



# *The Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois*

515 John A. Logan College, 700 John A. Logan College Road, Carterville, IL 62918-2500  
<http://www.logan.edu/gssil>

## **NEWSLETTER**

**September 2009**

**Next Meeting — Sunday, 13 September 2009**

**Ed Annable**

### **"Pioneers of the West Eden Community"**

The long awaited presentation by Ed Annable of the Johnson County Genealogical and Historical Society is scheduled for Sunday afternoon, 13 September 2009. The earliest pioneers of the Cache River Basin will be the subject of Mr. Annable's presentation...pioneers such as Hezekiah West who was followed by families named Axley, Carter, Martin, Peterson, Mercer and others who cleared the land and established themselves despite many hardships. And they called the area "Eden." GSSI is honored to have Mr. Annable bring his power point presentation to the meeting at the John A. Logan College Library. The program will begin shortly after 2:30 p.m. and afterwards there will be time for questions and informal chat with the speaker.

### **Family History Award to be Presented**

Shortly before the 13 September program, the Society will honor a participant in the recent History Fair held at SIUC. Hailee Clark of Cobden will be recognized and awarded a certificate and bond for her entry which exemplified promising genealogical potential. Her paper and display, *Four Generations of Women at Southern Illinois University*, will be showcased at the GSSI meeting and it is hoped that all four generations will be represented in person. This event promises to delight everyone in attendance.

**The Library Collection will be open from Noon to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, 13 September 2009.**

**The GSSI Library Collection is available during the week when the College Library is open.**

**Executive Board Meeting — 1:00 p.m. General Meeting — 2:30 p.m.**

**GSSI General Meetings are free and open to the public.**

**Membership in the Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois is not required to attend meetings.**

**Announcement of meetings cancelled due to bad weather will be made on local So. Illinois radio stations.**

# President's Message

By Mike Brush

Here we are again at that time of the year when the Fall Conference is on our heels and we are busying ourselves with those preparation details. The details can at times become a preoccupation and assume an importance of their own and one can fail to notice the big picture of what these details are all about. It is reassuring to note that these details can be delegated to others so that they become the work of a team. And that is what the current GSSI team is engaged in at present....teamwork.

There always seems to be one task that I enjoy more than others and I can easily identify that task. As part of the publicity campaign for the conference and book fair, I have made it a practice to visit as many of the GSSI counties as I can and pass out flyers and brochures. This activity gives me a chance to see what local communities are doing in the realm of genealogy and to meet the pushers and shakers. From St. Clair to Gallatin, from Lawrence to Union, from Clay to Massac and all counties in between I have witnessed firsthand what all these ancestor hunters have done to promote the search and assist others in the dig. The libraries, the county archives, the banks of computers with genealogy software, the books published, the research sweat shops in local historical societies, the monuments erected and the cemeteries adopted by local genealogy groups are all testimony to dedication of hunters like yourselves who are committed to the study and respect of our ancestors. And as you bring your dedication and expertise from the local areas of GSSI to our meetings and activities, I see a collective effort in a noble cause. And this gives me a true sense of pride in what we do at GSSI.

As a spin off, these visits to the local counties have afforded me the opportunity to assess the capacity of local facilities to host future GSSI events like the spring conferences. We have been fortunate over the last couple years to have two of our local county organizations in Mount Vernon and Metropolis host the spring event and showcase their facilities. This young tradition is one which we hope to continue as it gives everyone an opportunity to see what is available in areas remote to JALC. Since we have had both a northern and a southern venue in the recent past, it is of particular interest to have the next two events in eastern and western counties. So, take stock of what your local organizations have to offer in the way of meeting spaces and consider stepping forward to showcase your facility by hosting a GSSI event in 2010 or beyond. Remember, you are part of the TEAM!

## *GSSI Library Update*

As many of you have noticed, the GSSI Library at John A. Logan College has been undergoing some much needed upgrading over the previous several months. Thanks to the dedication and expertise of our GSSI Librarian, Joy Upton, the collection has been cataloged and shelved in a manner somewhat different from the previous method. Although much has been accomplished, much more needs to be done before the collection is fully cataloged and the shelves are completely filled with the genealogy books which belong to the Society. There have been some problems with cataloging software utilization and Joy is attempting to resolve those conflicts. We are hoping that the GSSI Library area will soon be equipped with a pull down screen which will facilitate visual presentations. As these upgrades are completed, Joy will be asked to do a presentation for the membership and explain the changes and how they can enhance the genealogical search process. So keep your eyes on the program schedule and don't miss the opportunity to benefit from Joy's wealth of experience and talent as a genealogy librarian. GSSI is truly grateful for her energy and accomplishments. Thanks, Joy!

