



# "SHOW ME" STATE

## GENEALOGICAL NEWS

Newsletter of the Missouri State Genealogical Association



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### ***"Show Me the Nation's Records"***

***National Genealogical Society  
Conference in the States and  
Family History Fair  
14-17 May 2008  
Hyatt Regency Crown Center  
Kansas City, Missouri***

Kansas City Missouri is the place to be May 12-17, 2008 when the nation's genealogists gather for a week of special events and an outstanding conference. Lectures feature a wide variety of topics including homestead records, migration patterns, land records and DNA research.

The newly renovated Hyatt Regency Crown Center is the conference hotel. It is just minutes from downtown, the Country Club Plaza, and nearby theaters and dining. The room rate is \$129 per night plus tax, up to four people in a room and is good from Sunday to Sunday. Make your room reservations now by calling 1-800-233-1234 or fax: 1-816-435-4190.

Mark your calendar for these very special events that will be associated with this most extraordinary conference:

***Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>*** – Research day at Mid-Continent's new Midwest Genealogy Center

***Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>*** – Research day at the National Archives – Kansas City Branch

***Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>*** – MoSGA's "Show Me Missouri Wines" evening reception at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center

***Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>*** – Historic sites tour in Independence and Kansas City

***Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>*** – Evening reception at Mid-Continent's new Midwest Genealogy Center

***Thursday May, 15<sup>th</sup>*** – Evening reception at the National World War I Museum in Kansas City

For updates and registration information:

<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>

*The Missouri State Genealogical Association is a proud co-sponsor of the NGS Conference in the States.*

**MORE GENIE EVENTS 2008**

29 March 2008: Virginia Beach VA. 2008 **Annual Conference of the Virginia Beach Genealogical Society** features Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak, an innovative, internationally recognized genealogical and DNA authority. All are welcome to attend Saturday, March 29, 2008, at the Virginia Beach Central Library, 4100 Virginia Beach Blvd. For details, please check our website: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~vavbgs>; check often as information is posted as available. You may also email questions to [Joanored@aol.com](mailto:Joanored@aol.com). We offer a lot for all who want to dig in their roots. Hope to see you all there!

5 April 2008: Oklahoma City, OK. Reserve the date for the **Spring Seminar of the Oklahoma Genealogical Society**. The event will be a special all-day seminar devoted to Military Research, conducted by Craig R. Scott, CG., a leading expert in the field. Details will be posted on our website <http://www.okgensoc.org> and will be held at the Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Laird Ave, across from the state capitol, Oklahoma City. Pre-registration strongly advised.

11-12 April 2008: Eau Claire WI. The **Wisconsin State Genealogical Society's 2008 Gene-A-Rama** will be held Friday and Saturday, 11-12 April 2008, at the Plaza Hotel Suites & Conference Center in Eau Claire. The featured speaker will be Maureen A. Taylor. Please see the WSGS Website at <http://www.wsgs.org> for more information.

11-12 April 2008: St. Paul MN. The **Czechoslovak Genealogical Society of St. Paul, Minnesota** presents their 2008 Genealogical and Cultural Symposium at the Doubletree Guest Suites Seattle Airport Southcenter, 16500 Southcenter Pkwy. Registration for the event is open to the

public. For additional information contact Paul Makousky or visit [www.cgsi.org](http://www.cgsi.org).

19 April 2008: Williamsburg VA. Roger Minert will be the featured speaker at the spring seminar of the **Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society** to be held on April 19, 2008 in Williamsburg, Virginia. Dr. Minert, Associate Professor of Family History at Brigham Young University, conducts research in Europe annually and has published numerous books and articles in German pedagogy and family history research. The meeting, Commemorating 400 Years of Germans in America, will be held in cooperation with the Society for German American Studies. For additional information go to the MAGS website <http://www.magsgen.com/springmeeting.html>, or contact John Humphrey at [PaGenealogyBooks@aol.com](mailto:PaGenealogyBooks@aol.com).

26 April 2008: Topeka KS. The **Annual Topeka Genealogical Society Conference** featuring guest speaker Megan Smolenyak will take place at the Kansas History Center in Topeka from 7:45 AM to 4:00 PM. For details, contact Nora Patton Taylor at or call 785-286-1606 after 6 p.m. CTS.

