



# **The Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois**

c/o John A. Logan College, 700 Logan College Road, Carterville, IL 62918-2500

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilgssi>

## **NEWSLETTER**

June 2009

**Spring Conference — Saturday 13 June 2009**

DNA and Genealogy

A Seminar Conference

Metropolis Public Library

Metropolis, IL

10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Free

Open to the public

Handouts available for nominal fee

For details, see inside



The GSSI Library Collection will continue to be available during the summer months when the John A. Logan College Library is open.

There are no GSSI monthly meetings during the months of July and August.

The next regularly scheduled monthly meeting will be held on Sunday, 13 September 2009.

An expanded newsletter will be issued in August.

# President's Letter

By Mike Brush

Many of you are aware of the terrible storms that passed through the heart of GSSI Land on Friday, May 8, 2009. Some of you are painfully aware due to the property damage and power loss associated with the winds. GSSI was forced to cancel the May meeting due to safety concerns at John A. Logan College. The campus did not re-open until a week later....just in time for graduation ceremonies on Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. The Society certainly hopes to reschedule Mr. Ed Annable for a later appearance. Plans for the Spring Conference in Metropolis are in the final stages of preparation and it is hoped that Mother Nature will be more accommodating in June than she was in May.

In June, of course, the celebration of Father's Day is held and it is altogether fitting that we recognize our fathers with the same respect and admiration we accorded our mothers last month. The wisdom and leadership of our fathers have prepared the path for those of us who have accepted the challenges presented to us. Not only have we been given our surnames from our fathers, but more importantly we have learned of the values and principles by which they lived their lives. Such a legacy is to be truly cherished. I am blessed with a father who enjoys length of days and I hope I don't pass up too many opportunities to ask those family history questions that need to be asked before we say good bye.

As I crank through the rolls of census microfilm, I find that my ancestors were listed as farmers. I suspect that this is the case for many of you also. I am the product of the farm environment which was established by my ancestors all the way back to the early days of the Republic. My generation is the first to have earned its living in an economy other than agriculture. As I have examined rolls and rolls of census microfilm, I have seen such an array of occupations as to build a classical vocabulary. From A to Z here are examples of such bygone occupations: ale draper, belhoste, catagman, dowser, empresario, feller, grimbriber, haberdasher, infirmarian, jagger, knockknobler, loblolly boy, mango, nipper, out crier, perfumer, quiller, rectifier, stevedore, tinker, upright worker, vulcan, wainright, xylographer, yatman, and zincographer. Again, I invite you to dust off the old genealogy dictionary and reacquaint yourselves with some of these forgotten occupational definitions.

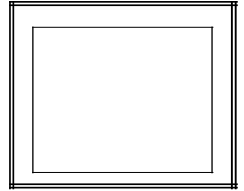
So, everyone have a great summer and may you have many discoveries as you engage in the ancestral hunt. Hope to see you in Metropolis on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June for the GSSI Spring Conference. The next newsletter will be full of information relating to the Fall Conference and Book Fair together with presentation of the GSSI Speakers Bureau. Much more is to come in the second half of 2009. Happy hunting!

## Family History Award

Each Spring, the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency sponsors a Southern Regional History Fair on the campus of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. For the past several years the Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois has funded an award for the best student paper or project on community or family history. The recipient of the GSSI Award at this year's 45<sup>th</sup> Regional Fair on April 4 was Hailee Clark of Cobden Junior High School for her paper and display, *Four Generations of Women At Southern Illinois University: A Legacy*.

The legacy began when Hailee's great, great grandmother Franka Mae Wooden Kanady began studying for a teaching certificate at Southern Illinois Normal in 1908. Hailee consulted a general history of the university, interviewed her mother, grandmother and great grandmother about their experiences at SIU, "filled in the gaps" by research in campus newspapers and yearbooks, and found photographs to illustrate their story. Hailee's family history portrait across four generations shows all the marks of a very skilled young genealogist.

# DNA AND GENEALOGY



**What?** Mini conference, *DNA and Genealogy*

**Where?** Metropolis Library, 317 Metropolis Street, Metropolis, IL

**When?** Saturday, June 13, 2009, 10 AM to 2:30 PM

## Who?

### Presenters:

- **Ken Cochran** *DNA, Back to Eve, an Overview*
- **Colleen Norman** *What About those X and Y chromosomes? And what we can and cannot learn from DNA studies.*
- **Pete Pietrowski** *Where can we have DNA studies done? And how do we interpret them?*
- **Jeanette O'Boyle** *Will join the other three for a question and answer period.*

Lunch will NOT be provided but is available at several sites within walking distance.