# Golconda City Cemetery Annual Walk

*Submitted by Rick Allen*

The Golconda City Cemetery Committee has chosen the historic persons for the October 10<sup>th</sup> 2009 WALK. Individuals and groups may arrive from 3:30 p.m. — 5:00 p.m. The Cemetery Walk is an annual fundraiser used to help maintain and beautify the historic "Old" Cemetery given to the City by Dr. William SIM in 1822.

The Committee is excited to introduce to you:

Mary Ann WENTZELL (1878 — 1941) — a much loved seamstress who served the community for forty years.

Captain Julius H. BENHAM (1831 — 1916) — a Civil War veteran and Golconda druggist.

Wilhelmina Jacobina RAUCHFUSS (1835 — 1909) — She and her husband built the "Castle-on-the-Hill", a showplace of Golconda.

Rosa WEIL TRAMPE (1870 — 1919) — a school teacher, she married George TRAMPE and raised several children until she died from an infection following a cut on her tongue.

Edward NELSON (1842 — 1925) — he came to Golconda as a free man of color in 1866. He and his wife, Margaret (who will join him at the walk) raised their family here until their deaths.

Honorable Alonzo D. PIERCE (1831 — 1896) — opened a store for the sale of general merchandise after the Civil War, which he left as a Major. Later he was Sheriff of Pope County and then went on to the State Legislature.

This is a very enjoyable tradition in a GSSI County that has a rich history. Pope County is a source of colorful and fascinating genealogical discoveries. This event promises to be a crowd pleaser once again. Directions: Go east on Illinois Route 146 to Golconda, turn left at the four-way stop sign, then go one block to the cemetery on the left. With a \$5 admission fee that goes toward upkeep of this historic cemetery, you are about to embark on a memorable evening. Enjoy! For further information contact Rick Allen at [rick1547@gmail.com](mailto:rick1547@gmail.com)

## It's not too late ..... It's not too early!

It's not too late and Little Rock is not that far away to attend the Federation of Genealogical Societies' 2009 Annual Conference entitled "**Passages in Time**" which is booked at the Little Rock Statehouse Convention Center for September 2<sup>nd</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> 2009. Registration for this event is available on line. More information about the conference, including the full program can be obtained on the organization's website, [www.fgs.org](http://www.fgs.org)

A little bit closer to home, the St. Louis Genealogical Society has two fall programs which may be of interest. On Tuesday evening, 13 October 2009, Bob Goode will present **Non-Genealogical Websites for the Genealogist** at 7:30 p.m. in the St. Louis County Library Headquarters (Clayton Road at Lindberg Blvd). On Saturday morning, 14 November 2009, Aim Fleming will present **Computer Tidbits for Genealogists** at 10:30 a.m. at the same location. Consider combining a shopping trip to St. Louis with either of these two events.

It's not too early to plan a vacation around the 2010 FGS Conference to be held at Knoxville, TN from August 18<sup>th</sup> thru 21<sup>st</sup>. Again, further details can be obtained at [www.fgs.org](http://www.fgs.org) or any FGS publication.

**The Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois  
& John A. Logan College**

**proudly announce the 2009 GSSI Fall Conference and Book Fair  
to be held at the Ray Hancock Conference Center on the JALC Campus  
on Saturday, 17 October 2009**

**with registration beginning at 8:00 a.m. and the program at 9:00 a.m.  
Book Fair Vendors will be available at 8:00 a.m. & throughout the day.  
Morning coffee will be available this year.**

**A luncheon Baked Potato Bar will be available by reservation only.**

**The Baked Potato Bar will feature a Jumbo Baked Potato  
with a choice of broccoli, chili, bacon bits and sour cream toppings.  
Iced tea, coffee and cookies complement the luncheon all for \$8.**

**This year the featured speaker will be**

**Michael John Neill**

**of Carl Sandburg College in Galesburg, Illinois  
and the program is entitled**

**"NEW WAYS TO SOLVE THE  
FAMILY HISTORY MYSTERY"**

**LECTURE TOPICS**

- **Researching the entire family** The importance of researching the siblings and at least first cousins of a direct ancestor.
- **Problem solving applied to genealogy** How to apply the George Polya 4-step process to solve problems in genealogy.
- **Effective internet search techniques** How to get the most from your internet time.
- **Determining your own migration trails and migration chains** How to determine the migration path unique to your ancestor, friends and relatives.

