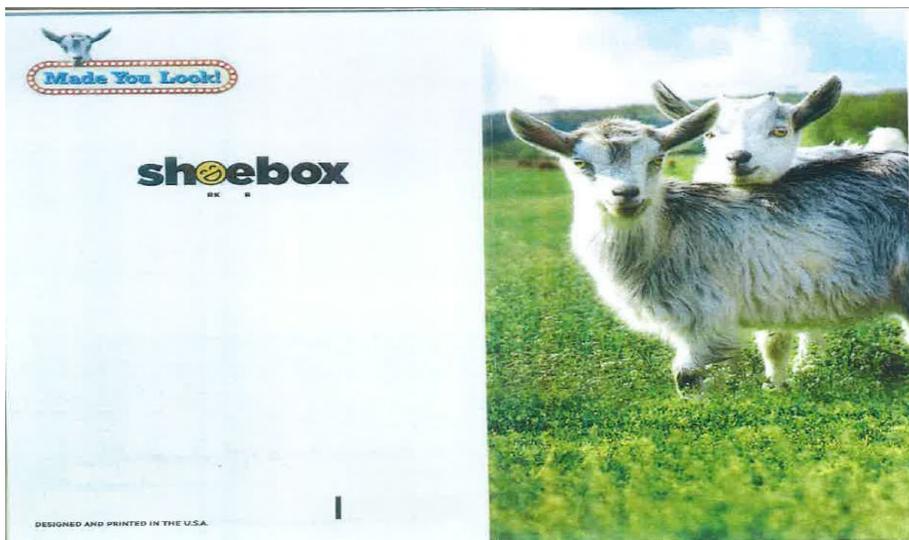
Our topic is Grandma's box - Show & Tell.

Last year, we talked about methods to sort through the piles of documents, heirlooms and miscellany that we inherit from 'Grandma' and other relations. This year, we invite you to attend and bring something from your collection to share with the group. It can be anything you like - as long as it is portable!

We would love to see everyone's treasures and hear the related stories from our members: (sample questions/food for thought)

- What is it?
- How did it come to be in your possession?
- Is it an item of historical significance? sentimental value? etc.
- Have you devised a way to share the item with family or another audience, etc.

Pryer to the start of the July Lunch and Learn meeting on July 3, 2024, the following greeting card with a Hy-Vee gift card was presented to Ed and Ruth Evans who recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. They have been faithful members since 1995 and attend meetings regularly.



On Behalf of the RICIS
Board of Directors
Julie Vogel, Jay Matlock
Linda Walker, Judi M. Dowell
Ann Noyce, Deb Van Sant
Mary Hardner-Kaucher
Betty Hagberg, Jan McKenzie
Kathy Elliott, Pam Lawson
Sally Baitosh

HAPPY

"Still just a couple
of crazy kids in love."

Congratulations on your
70th Wedding Anniver
with blessings for many m.

They sent the following thank you note,

Thank
You

RICIGS Board + members

Thank you for the gift card for
HyVee. What a wonderful surprise
at Lunch + Learn.

Tomorrow we hope to find more

An avid musician, she played the violin throughout her life, including during her school-aged years with the Quad City Symphony. She later played with Monmouth, Augustana and St. Ambrose Community orchestras, and over the years with several quartets performing at weddings and receptions. Her favorite place to play was in church. No McCoy Christmas Eve was complete until her violin accompanied the family in singing Christmas carols.

In retirement she spent countless hours serving as a member of the Catholic Service Board and volunteering at Cinderella Cellar, taking piano lessons, researching genealogy, playing the violin, and traveling. There were many trips to Des Moines to attend the grandkids' sporting events and dance recitals as well as adventures abroad including one to Ireland and Scotland to meet her pen pal of more than 60 years.

She is preceded in death by her husband and parents. Left to cherish her memory are her children: Kathi (Bob) Scott, Mike, Mary Beth (Steve) Haugen, and Carole (Will) Johnson; grandchildren: Megan (Kyle) Korte, Nikki (Michael) Riniker, Matt Scott, and Noah and Nick Haugen, Cooper, Abby, Maddie and Paige Johnson; great-grandchildren: Kennedy, Jackson, Madison, and Carter Korte.

Memorials may be made to the Catholic Service Board, Cinderella Cellar, 230 W. 35th #1, Davenport, IA 52806, and St. Paul's Catholic Church.