[npattontaylor@topekachamber.org](mailto:npattontaylor@topekachamber.org)

19-21 June 2008: Columbus OH. The **National Conference of Palatines to America** has as its theme, "Tune up your German-Speaking Research." For more info, see the PalAm website: [www.palam.org](http://www.palam.org) or write to Palatines to America, 611 E. Weber Road, Columbus, OH 43211-1097.

"These items originally published in UpFront with NGS, the Online Newsletter of the National Genealogical Society.

<http://www.NGSgenealogy.org/upfront.htm>

**WE DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOU!**

Send changes of address to Rob Taylor at:

[<taylor.robertw@gmail.com>](mailto:taylor.robertw@gmail.com).

## MISSOURI GENEALOGICAL &amp; HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

The Adair Historian 4:3 (Summer 2007) includes a biographical sketch of William Thomas ("Bill") Minor of Kirksville, MO. Bill was born in 1920. A grad of Kirksville High School and Northeast Missouri State Teachers College (now Truman State University), Bill **joined the Army Air Corps in 1942**. He completed flight training and had begun training as a fighter pilot when he was reassigned to bomber pilot school. On completion of that school, he flew to England in a B-24-H bomber via a route that took him through Central and South America and then Africa. He was co-pilot on that flight- **the pilot was Jimmy Stewart** (yes, that Jimmy Stewart!).

His bomber had been making runs for only one month when it was shot down over Germany by a combination of enemy fighter aircraft and anti-aircraft artillery. He was one of only four crew members who survived (of ten aboard the aircraft). He parachuted into the North Sea seconds before the bomber exploded, and was captured by a group of Hitler Youth waiting on shore. **He was sent to Stalag Luft I in Barth, Germany** (after a train ride that included being locked in a boxcar in Berlin while British bombers pummeled the surrounding area). He was released from prison in May 1945, and went back to Kirksville, where he **taught Industrial Arts at Truman State University** until his retirement. He and his wife, the former Dolores O'Connor, have four children, seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

The same issue includes an article on "**2007 Cemetery Theatre**." This event was held on the evenings of July 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2007, at Kirksville. This cooperative effort of the Adair County Historical Society, Kirksville Chamber of Commerce, and the Curtain Call Theatre Group **used actors to portray important persons buried in a Kirksville cemetery**. The interesting twist- they did

this while standing beside the grave in which that person is buried! Persons being portrayed included the first Union soldier killed in Adair County during the Civil War (Cpl. Harvey Dix), and a Confederate soldier executed the day after the Battle of Kirksville for parole violation (Pvt. John Kent). 200 persons paid \$5.00 each to witness an evening's performance.

Bushwhacker Musings 39:4 (1 October 2007) includes a story on efforts to erect a **life-size statue of Missouri Confederate General Joseph O. Shelby** in Waverly, Missouri. The organizers are trying to raise \$120,000, a price that will pay for the equestrian statue, moving, site preparation, and landscaping. If you'd like to contribute, send your check to Waverly Citizens For Progress, P.O. Box 338, Waverly, MO 64096-0338. Organizers emphasize that all contributions are tax-deductible.

DeKalb County Heritage 38:3 (September 2007) has an article **on actor Wallace Beery's visit to Maysville in 1936**. There's also an article about the two-year quest of Prosecutor C.R. Hewitt and Sheriff Vernon Campbell to recapture an escapee from the county jail. The convict, Roy Carney, **had been doing hard time for chicken rustling** when he and an accomplice managed to tunnel out of their cell and escape in a pouring rain. Hewitt and Campbell finally did nab the fugitive; he was found working on his sister's farm in Oklahoma, and was apprehended and extradited back to DeKalb County to serve out his sentence (with some extra jail time tacked on because of the escape).

GSCM Reporter 26:4 (Jul-Aug 2007) includes an article on "**Ina Lola Crane: Female Paper Hanger**." You will be disappointed if you turn to this article (as I did) expecting the story of a female con-artist noted for her check-kiting expertise.

