

Newsletter
of the
Illinois
State
Archives
&
The Illinois
State Historical
Records
Advisory Board

Jesse White
Secretary of State
&
State Archivist

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"Archives Overview" workshops: June 18, Oct. 8

Scholarships available to Illinois residents

The Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board (ISHRAB) and the Society of American Archivists (SAA) are co-sponsoring two "Archives Overview" workshops this summer and fall. The first workshop will be held June 18 on the Western Illinois University campus in Macomb. The second will be held in Springfield on October 8.

Experts from the SAA will conduct the one-day workshops, which are designed for persons new to the archives profession, those with limited archival experience, or individuals who have responsibility for archival collections but have no formal archival training. The workshops will provide an overview of the core archival functions of appraisal, accessioning, arrangement and description, preservation, reference and access. Participants will learn the responsibilities and obligations that historical record programs accept when bringing collections into their institutions.

The early-bird registration fee for the workshops is \$185 for SAA members and \$210 for non-members. The ISHRAB is providing a full scholarship at the early-bird rate to the first 15 Illinois applicants for each workshop. Funding is provided by an NHPRC grant. To register for a workshop, please visit the SAA Web site at www.archivists.org (click Education & Events then Continuing Education Calendar).

Illinois Archival Repositories Directory — Are you included?

The Illinois Archival Repositories Directory is an online resource that provides Illinois archivists a way to locate other archivists in the state to exchange ideas and concerns. It also serves as a useful tool for researchers when trying to locate appropriate research centers.

The directory (www.ilsos.gov/archivalrepositories/introduction) is used by the Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board to send news about upcoming grant opportunities and funding possibilities. The directory is searchable by name of repository, region, or name of county or city.

To add your organization to the directory or update an existing listing, use either the online submission form (www.ilsos.gov/archivalrepositories/emailForm) or the printable submission form (www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publications/ard143.pdf) in Adobe PDF format.



The Illinois State Archives again participated in MayDay, a national effort to prepare for disasters, sponsored by Heritage Preservation and the Heritage Emergency National Task Force.

DATES & REMINDERS

Society of American Archivists

Annual Meeting: "Archives*Records/DC 2010"
August 10-15, Washington, D.C.
www.archivists.org/conference/dc2010/index.asp

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

2010 Conference on Illinois History
September 30-October 1, Springfield
217-785-1511
www.illinoishistory.gov

Illinois State Historical Society

Fall Bus Tour
"Reagan, Black Hawk, Lincoln and the
Historic Rock River Valley"
October 8-9
217-525-2781
www.historyillinois.org

Midwest Archives Conference

Fall Symposium 2010: "Archival User Studies"
October 21-23, Dayton, OH
www.midwestarchives.org

Illinois State Genealogical Society

Fall Conference
October 23, Peoria
217-789-1968
[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs/
ISGSconference@comcast.net](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs/ISGSconference@comcast.net)

Downstate Local Records Commission Meeting

1st Tuesday of every month, 10 a.m.
(unless otherwise noted)
Margaret Cross Norton Building, Springfield
www.cyberdriveillinois.com

Cook County Local Records Commission Meeting

2nd Tuesday of every month, 11 a.m.
Video Conference Room, 9th floor
Thompson Center, Chicago
or
Capital City Center, Springfield
130 W. Mason St.
www.cyberdriveillinois.com

State Records Commission Meeting

3rd Wednesday of every month, 9:30 a.m.
Margaret Cross Norton Building, Springfield
www.cyberdriveillinois.com

NHPRC grant opportunities

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), a statutory body affiliated with the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), supports a wide range of activities to preserve, publish and encourage the use of documentary sources — created in every medium ranging from quill pen to computer — relating to the history of the United States. Following are some of the current grant opportunities available to archives and other historical records repositories.

Archives — Basic Projects

Fundamental archival activities that promote the preservation and use of America's documentary heritage. Proposals must demonstrate how the applicant employs the best and most cost-effective archival methods. Activities include any one or a combination of the following:

1. Basic Processing
2. Preservation Planning
3. Collections Development
4. Establishing Archives

Archives — Detailed Processing Projects

Detailed processing and preservation of collections of national significance. The collections also should have high research demand or substantial preservation challenges. Applicants must have virtually all their collections processed sufficiently so that researchers can find them, and they must have procedures in place to prevent the creation of new backlogs.

Digitizing Historical Records

Cost-effective methods to digitize nationally significant historical record collections and make the digital versions freely available online. Projects must make use of existing holdings of historical repositories and consist of entire collections or series. The materials should already be available to the public at the archives and described so that projects can reuse existing information to serve as metadata for the digitized collection.

Electronic Records Projects

Increase the capacity of archival repositories to create electronic records archives that preserve records of enduring historical value. The NHPRC supports efforts by archivists and records managers to meet the challenges of electronic records. Projects must involve institutions that have already established archives and records management programs.

For more information on these grant opportunities and submission deadlines, please contact:

NHPRC

National Archives and Records Administration

700 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Rm. 106

Washington, D.C. 20408-0001

E-mail: nhprc@nara.gov

Telephone: 202-357-5010

Fax: 202-357-5914

www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/

The Illinois State Genealogical Society

A history of cooperation with the State Archives



ISGS secretary Penny Todd-Ponsonby maintains the organization's business office in Springfield.