From Our Blog

Ed and Ruth Evans Celebrate 70 Years of Marriage

by [julee89](#) | Published [July 8, 2024](#)



Just prior to the start of the July Lunch and Learn meeting on July 3, 2024, a HyVee gift card was presented to Ed and Ruth Evans who celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary on June 20, 2024. They have been faithful members of RICIGS since 1995. They were asked if they attended school together, but Ruth said no, they attended **rival** schools, Ruth at Morning Sun in Louisa County and Ed just across the county line at a small country school in Henry County Iowa. Ed said their first date was a blind date that he asked a friend to coordinate. The above photo was taken at their grandson's wedding in October 2023. Ed and Ruth live in Camanche, Iowa and are active in their community and will be serving as Grand Marshalls at Camanche Days this summer.



The July Board of Directors meeting was held on July 11, 2024 via zoom at 6:30 pm. Eleven members were in attendance.



The Writing SIG was held on July 17, 2024 in person at Butterworth Education Center from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM with 5 members in attendance. The following agenda was provided.



Writing Your Family History Special Interest Group (SIG)

Tuesday, 17 July 2024 (In-Person)

Agenda:

- Show and Tell
 - Which writing projects are you working on? Let's share ideas!
- Discussion: What do you include in your Family History book besides Birth, Marriage, and Death Records?

Here are a few ideas:

City Directory entries	Photos of residences	Employment records
Yearbook photos	Newspaper articles	Stories
Sports	Hobbies	Automobiles owned

What other documents are in your books?

- Discussion: Do you include a timeline at the beginning of each chapter in your family history book?

- It could serve as an index of the chapter contents
- It could also show documentation for that person that you are missing and need to research
- *Next Writing SIG – Wednesday, 16 October 2024 (Zoom only)*



A hybrid general meeting was held again on July 23, 2024 when Laura Kovarik was our in- person guest speaker at the Moline Public Library. The meeting was broadcast via Zoom at 6:15 for members who preferred to watch at home. 7 members attended at the library and 7 watched from home. The topic was **“The Old College Try”, using college archives to research.**

Laura Kovarik has been involved in genealogy for more than thirty years. Her experience includes leadership, educational, and committee positions with genealogical societies at the international, state, and local levels. Laura has been providing educational opportunities for genealogists for almost twenty years through conferences, webinars, and special interest groups.

At the end of the meeting 3 attendees won Whitey’s gift cards and all attendees stopped at nearby Whiteys for a treat.

August 2024



Lunch and Learn for August was held on August 7, 2024 in person at Butterworth Education Center from 11:30 AM until 1:00 PM. 7 Members attended and the following handout was provided. The topic **Confirming Family Stories**.



Lunch and Learn

August 7, 2024

11:30 – 1:00

In Person – Butterworth Center

Confirming Family Stories

Everyone has family stories! The storytellers in our past and present, capture our attention by weaving together bits and pieces that may or may not stand up to today's genealogical research standards.

Share your family stories with us

- Have you been able to verify a story?
- Have you found a story to be false?

- Maybe it has a glimmer of truth?
- How do you treat unverified stories in your genealogy writings?

Family stories add color and life to our family history and are likely the easiest way to engage the future genealogists in our families. Let's embrace family stories!

- genealogy writings?

Family stories add color and life to our family history and are likely the easiest way to engage the future genealogists in our families. Let's embrace family stories!



The August Board of Directors meeting was held on August 8, 2024 via zoom at 6:30 pm. Eleven members were in attendance.



On August 20, 2024 the DNA SIG met in person at Butterworth Education Center from 1:00 PM until 3:00 PM. **Back to Basics** was the topic with 2 members in attendance and the following agenda



DNA Special Interest Group 20 August 2024

1-3 p.m.