This lady's expertise was with wallpaper, not bad-check writing, and she conducted her business on horseback, riding from job to job with her papers, ladders, and tools in tow (until the early 1940s, when she starting allowing customers to take her to jobs in their automobiles). Arthritis stopped her "paper-hanging" escapades, but she continued to piece and sell quilts in spite of that handicap.

Heritage Seeker 28 (August 1, 2007) reprints several newspaper articles from the Bethany Republican-Clipper (1940) **about hardships caused by a bad winter**. The first discusses a blackout caused by a kerosene shortage. Heavy snow had covered roads and rail lines, preventing the resupply of that commodity to local residents. The second story recounts the death of a 17-year-old Harrison County boy. His appendix ruptured while the family was snowed in, with eight miles of snowed-over road between the boy and medical care. A state maintenance crew, WPA workers, and volunteers struggled with shovels and scrapers to open the road, but young Willard Crouse died of peritonitis shortly after arriving at a St. Joseph hospital.

Howard County Missouri Genealogical Society Newsletter 15:3 (September 2007) reprints an article from the Okmulgee (OK) Democrat (19 November 1908) about an incident in which **a black fugitive from justice killed four men** and wounded five before being subdued. The dead included two policemen and two bystanders (also black) who attempted to aid the lawmen, plus the horse of one of the lawmen. Two lawmen and three citizens were wounded during the exchange. The perpetrator was cornered in his house by an armed mob that eventually fired five hundred shots into the property, which was soon ablaze. The perpetrator was seen to be felled by a gunshot wound, and was burned beyond recognition before his body could be dragged from the burning house.

Ozarks Genealogical Society Newsletter 30:6 (August 2007) notes a June 2007 meeting of the Society at which Samantha Hammons discussed research she had done into **Depression-era TB sanitoriums**. There was no cure for TB until 1943, when streptomycin became available. TB was therefore **a leading cause of death prior to that time**, killing on average 110,000 persons per year. Virginia had the highest TB death rate, and was the first state to build a sanatorium. It eventually had six such institutions- three white only and three for black VA residents. Samantha read from some letters sent by a TB sufferer in a sanatorium to her sister, in which the patient described her feeling of helplessness (and occasional happiness when she could get some fresh air and sunshine).

Pioneer Traces (July 2007) notes that the Mercer County Genealogical & Historical Society **is selling a T-shirt that can be personalized for surnames you are researching**. The front of the light gray T-shirt has the attractive logo of the society; the back has four smaller headstones in the foreground, and two larger ones in the background. The four in front each have the surname of a grandparent, while the two in back have other names you are researching. You can include up to eight surnames on each of the two background headstones. To order, send a typed list of surnames with check or money order for \$24.60 (\$20 per shirt plus \$4.60 for priority mail), payable to MCG&HS, to Randi Ferguson, 1005 E. Elm St., Princeton, MO 64673. Questions- you can e-mail her at windsong@grm.net.

Platte County Historical & Genealogical Society Bulletin 60:2 (May-Aug 2007) reprints the front page from The Border Times, April 14, 1865. It **announces the surrender of Lee's army at Appomattox**. It also reprints some ads from the The

Landmark from June 15, 1866. Included are ads for a mill, a dentist, a photographer, real estate agents, and notice of a sheriff's sale of real estate. This issue also includes a page listing creeks, ferries, mills, **and other places of interest in early Platte County**. Listings include township, section, and range.

Ray County Reflections 16:2 (Summer 2007) reprints an order of the Ray County Court **that includes the specifications for a jail to be built in the county** (1842). The building project was to be awarded to the lowest bidder on 13 June 1842. The order names Thomas Allen as Commissioner of the jail-building effort. The jail building was to be completed on or before the first Monday in November 1843. Payment was to be made in two parts- the first on the first Monday in November 1842, and the second on the first Monday in November 1843 (provided the Commissioner had reported that the building was completed according to specifications by that time).

#### **MISSOURI STATE ARCHIVES NEWS**

Friends of the Missouri State Archives (Spring 2007) has number of articles of great interest to genealogists. The first concerns **the Missouri Death Certificate Database** on the Missouri State Archives (MSA) web site. Currently, the database consists of death records from 1910-1956, with certificate images available for 1910-1931 and 1950-1956. Missouri law allows public access to death certificates that are more than 50 years old. The database has experienced 5 million searches in one year, and MSA has received 47,750 photocopy requests.