The Illinois State Genealogical Society was organized in October 1968 under the guidance of the late Lowell M. Volkel (1936-1992), an archivist at the Illinois State Archives. For two decades he helped the ISGS grow and make it what it is today — a non-profit, educational organization with 2,000 members. The ISGS was established for the following purposes:

- To stimulate an interest in the people who contributed to the establishment and development of the State of Illinois.
- To seek, preserve and make available data pertaining to individuals, families and groups who lived in Illinois and to events which took place therein.
- To inform people of the value of and need for preserving family and local history for posterity.
- To encourage the formation of local genealogical societies and to coordinate and disseminate information.

Statewide Marriage Index

As a repository for government records, the State Archives has much to offer genealogists and through the years has worked closely with the ISGS. In February 1985, the Archives and the ISGS began a project to create a computerized index to all marriages in Illinois from the period prior to statehood through the year 1900. Today, that database contains more than 1 million marriages and is available on the Secretary of State Web site at www.cyberdriveillinois.com.

Angel Program

The State Archives and ISGS ties were further strengthened in 1988 when the ISGS moved its business office into the Archives building (now the Margaret Cross Norton Building). To demonstrate its support of the State Archives, the ISGS established the Angel Program, through which the ISGS purchases microfilmed county records for the State Archives' Illinois Regional Archives Depository (IRAD) system. These records are available for research use in the seven IRAD facilities at state universities. Through the Angel Program, the ISGS has purchased several thousand reels of microfilmed records for nearly all the counties in Illinois. These include coroner's records, birth records, marriage records, and soldiers and sailors discharge records.

ISGS Fall Conference — October 23, 2010

More than 40 years after its founding, the ISGS remains a vibrant organization. Its fall conference is scheduled for October 23 in Peoria with the theme, "You Have Family. You Have History." In addition to excellent speakers, great exhibits and networking opportunities, a new youth workshop is being developed. Geared especially for 12- to 15-year-olds, this workshop is designed to get younger family members interested in family history.

"Pathway to the Heartland" National Conference — 2011

The ISGS will host the Federation of Genealogical Societies' (FGS) national conference — "Pathways to the Heartland" — in Springfield, Sept. 7-10, 2011. The conference will explore the resources of America's heartland through a variety of regional and national topics aimed at engaging genealogists and family historians of all levels and experience. The conference also will include lectures, focus groups and other special events.

The FGS was founded in 1976 and represents the members of more than 500 genealogical societies. For more information on the 2011 FGS national conference, visit www.fgs.org/2011conference. For more information about ISGS membership, projects, events or publications, contact: Illinois State Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 10195, Margaret Cross Norton Building, Springfield, IL 62791; 217-789-1968; www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs.

Volkel Hall of Fame

The Illinois State Genealogical Society's Volkel Hall of Fame was officially dedicated on April 24, 1993, with the posthumous induction of archivist Lowell Volkel. The ISGS established the Hall of Fame to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to and set high standards for Illinois genealogy.

In 2009, Joseph George Wylder, Jr. was inducted into the Hall of Fame. Other recipients are Grace Sims Moyer, Fern Lane Briggs, June B. Barekman and Martha A. Montgomery. A display (right) honoring these individuals was recently placed in a permanent glass case on the first floor of the State Archives' Margaret Cross Norton Archives Building in Springfield.

A graphic for the Volkel Hall of Fame. At the top, it says "Illinois STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY" with a map of Illinois. Below that is "Volkel Hall of Fame". In the center is a portrait of Lowell Volkel with the text "In recognition of significant contributions in the field of Illinois genealogy." Below the portrait is "LOWELL VOLKEL FOUNDER OF THE ILLINOIS STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY". At the bottom is a table of Hall of Fame Recipients.

Hall of Fame Recipients	
Grace Sims Moyer	1995
Fern Lane Briggs	1998
June B. Barekman	1999
Martha A. Montgomery	2001
Joseph George Wylder, Jr.	2009

Federal Township Plats, 1804–1891 (2002), 102 Illinois counties with each county on a single CD-ROM – \$20 per county

A Summary Guide to Local Governmental Records in the Illinois Regional Archives, second edition (1999), 265 pp. – \$6

Descriptive Inventory of the Archives of the State of Illinois, second edition (1997), 940 pp. or CD-ROM – \$20

Abraham Lincoln in Illinois: A Selection of Documents from the Illinois State Archives (2008), teacher’s manual (87 pp.) and 35 document facsimiles with transcriptions – \$10*

Hard Times in Illinois, 1930-1940: A Selection of Documents from the Illinois State Archives (2002), teacher’s manual (119 pp.) and 50 document facsimiles – \$10*

The Illinois and Michigan Canal, 1827-1911: A Selection of Documents from the Illinois State Archives (1998), teacher’s manual (115 pp.) and 50 document facsimiles with transcriptions – \$12*

Illinois at War, 1941-1945: A Selection of Documents from the Illinois State Archives (1994), teacher’s manual (119 pp.) and 50 document facsimiles – \$12*

From the Ashes, 1872-1900: A Selection of Documents from the Proceedings Files of the Chicago City Council (1990), teacher’s manual (123 pp.) and 50 document facsimiles with transcriptions – \$10*

Early Chicago, 1833-1871: A Selection of City Council Proceedings Files from the Illinois State Archives (1986, 1999), teacher’s manual (115 pp.) and 50 document facsimiles with transcriptions – \$14*

***Teaching packets are available free to Illinois educational institutions by submitting a request on letterhead stationery. All other requests are filled for the fee listed.** To order publications, please contact: Illinois State Archives, Publications Unit, Norton Building, Springfield, IL 62756, 217-782-2226. Please make checks payable to Secretary of State. For a complete list of Illinois State Archives publications, please visit www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/publications.html.