In Person – Butterworth Education Center

Back to basics: Identifying
unknown matches Where do they fit in
your tree

Some ideas:

- Shared DNA, Number of segments
- Age of your match (are you 'removed'?)
- Estimate generation of connection
- No tree? Is their kit managed by someone?
- Shared matches – does one of your shared matches have a large tree?
- Search the surname in your own tree

We will have the projector set up if you want to bring your computer to share your DNA findings or

On August 27, 2004 Jackie Schattner was once again our featured speaker for the general meeting held via Zoom at 6:30 pm. 21 members were eager to hear her topic **Explore US Church Records – Find Family.**



Jacque received her B.S. degree from the University of Illinois. She is a retired school secretary. Jacqueline Schattner has been actively researching her family's ancestors since 1996. She volunteered at the Family History Center in Schaumburg for 15 years, teaches genealogy for Districts 211 and 214, teaches beginning genealogy at area libraries and is active in several genealogy societies.

September 2024



Lunch and Learn for September was held on September 4, 2024 in person at Butterworth Education Center from 11:30 AM until 1:00 PM. 8 Members attended. The topic was **Using School Records in Genealogy**, and the following handout was provided.



Lunch and Learn

September 4, 2024 11:30-1:00 (in person only) Butterworth Education Center

Using School Records in Genealogy

Do you have school records? What have you learned from them?

- Photos of the school
- Class photos
- Yearbooks
- Grade reports
- School histories

Where to find school records

- Family papers
- Archives and historical societies
- School districts
- College registrars, Alumni Associations, Newsletters,

School Records: An “Out-of-the-Box” Family History Resource:

<https://www.legacytrees.com/blog/school-records-family-history-resource>

One Room School House Center

<https://oneroomschoolhousecenter.weebly.com/>



The Board of Directors meeting was held on Thursday September 12, 2024 via zoom at 6:30 PM. 12 members attended.



Michael John Neill was the guest speaker at the general meeting held on September 24, 2024. This was a hybrid meeting with 8 members attending in person at the Moline Public Library and 15 members watching via zoom from the comfort of home. The meeting began at 6:15 and the topic was **Deep Dive into Road Trips**. Michael provided lots of tips and strategies for a successful road trip.

Michael John Neill has been actively engaged in genealogical research for over thirty years. He writes the popular "Genealogy Tip of the Day" which is hosted on www.genealogytipoftheday.com. Michael has lead research trips to the Family History Library and the Allen County Public Library in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. He gives lectures on a variety of genealogical topics and concentrates on research in the Midwestern and upper Southern regions of the United States and several countries in Western Europe. Michael is a former community college mathematics instructor and has a master's degree in mathematics. Three attendees won gift cards for Whiteys Ice Cream and all attendees enjoyed sweet treats at Whitey's after the meeting.

October 2024



Lunch and Learn for October was held on October 2, 2024 in person at the Butterworth Education Center from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. The topic this month was Make and Take. The details of the event were emailed as follows: 11 members attended.

Please join us in person on Wednesday, October 2nd, 11:30 AM - 1 PM for a Family History "Make & Take" Project.

We are supplying the card materials - All you have to do is fill in your family's ancestors' information. Keep the completed cards for yourself, or send them to a family member.

We also would love to see - or hear about - any way you have incorporated family history through a craft project. We hope you join us.



On October 10th the Board of Directors met for their monthly meeting. The meeting was held via Zoom at 6:30 PM with 12 members in attendance.



From our Blog

Published October 15, 2024 by Judi McDowell

Toledo Memorial Park is a cemetery in Toledo Ohio. It was founded in 1922 with 54 acres; today it has expanded to 380 acres and crosses the state line into Michigan. Recently a young man named Maxwell Ethington took on a project through Billion Graves to earn the Eagle Scout award. He organized 140 volunteers of family, Scout troop, church youth group and friends to memorialize those buried in this cemetery. Volunteers took photos, clipped grass to make names and dates readable.



Volunteers who could not help at the cemetery transcribed the photos on BillionGraves. Maxwell and his volunteers took 9,873 gravestone photos and transcribed 4,091 records. If you have any scouts in your family, suggest this project for their Eagle Scout project. The full article with photos can be found here <https://blog.billiongraves.com/an-awesome-billiongraves-eagle-scout-project/>



On October 16, 2024, the writing SIG met via Zoom from 6:30 PM to 7:30 with 10 members in attendance. The discussion topic was Family Traditions and how to record them for future generations. The following Agenda was provided.



Writing Your Family History Special Interest Group (SIG) Wednesday, 16 October 2024 (Zoom)

October is Family History Month, so let's talk about Family Traditions!