#### **WESTERN HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS COLLECTION- ROLLA**

Missouri Times 3:2 (August 2007) includes a story about the collection **of records of the St. Louis-San Francisco Railway**

**Company** (Frisco RR) that became the sole property of the WHMC-Rolla on 17 March 2007. At that time, several restrictions on use of the records in the original agreement with the Frisco RR expired. The records include mainly top-level corporate records, for example minutes of the Board of Directors. A guide to the collection is available on the WHMC-Rolla website. Persons interested in Frisco RR employment records should check the Springfield-Greene County Library website. They have digitized Frisco employee magazines, employee registration cards, plus photos of engines, depots, and rolling stock.

#### **Frisco RR:**

<http://thelibrary.springfield.missouri.org/local/collections.cfm>

#### **WHMC-Rolla:**

<http://web.UMR.edu/~whmcinfo/>

#### **GENIE NEWS FROM OTHER STATES**

If you're **on the hunt for info on Indiana ancestors**, you should probably just get a subscription to Connections: The Hoosier Genealogist 47:1 (Spring/Summer 2007). Each issue of this slick magazine is packed with articles on collections of genealogical materials in various libraries, museums, and archives. The current issue includes articles on Indiana land records at the NARA Great Lakes Region Branch; Catholic Church records at the Indiana State Library; and Indiana county materials in the Barner-Jones Manuscript Collection of the Indiana Historical Society. Another article abstracts Pulaski County documents in the Barnes Manuscript Collection of the Detroit Public Library, while yet another looks at records of the Warren County Farm Bureau, 1918-1932. More information is available here: <http://www.indianahistory.org>.

**Holiday time with relatives- a chance to grill them for family info!**

**FOUR-GENERATION CHARTS  
SURNAME INDEX**

Recently MoSGA has added an extensive surname index to its website:

<http://www.mosga.org/surname-search/index.php>.

**It is an index of all the surnames submitted on four-generation charts by members since MoSGA was founded in 1979.** Heretofore, these charts were published in nine volumes (200 charts per volume) and the volumes were available for sale. In order to make these charts available to a wider population, the collection was indexed and "put-up" on the MoSGA website. Each chart can be purchased for \$5 by sending your order and check to:

Missouri State Genealogical Association  
P. O. Box 833  
Columbia, MO 65205-0833

Attn: Publication Sales

Monies received from sales of requested four-generation charts are used to defray minor handling and mailing costs with any balance used for preparing and uploading future databases.

The Four-Generation Chart Submission Program is currently a "member-only" privilege. Copies of blank 4-generation charts can be obtained by requesting them via email <[mosga@mosga.org](mailto:mosga@mosga.org)> from the MoSGA membership chairman. Standard 4-generation pedigree charts can be used provided the submitter gives a short written permission statement that would allow MoSGA to publish the contents of the chart. The submission can be from any contiguous 4-generation section of the member's pedigree. If available, each named individual on the chart will have an accompanying birth date and place, marriage date, and death date and place. The submitter should also include their name,

mailing and/or email address on the chart so that an interested person(s) can contact them. We encourage all members, especially new ones, to submit their four-generation charts for inclusion in the database.

Members need to check the index to verify that their charts are included in the database. A few charts have lost over the 28 years since MoSGA's inception, due in part to turnover of volunteer personnel. Should this be the case, we encourage you to resubmit your four-generation chart, and it will be given indexing and uploading priority.

As it exists today, there are over 28,000 names in the four-generation chart database. We encourage non-members to join MoSGA so their four-generation charts can be indexed and added to the database.

Where can you send your filled-in four-generation charts? You can mail them to: Missouri State Genealogical Association, P.O. Box 833, Columbia, MO 65205-0833, or email scans to [mosga@mosga.org](mailto:mosga@mosga.org).

**IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!**

Please note that annual dues for MoSGA expire at the end of each calendar year. Your prompt payment ensures uninterrupted mailing of the *MoSGA Journal* and "*Show-Me State*" *Genealogical News*. Postcard reminders and mailing of back-issues cost money, so please do your part to help reduce our costs. Dues are still only \$20 per household per year, and may be mailed to PO Box 833, Columbia, MO 65205-0833.

**"Show Me" State Genealogical News 28:4**  
(WINTER 2007): © 2007 by the Missouri State Genealogical Association. Editor: Tom Pearson <[PEAR1236@cs.com](mailto:PEAR1236@cs.com)>. Please cite the above source info when quoting material from this newsletter. Thanks!

**Happy holidays, everybody!**

## MoSGA LIBRARY NOTES

The following books were either donated to MoSGA or purchased for placement in the MoSGA Library Collection located in the North Independence Branch of Mid-Continent Public Library in Independence, Missouri. The collection is available for borrowing by local patrons and by researchers nationwide through interlibrary loan. If you would like to request any of these items, contact your local library and ask your librarian to request the books via standard ALA Interlibrary Loan Request Form. The local form should be addressed to: Interlibrary Loan Department, Mid-Continent Public Library, 15616 East 24 Hwy, Independence, MO 64050. Requests may also be submitted by fax to (816) 521-7265, or to <illadh@mcpl.lib.mo.us>.

\_\_\_\_\_. Aztalan Township Cemeteries, Jefferson County, Wisconsin: Aztalan-Milford Cemetery, St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Cemetery. Janesville, WI: Origins, c2001. unpagged. [977.585 AZ74]

Birk, Dorothy Daniels. *The World Came to St. Louis: A Visit to the 1904 World's Fair*. St. Louis, MO: Bethany Press, c1979. 96 p. [909.821 B534]

Bollig, Oneita J. *Christ Lutheran Church, Ellis, Kansas*. Ellis, KS: s.n., c19--. Vol. 1 & 2. [978.119 B638]

Calahan, North. *George Washington: Man and Soldier*. New York, NY: Morrow, c1972. 296 p. [973.41 C13g]

Clemens, William Montgomery. *American Marriage Records Before 1699*. Salem, MA: Higginson Book Co., c1997? 259 p. [929.3 C591AMA]

Crawford, Linda Fowler. *Bolivar City 1827 Tax Book, Bolivar, Polk County, Missouri*. Polk County Genealogical Society, c1999. 21 p. [977.877 B6382]

DeGood, Harold. *An Index, Civil War Veterans and Widows, 1890 Census*. Columbia, MO: Missouri State Genealogical Society, c1994. Volume 2; Missouri Counties of: Platte, Clay, Ray, Lafayette, Johnson, Cass. Volume 3; Missouri Counties of: Buchanan, Clinton, Caldwell, Carroll, Saline, Pettis, Henry, Bates. [973.7478 D364 Vol.]

Dominguez, Andres M. *A Latino Presence in the Heartland [sic]: Challenges and Opportunities*. Kansas City, MO: Western Historical Manuscript Collection-Kansas City, c2003. 28 p. [977.8411 C38DA 2003]

Graham, Nina Brannan. *Joshua Green Descendants*. [S. 1.]: N.B. Graham, c1997. various paging. [929.2 763J EXT. VERSION]

Hawes, Frank Mortimer. *Richard Hawes of Dorchester, Massachusetts and Some of His Descendants*. Hartford, CT: The Case,

Lockwood & Brainard Company, c1932. 255 p. [929.2 H3123]

Kohrman, David. *Detroit's Statler and Book-Cadillac Hotel: The Anchors of Washington Boulevard*. Chicago, IL: Arcadia, c2002. 126 p. [977.434 K877]

McDonough County Genealogical Society. *Cemeteries of McDonough County, Illinois*. Macomb, IL: The Society, c[1981-1984]. Vol. 8 Industry Cemetery, Industry, Illinois. [977.342 M147 V. 8]

Myers, Paul W. *Pennsylvania Soldiers of the Revolutionary War (Living in States Other than PA)*. Apollo, PA: Closson Press, c1987 27 p. [974.8 M9922]

Olsson, Nils Wilson. *Tracing Your Swedish Ancestry*. Stockholm: Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs, c1974. 27p. [929.1 OL8 1974]

