

Piecing Together the Puzzle of Our Past

Conference Program ~ Saturday, October 24, 2009

8:00-8:45 A.M. Registration and Networking ** Visit our vendor and society exhibits!**

8:45 A.M. Welcome and Illinois State Genealogical Society Awards

9:30 A.M.

Determining Search Parameters and Really Tracking Your Online Research Michael John Neill 1A

Online searching is more than mindlessly putting names into search boxes and hoping. This lecture will provide an overview of how to think about your online searching to help you maximize your results and organize your process.

Genealogical Approaches as an aid in Identification at Pioneer Cemeteries M. Catherine Bird 1B

This presentation provides an overview of several local cemeteries and discusses the successful efforts to restore the names of the individuals buried within these "vacated" or vandalized cemeteries.

Digital Restoration of Photographs using an Image Editing Software Larry Pepper 1C

Larry provides basic instruction on how to use an image editing program to create digitally restored versions of damaged original photographs. Learn how to return clarity to faded images, fix blemishes and cracks, and repair missing or damaged parts of your images. Photos Welcome!

11:00 A.M.

Finding Gesche's Girls and Barbara's Beaus Michael John Neill 2A

These two case studies from the 19th and early 20th century track two women through their seven marriages and six husbands. Locating them successfully required a variety of online and offline approaches, organizational techniques and problem-solving.

Organizing Genealogical Materials Delray Palmer 2B

Learn a simple system for organizing pedigree charts, family group records, research logs, documents, notes, and research helps. A genealogical filing system should be: 1) simple to set up; 2) well-organized; 3) flexible; 4) inexpensive; and 5) safe and understandable for future generations.

Using Railroad Records in Family History Research Craig Pfannkuche 2C

Railroads were the largest non-farm employers in the United States between 1870 and 1930. A vast variety of jobs were filled by waves of newly arrived immigrants to the United States. Craig will cite examples from the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad personnel records and explain what types of information can be found in similar railroad records.

12:00 P.M.

LUNCH

1:30 P.M.

Establishing the Neighborhood Michael John Neill 3A

Your ancestor did not live in complete isolation. This lecture provides some ways to determine both your ancestor's physical and social neighborhoods in an attempt to better understand your ancestor and to learn more about him. Tracking the neighbors may help you track your ancestor.

Finding Your Roots in a Chicago Building Lesley Martin 3B

An address in a city directory can tell you the street where your ancestor lived, but additional sources may help you uncover many more details. She will discuss how to use Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, photography files, and other resources available at the Chicago History Museum.

Using Maps in Family History Research Craig Pfannkuche 3C

An ability to read and make use of a wide variety of maps, is useful toward putting together a history of one's family. Craig will demonstrate how many different maps can be used to help the researcher understand the movement and history of one's ancestors.

3:00 P.M.

What is Unwritten? Michael John Neill 4A

In some cases, the document we locate only tells part of the story. Viewing a document in it's historical, legal, familial, and chronological context is important in interpreting it correctly and harvesting as many clues from it as possible. Never read anything just once!

Finding Ichabod:Using the Federal Census Returns Ann Wells 4B

Convinced your ancestor is not in the census, but should be? With a little creative researching, you can probably overcome that brick wall. A case study in finding Ichabod between New York, Illinois and Minnesota over a 60 year period.

Preserving Family Heirlooms Tina Beaird 4C

Learn simple strategies and solutions for preserving your valuable family documents and photographs for future generations and get preservation dos and don'ts for modern scrap-booking.

ISGS Fall Conference Saturday, October 24, 2009



Directions to Elgin Community College 4 Miles south of I-90

For more information <http://elgin.edu/facilities> go to "Driving Directions" then select "Elgin Campus"

From Interstate I-90 head south on Randall Road to South Street. Head east (left) to Renner Drive and turn right on Renner Drive. Follow Renner Drive to the Elgin Community College's Fox Valley University and Business Center.

Headed north on Randall Road turn east (right) on College Green Drive (it's a stoplight). Then make a quick left then right onto Spartan Drive. Follow to the Elgin Community College's Fox Valley University and Business Center.



Conference Hotels

Conference Rate Deadline:
October 5, 2009

Free shuttles available to conference
Comfort Suites - 847-836-9500
Country Inn and Suites - 847-426-6400

New This Year!

Are you puzzled about something in your genealogy? Bring your questions to the 2009 conference!

Michael John Neill, *Featured Speaker*, is a board Member of the Federation of Genealogical Societies and contributor to Ancestry World Journal, a popular genealogical ezine. Michael has spoken frequently to genealogical societies across Illinois and conducts a week of computer genealogical workshops annually in Galesburg, Illinois. He maintains the website www.rootdig.com.

Tina Beaird is a board member and Archivist for the Illinois State Genealogical Society. She is a Reference Librarian at the Plainfield Public Library. She has spoken locally and nationally on genealogy and preservation issues.

Dr. M. Catherine Bird is a Registered Professional Archaeologist employed by Midwest Archaeological Research Services, Inc. Dr. Bird is a member of the Illinois Archaeological Survey and Chair of the membership committee.

Lesley Martin has had a varied career in libraries, freelance editing, fact checking, and research. Since joining the Research Center staff at the Chicago History Museum in 1999, she has assisted thousands of researchers in their quest for information.

Delray Palmer is currently the Director of the Crystal Lake Illinois LDS Family History Center. She has organized three local family history fairs where she has also presented. tracing her roots has been a favorite pastime for 32 years.

Larry Pepper has 28 years of photography experience in a variety of areas. He is currently a board member of Illinois Genealogical Society and President of the Elgin Genealogical Society

Craig Pfannkuche is the genealogical archivist for the Chicago and Northwestern Historical Society and currently is the Corresponding Secretary of both the Chicago Genealogical Society and the McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society.

Ann Wells has 25 years of professional genealogical experience and is owner of Wells Genealogical Research. She is a board member of the Illinois State Genealogical Society, director of the McHenry County Genealogical Society, board member of the Crystal Lake Historical Society and board member of the International Society for British Genealogy and Family History.

Become A Member and Save!

Become a member of the Illinois State Genealogical Society now and save \$5.00 off your conference registration fee. By becoming a member, you will receive discounts on ISGS conferences, events and tours, 4 quarterly publications, 6 bi-monthly online newsletters, free queries in the ISGS Quarterly as well as discounts on ISGS publications. Visit www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs for more information about all the wonderful things our organization has to offer. Join today!

Registration Form

Mailed and Postmarked by Friday, September 26th

- \$35.00 for ISGS Members
- \$45.00 for Non-Members
- \$50.00 Postmarked after September 26th or at the door
 - \$30.00 Annual Membership to ISGS

Late registrations welcome, but we cannot guarantee lunch or printed syllabus after this date or for walk-ins.
Please, no refunds after September 26th

Please Indicate
Conference Break-Out
Session Choices
Here:

- | | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 9:30 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1A | <input type="checkbox"/> 1B | <input type="checkbox"/> 1C |
| 11:00 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2A | <input type="checkbox"/> 2B | <input type="checkbox"/> 2C |
| 1:30 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3A | <input type="checkbox"/> 3B | <input type="checkbox"/> 3C |
| 3:00 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4A | <input type="checkbox"/> 4B | <input type="checkbox"/> 4C |

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

(____) _____
Phone

_____ E-mail Address (preferred)

Register online using Paypal

Or make checks payable to:
ISGS

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Springfield, IL 62791-0195

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