Let's start with a definition ... TRADITION – "the handing down of statements, beliefs, legends, customs, information, etc. from generation to generation, especially by word of mouth or by practice"

Traditions are activities that a family does now, has done in the past and plans to continue doing in the future.

Discussion Agenda:

- **Why are family traditions important?**
- Which traditions are you celebrating with your family?
- How are you recording those traditions?

ANCESTOR
STORIES

The Final general meeting for 2024 was held both in person at the Moline Public Library and via zoom at 6:15 PM on October 22nd. The first order of business was to approve the slate of officers chosen by the Nominating Committee. The Officers proposed for 2025 are the following:

President: Julie Vogel

Vice President--Sandra Derenbecker

Recording Secretary-- Sally Bartosh

Treasurer-- Judi McDowell

Member at Large 2025-- Ann Noyce

Member at Large 2026 – Pam Lawson

Member at Large 2027—Deb Van Sant

The slate was unanimously approved and will be installed at the Annual Meeting on November 12, 2024. The program this month was **Stories of Your Ancestors**. Several members shared interesting details about ancestors who had served in a war and some shared how DNA had advanced their research. There were 8 members at the library and 13 on Zoom. The in-person attendees stopped at Whitey's Ice cream after the meeting for an ice cream treat.



Jay Matlock and Judi McDowell represented RICIGS at the Archives Fair on October 26, 2024. The event was held from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM at the Lodge at Credit Island Park in Davenport. They greeted guests, answering questions and passing out brochures, notepads, pens and candy. There were approximately 25 other nonprofit organizations represented. Mary Gardner Karcher was at the Center for Belgian Culture table with handouts including Belgian Cookies.

A few of the other groups represented included SCIGS, Butterworth Center and Richardson Sloan Special Collections.



Our table at the archives fair



A few other participants

November 2024



The 2024 Annual Meeting was held on November 12, 2024, at the Butterworth Center. Doors opened at 5:30 with dinner served at 6:00 PM. Dinner was prepared and delivered by HyVee from Milan, IL. The menu consisted of Roast Beef, Garlic Herb Chicken Breast, Hashbrown Cheese Casserole, Vegetable Medley, Broccoli Supreme

Salad, 7 Layer Salad, Dinner Rolls with Butter, Apple Crisp and Chocolate Cake with beverages of coffee, iced tea and water. The cost was \$22.00 each. After Dinner Betty Hagberg gave a presentation entitled ***“Why is the son of Charles Dickens buried in Moline?”*** After the presentation the following new officers for 2025 were installed.

President: Julie Vogel

Vice President: Sandra Derenbecker (absent lives in Louisiana)

Recording Secretary: Sally Bartosh

Treasurer: Judi McDowell

Member At Large 2025: Ann Noyce

Member At Large 2026: Pam Lawson

Member At Large 2027: Debra VanSant

39 members and guests attended

Following are copies of the program and bookmarks distributed

*Rock Island County Illinois
Genealogical Society*



*Annual Dinner Meeting
November 12, 2024
Butterworth Center
Moline, Illinois*

2025 Officers

President – Julie Vogel 309-236-4492
Vice-President – Sandra Derenbecker 504-723-3728
Treasurer – Judi McDowell 309-314-1780
Recording Secretary – Sally Bartosh 309-762-0328
Member-at-Large 2025 – Ann Noyce 309-781-3965
Member-at-Large 2026 – Pam Lawson 309-738-4524
Member-at-Large 2027 – Debra Van Sant 563-349-5380

Committee Chairpersons

Cemeteries – Judi McDowell 309-314-1780
Digital Technology - Julie Vogel 309-236-4492
Education - Linda Polich 309-236-1985
Linda Walker 309-236-0379
Betty Hagberg 309-762-0384
Beth Hoffman 309-737-3299
Mary Gardner-Karcher 563-508-0886
Fundraising - Linda Polich 309-236-1985
Funeral Cards – Jan McKenzie 309-757-7767
Historian – Judi McDowell 309-314-1780
Librarian – Kathy Snyder 309-721-5377
Publications – Betty Hagberg 309-762-0384
Mailing – Kathy Elliott 563-381-8185
Queries & Research – Debra Van Sant 563-349-5380
Registered Agent – Beth Hoffman 309-737-3229
Registrar - Ann Noyce 309-781-3965



Welcome - Julie Vogel

Invocation – Kathy Elliott

Buffet Menu:

Roast Beef
Garlic Herb Chicken Breast
Hashbrown Cheese Casserole
Vegetable Medley
Broccoli Supreme Salad
7-Layer Salad
Dinner Rolls with Butter
Apple Crisp & Chocolate Cake
Decaf Coffee, Ice Tea, Water

Installation of 2025 Officers

Program:

*“The Son of Charles Dickens Buried in Moline?
A Tale of Local and Family History”
Presented by Betty Hagberg*

RICIGS 2025 Education Events
Butterworth Education Center
or ZOOM

January 9th ZOOM only
6:30-7:30 pm

New Year, New Start

February 5th ZOOM only
6:30-7:30 pm

DNA Update - What's New

March 11th ZOOM only
6:30-8:00 pm

Belgian Research Update

April 16th In-Person only
1:00-2:30 pm

Family Tree Notebooks Update

ZOOM
May 7th In-Person only

11:30 am - 1:00 pm *6:30 - 7:30*

FindAGrave and Cemetery Records

June 4th In-Person only
11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Organization: What Works For You

July 9th In-Person only
11:30 am - 1:00 pm

TBA

August 6th In-Person only
11:30 am - 1:00 pm

How Do You Share Your Family History?

September 10th In-Person only
11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Working With Images

October 7th In-Person Only
10:30 am - 12:00 pm

FamilySearch Resources at FamilySearch Center, Davenport

RICIGS 2025 Monthly Meetings
4th Tuesday - 6:30 pm

January 28th - ZOOM Only

"Squeezing Out All the Info for Your DNA Matches" by Kate Penny Howard

February 25th - ZOOM Only

"Photo Organizing & Preservation: You Can Do This" by Thomas MacEntee

March 25th - ZOOM Only

"Reconstructing Your Ancestors' World With Google" by Lisa Louise Cooke

April 22nd - ZOOM Only

"Locating Hard-to-Find Family With New Tools and Old, Tested Methods" by J. Mark Lowe

May 27th - Hybrid In-Person

"Responsible Use of ChatGBT for Genealogy" by Michael John Neill

June 24th - ZOOM Only

"Beyond Ancestry: Essential Portals for Genealogy Research" by Nancy Loe

July 22nd - Hybrid In-Person

"Billy Yank: Union Soldiers from the Civil War" by Tina Beard

August 26th - In-Person

On-site tour of Davenport Library Special Collections by Kathryn Whalen

September 23rd - Zoom only

"Resources of the Daughters of the American Revolution" by Joshua Taylor

October 28th - Hybrid In-Person

Shared Stories by Members

At the annual meeting on November 12th, Linda Polich, Fundraising Committee Chair presented two checks to our President for participation in the Birdies for Charity campaign. This is our only fundraiser each year and for 2024 we raised \$835.00 in donations from our members and supporters then the Birdies program added an 8 per cent bonus of \$66.80. We have participated since 2013 for a total of 12 years. In 12 years, we have realized \$10,921.50. This money allows us to solicit top notch speakers to give monthly programs about the latest Genealogy related resources.

The John Deere Golf classic was pleased with their success in 2024 which allowed them to raise \$15,976,574 for 476 nonprofits. Here is their flyer.

A NEW RECORD!

**\$15.9
MILLION**



YOU MADE MAGIC HAPPEN!

Thanks to your generosity, the 2024 John Deere Classic and its Birdies for Charity program raised an astounding **\$15,976,574.68** for **476** local and regional charities. Each charity will receive an **8% bonus** on top of their individual totals!

Your contributions helped us break last year's record by \$1,873,741 and increased this year's bonus from 7.5% to 8%. Since the tournament's inception as the Quad Cities Open in 1971, and with John Deere's title sponsorship since 1998, we've raised an incredible \$189,652,123.66 for our community.

We couldn't have achieved this without you.

Thank you to all our donors, sponsors, and John Deere for making this year's fundraising efforts a tremendous success!



The Board of Directors meeting for November was held on Thursday November 14, 2024 via zoom at 6:30 PM. There were 13 members in attendance.

December 2024



The final and only meeting for December was the Board of Directors meeting on December 12, 2024. 10 board members attended via Zoom at 6:30 PM. Kathy Elliott announced that this would be her final meeting, as she is moving to a new home in Newton, Iowa.