There is no registration fee; however, there may be a small fee for handouts.

Pre-registration is not required but would be helpful for planning purposes.

Send name and number attending to:

**DNA Conference Chairman  
Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois  
c/o John A Logan College  
700 Logan College Road  
Carterville, IL 62918-2500**

**OR**

**e-mail  
jinnylou@shawneelink.net**

# *Metropolis Information for Conference Attendees*

## **Address of the Metropolis Public Library**

The address of the Metropolis Public Library is 317 Metropolis Street, Metropolis, IL 62960

## **Directions to the Metropolis Public Library**

From Interstate 24 traveling either East or West, exit at Highway 45 which is Exit # 37. Turn west and travel toward the City of Metropolis for approximately 3 miles. When entering the downtown area, turn left on Metropolis Street which is one block before the traffic light. Travel south on Metropolis Street for one and a half blocks and the library will be on the right. There is ample parking on the streets and there is handicapped parking near the north end of the library.



## **Library Entrance:**

The Conference will be held on the lower level of the library. A sign will be posted directing conference attendees to the lower level entrance. An elevator is available for anyone requiring assistance.

## **Accommodations in the Metropolis Area:**

There are ample accommodations in the immediate area. A Baymont Inn is located two blocks from the library. There are several other motels at the interstate exit, including Holiday Inn Express, Super 8 Metropolis and a Comfort inn. There are also many hotels across the bridge in Paducah, Kentucky less than 10 minutes from the library.

## **Eateries in the Metropolis Area:**

There are numerous eateries in the immediate area. Less than four blocks from the library, there are fast food venues in addition to a grand buffet at the casino. There are also many other choices near the interstate or in nearby Paducah. Attendees will be provided with a Metropolis Chamber of Commerce brochure at the time of registration. This brochure will provide information on the available eateries in addition to local tourism attractions. For those seeking further information, the Chamber of Commerce can be reached at 618.524.5025.,

The GSSI Spring Conference Committee  
has endeavored to develop an informative program  
and hopes that everyone will not only enjoy the sessions  
but will also gain valuable information on the engaging topic of  
DNA and Genealogy.

# Member Queries

Gary Buettner [glbuettner@msn.com](mailto:glbuettner@msn.com)

Query: Seeking information on William Newton Mann who married Elvira E (or Elizabeth) Gill from TN. They were married January 19, 1868 by J. D. F. Jennings, M.G. V. B P 257. They are on the 1870 Williamson County census living with a Sanford family.

Bobbi Lohrman [b.lohrmann@yahoo.com](mailto:b.lohrmann@yahoo.com)

Query: Interested in the Bible records of the Baker and Level/Leavall families. William Henry Baker b. —1852 married Elizabeth Ann Williams b. 1859 whose mother was Martha Ann Leavell. Also interested in information on William Womack Hubbs b. — 1803.

Debra Vaughn ph. (256.361.4546)

Query: Researching Union County families: Stewart, Deming and Ingram. Researching John Howell and Lisa Cox in Johnson County. Seeking information on the Gentry Cemetery.

Jonathan Abbott P.O. Box 974 Blytheville, AR 72316 [chicksawaba@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chicksawaba@sbcglobal.net)

Query: 1850 Union Co. Illinois Census # 135 shows Ferrell Alexander C. 24 M TN, Jane 18 F TN. The 1860 Johnson Co. Fed. Census HH#789/864 shows A.C. Ferrell 34 M TN, Louisa 27 F TN. Can anyone connect to this Alexander Ferrell? Is this the line of Thomas Ferrell of Union Co.? Who are these people? Any info will help.

Sylvia Howerton 19300 U.S. Highway 64 Haskell, Okla. 74436 (918-482-3594)

Query: Would like to hear from relatives of John Richardson Williams b. 1808 TN, married Sarah Adams 1828 in Franklin Co., Illinois. He died 1886 in Montgomery Co., KS. Will answer all letters.

Wilma Jo Schnare 2941 Westborough Dr. St. Charles, MO 63301-4548 (636-947-1762)  
[wschnare@mail.win.org](mailto:wschnare@mail.win.org)

Query: Would like to correspond with descendants of James "Wilson" Butts b. ca 1788 NC d. 1871, md Lucinda Huff 1853 Union Co. His parents may have been Jesse and Rhoda Butts. Francis Marion Butts, son of Wilson and Lucinda is my great-grandfather.

Weldon L. Brown 8 Lake Drive Sullivan, IL 61954 (217-728-3773)

Query: I am planning to publish a book on the George Milton Brown and related families from North Carolina to Southern Illinois (2009). Now have over 5600 names. If interested please contact me.