Ostertag, John A. *Brown County, Kansas, Marriage Records*. St. Joseph, MO: J. & E. Ostertag, c1993. Vol. G-H. [978.134 OS7]

Public Archives of Canada. *Red River Settlement: Papers in the Canadian Archives Relating to the Pioneers*. Ottawa: Archive Branch, c 1910. Photocopy. 27 p. [971.27 P96]

Reed, Mary V. *Abstracts from Miscellaneous Delaware County, Ohio Newspapers, 1821-1857*. Delaware, OH: Delaware County Genealogical Society, c1992. 228 p. [977.1535 B89]

Templer, Charles. *Benjamin Franklin Jackson and Esther "Hetty" Helton: Their Descendants and Growing Families*. Overland Park, KS: the author, c 2003. 206 p. [929.2 T248B]

Thoma, James F. *This Cruel Unnatural War: The American Civil War in Cooper County, Missouri*. Kingsport, TN: J. Thoma, c2003. 269 p. [973.747851 T36]

Veech, James. *The Monongahela of Old: Or Historical Sketches of South-Western Pennsylvania to the Year 1800*. Baltimore, MD:

Reprinted for Clearfield Co. by Genealogical Pub. Co., c1989. 272 p. [974.884 V517]

Willard, Van R. *With the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wisconsin Badgers: The Living Experience of the Civil War Through the Journals of Van R. Willard*. Mechanicsburg, PA: Stackpole Books, c1999. 286 p. [973.7475092 W661]

### **ILLINOIS GENIE SOCIETY NEWS**

B.C.G.S. News 25:3 (Fall 2007) includes an article called "My Life History" by Fred Baumberger. Mr. Baumberger was born in Bond County in 1920, and most of the article **involves his school years**, including his sports career. He notes that he "didn't have a lot of talent" but was willing to hustle, and played on his school's softball and basketball teams. He also talks **about his family's farm**, noting that "my farming career began when I was born." While in his teens, he helped his siblings raise vegetables in a one acre truck garden that they cultivated using only hoes. He notes that, "I was glad when I was considered old enough to cultivate corn with a 1 row, 2 horse cultivator. On most days, I could cultivate 8 acres- 10 acres was a big work day." Ah, the good old days...

Christian County Genealogical Society Quarterly 24:2 (Summer 2007) reprints a newspaper article in which James M. George related his experiences **as a Civil War soldier in the 114<sup>th</sup> Illinois Infantry**, which was involved in the siege and capture of Vicksburg, Mississippi. While there, George witnessed **the simultaneous hanging of nine black men**. The men, who had all been slaves of a rebel colonel and his family, murdered the colonel and every family member except a twelve year old son who managed to slip away in the darkness. Union soldiers captured the killers, and all nine were hanged after a brief trial. George also worked as a guard at a prison in Vicksburg that housed both rebels and Union Army soldiers convicted of crimes. George witnessed the hanging of a man

who'd been convicted of smuggling ammunition to the rebel army.

Christian County Genealogical Society Quarterly 24:3 (Fall 2007) notes **some statistics from 1907**. Average U.S. life expectancy: 47 years! For 95% of us, that fairly short life began at home, not in a maternity ward. U.S. homes that had a bathtub: 14%. A telephone: 8%. There were 8,000 automobiles in the entire U.S., and just 144 miles of paved roads. What did the average worker earn? 22 cents per hour. You considered yourself fortunate if you made \$500-- per year! Ah, yes- the good old days...

Crossroad Trails 28:3 includes an article called, "**Administration of Poor Relief**." The article discusses the care afforded to the indigent by counties and townships in the years prior to state and federal assumption of that task. In a nutshell, the county awarded a contract for care of its poor to the lowest bidder. How then, did a contract winner manage to make money? Why, by skimping on the food, shelter, and clothing he provided to his charges, of course (county provided medical care unless otherwise specified in the contract). Oh, and he could sell (OK, indenture) any minors in his care to the highest bidders. He could also put able-bodied adults to work at tasks for which he pocketed the wages. You can probably see that this arrangement meant that it was in the best economic interests of the contract-holder to "kill off" as many disabled/bed-ridden chargees as he could through not-so-benign neglect.