**[Further information can be obtained from the GSSI website:](#)**

**For information on accommodations...google hotels/motels in Marion or Carbondale, IL  
Or you may contact:**

**Mike Brush at [mrbrush@midwest.net](mailto:mrbrush@midwest.net) or (618) 687-3934**

**Rick Allen at [rick1547@gmail.com](mailto:rick1547@gmail.com) or (618) 658-2655**

**Joyce Siason at [jsiasonmchsi.com](http://jsiasonmchsi.com) or (618) 998-0555**

**WHERE ELSE CAN YOU INDULGE YOUR GENEALOGY PASSION,  
MEET WITH OLD FRIENDS AND MAKE NEW ONES,  
SHARE IN A LEARNING EXPERIENCE,  
PICK UP A FEW NEW RESEARCH TIPS,  
EXAMINE THE LATEST IN PUBLICATIONS AND SOFTWARE,  
FIND GREAT DEALS AT THE COUNTRY STORE  
AND HAVE A TASTY LUNCH TOO...  
ALL FOR UNDER \$50?**

**AT THE 2009 GSSI FALL CONFERENCE AND BOOK FAIR  
SATURDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2009**

**GSSI FALL CONFERENCE AND BOOK FAIR REGISTRATION FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Early-bird Registration (rec'd by October 4<sup>th</sup>)     \$35. x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Standard Registration (after 10/4 and at the door) \$40 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch (optional)     \$8 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed:

Make check payable to: Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois

Send registration form and check to: GSSI Fall Conference Chair  
c/o John A. Logan College  
700 Logan College Road  
Carterville, IL 62918-2500

# News Items of Interest

- Thanks to the tireless efforts of Darrel Dexter and technical expertise of Ed O'Day, the latest additions to the **Jonesboro Gazette** obituaries 1858-1929 are now published on line. It is worth noting that while the obits cover primarily Union County events, some content goes much farther and refers not only to surrounding counties but also more distant localities. Take a look at the GSSI website and check them out. Also don't pass up the opportunity to give a pat on the back to both Darrel and Ed.
- GSSI has received word from Sandi Bennett of the St. Clair County Genealogical Society that Martha Mae Schmidt passed away in June of this year. Martha was a powerhouse of energy and results in her more than 31 years of service to SCCGS. She has participated in the GSSI Fall Conference and Book Fair over the past several years as a vendor from SCCGS. We are all grateful to Martha for her many contributions over the years and will remember her fondly.
- GSSI has been notified by long-time member Weldon Brown that he has completed work on his book, The Genealogy of George Milton Brown and Related Families. The 383 page volume, hard bound, contains names from Southern Illinois like Brown, Stokes, Davidson, Davis, Miller, Short, Nalley, Dexter, Holshouser, McCommons, Jordon and many more. If you are interested in further details regarding this book, please contact Weldon Brown at [weldonmando@yahoo.com](mailto:weldonmando@yahoo.com)
- If anyone is downsizing or just cleaning house and finds that there are items of a genealogical nature that are no longer needed or wanted.....like books, software, small office items or cameras...consider a donation to the GSSI Country Store. Long time Country Store Managers, Alvin and Alma Griffith would be happy to relieve you of these items and place them on the resale tables at the GSSI Fall Conference and Book Fair. Just bring such items to the September meeting at JALC or to the October event in the Ray Hancock Conference Center at the College. This is a win-win deal as it provides an outlet for members to dispose of useful but unwanted items and at the same time provide a source of income for the Society to offset expenses of the Fall Conference.
- The patient and enduring folks of the Randolph County Genealogical Society continue to deal with their homelessness occasioned by the ice storms of February. Several meetings have been held and as many appeals for help have been issued to city and county governments, philanthropic foundations, community centers as well as the Illinois State Genealogical Society...but RCGS at the time of this printing, is just as homeless as the day they had to evacuate their unstable spaces. GSSI continues to wish them all the best as they continue the search for a timely solution.
- For those of you who might benefit from the use of maps and aerial photographs in your research, there is a valuable resource here in Southern Illinois that perhaps might fulfill your needs. The map library located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the new Morris Library is a treasure trove of not only local, but also, regional and national maps. The collection of aerial photography complements the map collection and may just satisfy your curiosity regarding the environment of your ancestor's journey. The staff is very helpful and the viewing areas are spacious and well lighted. This is a must-see department in the new Morris Library on the campus of SIU-C. Take advantage of this great resource. Ask for Jan Fiorino; she knows where everything is located.
- IRAD...the Illinois Regional Archive Depository, has long been a valuable resource for genealogists and has facilities throughout the State of Illinois. One of these depositories is located on the campus of SIU-C and is popular with local genealogists who are interested in researching county records in the GSSI area. Recently, the website for IRAD has undergone an upgrade. The format and fonts are much easier to read and print than the earlier versions. Take a look and see if you don't agree.