Glenda Romanic 423 W 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Trenton, IL 62293-1011 (618-224-9749) [gromanicharter.net](http://gromanicharter.net)

Query: Harrison "Buck" Orsburn b. abt 1836 ?TN m. Mary J. Jones b. abt 1842 ?TN daughter of Thomas Jones of TN. Harrison was my great grandfather. Mary d 1916, Harrison d. 1910-1916. I have been told there were 22 children (know of 10). Harrison and many of his children d around the same time. Any help on this would be greatly appreciated.

Kenneth D. Miller, MD 15524 Echo Hills Drive Austin, TX 78717 (512-238-1774)  
[kmiller8249@austin.rr.com](mailto:kmiller8249@austin.rr.com)

Query: Who are parents of John Light b. 1793 in N.C. m. 1817 in Rowan Co., N.C. d. 1861-1869 Union Co., Illinois? Who are parents of Sara Stokes b. 1787-1790 in Rowan Co., N.C. d. 1855-1880 in Union Co., Illinois?

## Member Queries Continued

Donna Spradlin Bundy 8712 Jawbone Avenue Lake Isabella, CA 93240 (760-378-2201)

[fwdlbundy@netzero.net](mailto:fwdlbundy@netzero.net)

Query: Researching McCRARY, KELLER, HINKLE in 1830's in Union County, IL. Looking for parents of Hans, Rebecca and John McCrary. These siblings were probably born in NC and married in Union Co., IL into the Keller and Hinkle lines. Would be happy to correspond and share info on these lines.

Ruth S. Larson 250 Co. Rd. 221 Florence, TX 76527-4204 (254-793-3974) [LarsonRS38@aol.com](mailto:LarsonRS38@aol.com)

Query: In the 1870 Perry County, IL census: an information on #42 Samuel Pryor and family, Lucinda, Sarah and Mary F. would be appreciated. Also any information on #43 Dent Poston and family, Ellen, Samuel R., Hiram H., Nancy E., Isaac and Sarah M. would be greatly appreciated.

Dorothy M. Potts 6705 128<sup>th</sup> St. E Puyallup, WA 98373-5137

Query: Looking for the parents of Benjamin Truit who was born in Crawford Co., IL and lived and died in Union Co., IL. He married Susan Brooks-Sullinger in Ark. Also looking for her father in TN.

## Great Grandpa Was Sentenced to Hang

*By Paul Reeves in Georgia\**

During my youth, growing up in a small southern town, I heard the oft-repeated family legend that my great-grandfather had "killed a man with a lightard knot in an argument over a cow." No one seemed to know the details beyond that, except that after his conviction for murder, "his wife rode all over the county in a buggy getting a petition signed, and the governor pardoned him." Needless to say, this was rich fare for an inquisitive young fellow, and I resolved to one day find out more about my great-grandpa's case.

I eventually found the transcript of the case in the state archives. The facts were that he had indeed killed a man in an argument, but it was with a pistol in the courtyard of a bar near the courthouse after a court case in which he and his victim were adversaries in a dispute over a piece of land. He was sentenced to hang for murder, but a jury irregularity necessitated a re-trial.

I could not find the transcript of that trial, but I posted queries on internet genealogy sites, and one day I received a call from a man who thought he was descended from the man my great-grandfather had killed. He had found and shared the transcript of the second trial with me. In this trial, my great-grandfather was once more found guilty and sentenced to hang, and was sent to jail awaiting the fateful date. The only other record I found was of a vote taken in the state legislature on a bill which had been submitted to pardon him. A slim majority voted in the affirmative. I'm grateful. For 11 years later he had a son which became my maternal grandfather.

I have searched for a record of the "petition," but to no avail. Perhaps it is in the governor's records of the time, or it could have been sent to a legislator, or there may never have been a petition at all.

Not surprisingly, not all of my relatives were happy about my confirming the family legend, or knowing the full facts. Some of them would have preferred that the skeleton remain in the closet!

This was my first and best lesson of how the facts can become distorted in being passed down from generation to generation, and how important it is to take what one finds during research with a grain of salt until documentation is found to verify it.

**Willard Library's Annual Midnight Madness 2009**  
**2nd Floor - Emrich Reading Room**  
**June 15-19**



Extended Hours: Open 9 a.m. to 12 Midnight  
 5 Days and Nights of Research and Workshops  
 All workshops are free and open to the public.  
 Reservations are requested but are not required.