Go to:

<http://www.ilsos.gov/GenealogyMWeb/iradsrch.html>

# Member Queries

**Ruth H. Jones** 802 N. 12<sup>th</sup> St. . Mt. Vernon, IL [62864](#). [RWJ480593@sbcglobal.net](mailto:RWJ480593@sbcglobal.net)

Query: "Winn" John E. Winn born ca 1830 TN, died 15 July 1866 at Jonesboro, IL. Wife was Mary (nee Hunter) Winn married 1858 Union County, IL. Had sons, Willis Willard, Elvis Newton and Andrew Jackson. Elvis married Julia Ellen Jones, August 1885 in Alexander Co., IL. Elvis died 1940; Julia died 1945. Elvis and Julia lived in Murphysboro, IL and had seven children. Elvis Newton Winn's uncles were William J. Winn and Richard P. Winn. Richard's son, Thomas Winn had daughter, Eva Lena Winn who married Peter Jones in 1904. Peter Jones is brother of Julia Jones Winn: Elvis's wife. There also could be a connection with the Heiple, Benefields, Lipes, Edwards and Westrics Families. Would welcome any kind of information.

**Dorothy A. Butler** 320 River Oakes Drive Luling, LA 70070 (985-785-0468)

Query: Any information on children of Jacob Cole, 1860-80 in Perry County and Samuel Atkins of Jackson County will be appreciated.

**Toni Marie Penn** 2727 Cook Street Denver, CO 80205-5010 (303-388-6846)  
[claywomancreations@msn.com](mailto:claywomancreations@msn.com)

Query: Looking for Charles E. Dugger, born 25 September 1922, bother Don W. Dugger born 15 August 1925, Evelyn (sister) Dugger born abt. 1928. Charles and Don were in WW II and Evelyn attended nursing school. All three children lived with Pearl ( Overbey) Moyers in Marion, IL in the early 1940's. Pearl Moyers was their mother and was in her second marriage to Ira Moyers, a coal miner. Any information appreciated.

## Internet Items of Interest

Illinois State Historical Society Transactions are now available for free download at The Internet Archives website. Letters from pioneer settlers describing arrival in Illinois, a list of men granted land for service with George Rogers Clark in the Revolution, steamboat travel on the Mississippi—these articles are among the 30-some books online that provide colorful descriptions of Illinois life we might add to our own family histories. The Transactions, some labeled on the site as Papers, are papers read at the ISHS annual meetings in the early 1900's. On the site enter the following words in the search box without quote marks or punctuation:

Transactions of the Illinois State Historical

<http://www.archive.org/index.php>

### Also

You can now access several immigration databases of great interest on the NARA website (in the Access to Archival Databases section). Included are the following:

**Russians to America Passenger Data File**, 1834 – 1897 (500,000+ records)

**Famine Irish Passenger Record Data File**, 1846 – 1851 (600,000+ records)

**Germans to America Passenger Data File**, 1850 – 1897 (400,000+ records)

**Italians to America Passenger Data File**, 1855 – 1900 (848,000+ records)

Information provided can include name, age, country of origin, city of last residence, occupation, destination, and manifest ID number (but some info may be unknown for passengers you search for). The manifest data file provides name of ship, port of departure, and arrival date. Interested? Go here:

<http://aad.archives.gov/aad/serieslist.jsp?cat=GP?>

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do John A. Logan College  
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### MEMBERSHIPS

All memberships are for the calendar year  
(Jan 1 — 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**

**do John A. Logan College  
700 Logan College Dr.  
Carterville, IL 62918-2500**

Please enclose a SASE with  
correspondence requiring a reply.

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### *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.

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### NEWSLETTER

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

**GSSI  
do John A. Logan  
700 Logan College Drive  
Carterville, IL 62918-2500**

### GSSI MEETINGS

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

**Sunday**

**13 September 2009**

**Ed Annable**

**"Pioneers of the West  
Eden Community"**

**Saturday**

**17 October 2009**

**GSSI Annual  
Fall Conference  
And Book Fair**

**Featuring  
Michael Neill**

**"New Ways to Solve  
The Family History  
Mystery"**

**Sunday**

**8 November 2009**

**Martha Schwegman  
Topic TBA**