**To register or for more information call: 812-425-4309 or email: [Imartin@willard.lib.in.us](mailto:Imartin@willard.lib.in.us)**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
June 15	June 16	June 17	June 18	June 19
10:00 am. Beginning Genealogy Lyn Martin, Special Collections Librarian, Willard Library	10:00 a.m. Beginning Genealogy Lyn Martin, Special Collections Librarian, Willard Library	10:00 a.m. Becoming a Certified Genealogist Brenda Joyce Jerome Certified Genealogist	10:00 a.m. Source Materials For Genealogists Lyn Martin, Special Collections Librarian, Willard Library	10:00 a.m. Cemetery Research D. Diefenbach-Hines Professional Researcher Researcher
11:00 a.m. Vital Records Peggy Newton, Library Assistant, Special Collections, Willard Library	1:00 p.m. Joining the DAR Margaret Brooke, Registrar & Melinda King. Recording Secretary Captain Henry Vanderburgh Chapter Individual Assistance By Appt. 1:00-3:00	1:00 p.m. Finding German Origins and Relatives Karin Marie Kirsch, St. Paul's Lutheran Church Archivist	1:00 p.m. Evansville in WW II: History & Research Harold Morgan, Author/Historian	1:00 p.m. Searching for Cemeteries & Death Records (Online Sources) Vannetta McDowell, Special Collections, Library Assistant, Willard Library
2:00 p.m. Touring Willard's Online Resources Vannetta McDowell Special Collections, Library Assistant, Willard Library	2:00 p.m. Searching German-American Church Records Karin Marie Kirsch, St. Paul's Lutheran Church Archivist	2:00 p.m. Land Records Mary Lou Bevers, Professional Genealogist	2:00 p.m. Researching Civil War Records John Powell, Lt. Col., USAF (Retired)	1:00 p.m. Publishing Your Family History: Practical Advice Gary Beshears, Evansville Bindery
7:00 p.m. Newspaper Research Peggy K. Newton Library Assistant, Special Collections, Willard Library & Connie Conrad, Genealogist	7:00 p.m. Blogging for Beginners Brenda Joyce Jerome, Certified Genealogist	7:00 p.m. Digitizing Grandma's Photo Album Larry Goss, Professor, USI (Retired)	7:00 p.m. Victorian Mourning Customs United Daughters of The Confederacy Henderson, KY	2:00 p.m. Tombstone Art Torn Loesch, Writer & Billy Hedel, Artist

Volume 37, No. 6 — June 2009  
Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois  
c/o John A. Logan College  
700 Logan College Road  
Carterville, IL 62918-2500

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U. S. POSTAGE PAID  
CARTERVILLE, IL 62918  
PERMIT NO. 23

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATE MAILED: 27 May 2009



### MEMBERSHIPS

All memberships are for the calendar year Jan I - Dec 31).

#### 2009 Dues

Household -- \$25  
Sustaining -- \$35  
Supporting — \$50 or More

Please add \$10 for mailing outside the U.S.

Make checks payable to:

Genealogy Society of Southern  
Illinois

Mail to: GSSI

c/o John A. Logan College  
700 Logan College Dr.  
Carterville, IL 62918-2500

Please enclose a SASE with  
correspondence requiring a reply.

---

#### *SAGA OF SOUTHERN*

*ILLINOIS* Published quarterly.

Submissions of items of interest in the  
southern 28 counties are welcome.

SAGA Editor  
do John A. Logan  
700 Logan College Drive  
Carterville, IL 62918-2500

### MEETINGS

GSSI meetings are held on the second  
Sunday of the month in the Library of John  
A. Logan College, Route 13 & Greenbriar  
Road, Carterville, IL beginning at 2:30 PM.  
There are no meetings in July and  
August. The all-day Fall Conference and  
Book Fair are held on a Saturday in  
October. Please check the *Newsletter* for  
specific details of meetings.

The Genealogy section of the John A.  
Logan College Library is open for research  
on meeting days from noon to 4:30 PM.

GSSI Executive Board Meetings are held at  
1 PM on meeting days.

---

#### *NEWSLETTER*

Published monthly.

Queries may be submitted at no charge.  
Please send notices of family reunions, new  
book publications, items of interest to:

GSSI  
c/o John A. Logan  
700 Logan College Drive  
Carterville, IL 62918-2500

### GSSI MEETINGS

(Second Sunday each month except  
June, July, August, & October)

**Saturday**

**13 June 2009**

**GSSI Spring  
Conference  
At Metropolis  
Public Library**

**"DNA and  
Genealogy"**

**Featuring:**

**Ken Cochran  
Colleen Norman  
Pete Pietrowski  
& Jeanette O'Boyle**

**Sunday**

**13 September 2009**

**Topic TBA**