The article also notes how the **Great Depression** brought changes in our nation's welfare system, and how activities of the **Works Progress Administration** impacted Effingham County. A list of projects accomplished by the WPA between June 1935-December 1939 is included.

Yet another article in the same publication describes a **horrible accident** that involved Mrs. Hardiek, wife of the owner of a sawmill, in 1916. She was helping her husband repair the saw **when her dress became tangled in the saw shaft** and began winding around it. This caused the dress to tighten around her chest and abdomen, crushing or breaking numerous ribs. It also pulled her into the saw pit feet first, where one foot was severed first on the instep and then at the ankle. A helper present, the (wonderfully named) George Kitten, had the presence of mind to kill the saw motor. Mrs. Hardiek's clothing had to be cut off to remove her from the saw pit. She survived the accident for 48 hours, during which time her injured leg was amputated halfway between the knee and ankle in an effort to save her life. Her husband and two children survived her.

Illinois State Genealogical Society Quarterly 39:3 (Fall 2007) has several articles of interest. The first is "**German Immigrant Farmers in Illinois**, Part I." The article includes an account of a German immigrant family's journey in 1834 from Baltimore to Beardstown, Illinois (part overland and part by water), and another of a man's journey in 1855 from Germany to Illinois. Very interesting!

Another article talks about **conscription in Illinois during the Civil War**. The author notes that her study of the subject has taught her two things: Illinois did in fact need to resort to conscription, and not all able-bodied men wound up in the Army. She studied conscription records of two Illinois congressional districts at the National Archives in Washington, DC (and found not one of the fourteen family members she was searching for!).

The Illiana Genealogist 43:3 (Fall 2007) has an article on **the Children's Home of Vermilion County**, Illinois. It opened in 1894, with five children as residents. Most children were orphans, although a few came

from what we would term a "broken home." There was originally just one dormitory; in 1926 a second building was added and girls lived there, while boys stayed in the older building. Boys and girls were allowed to visit on Sundays. Residential care at the Home ceased in fall 1973, when the Home became a youth crisis center. The article includes some unidentified photos of children who resided at the Home.

Jacksonville Area Genealogical & Historical Society 34:3 (September 2007) includes a history of **the Experimental School for the Education of Feeble-Minded Children**. The school opened on 1 June 1865, with three or four students (accounts vary). By the end of its first year in operation, enrollment had quadrupled to 12 students. The superintendent noted in his second annual report that the state of Illinois probably "had 2000 students in need of special care." By its tenth anniversary, the school had 100 pupils enrolled, and had to turn away 121 for lack of space.

Madison County Genealogical Society Stalker 27:3 (Fall 2007) includes several articles of interest. The first reprints the 1933 diary of Josephine Shaff, who **was treated for TB that year** at the Madison County Sanitarium. Her diary includes daily menus, something that might interest others who had relatives in sanitariums. The diary notes that she was taken to the sanitarium by ambulance, and that the ride cost \$8.00 (cash on arrival, no checks accepted).

A second article concerns the ordeal of J. N. Schaff, a doctor from Alton **whose horse and buggy stepped into quicksand** during a night house call (!). The doctor left his house around midnight. Recent rains and excavations by a railroad had combined to form a quicksand pool that the doctor and his horse did not recognize in the dark. The doctor had to use a knife to cut his horse's harness, and then managed to escape by riding the frantic beast out of the pool. The

buggy and the doctor's medical kit were lost and never recovered.

A third article recounts how the family of Marine Corps Private Henry Henkhaus received the news that he **had been killed at the Battle of Chateau Thierry**. He was wounded on July 19, 1918, and died later that same day. Interestingly, the family received word (via telegram) that he had been wounded in action on or about September 1, 1918, and a second telegram relating his death on October 1, 1918.

Prairie Pioneer 27:3 (Jul-Aug-Sep 2007) reprints a lengthy list of questions that can be used to **jog the memory of someone trying to write a history of his or her life**. If you're planning to interview a family patriarch (or if you ARE a family patriarch), this list can help you get the most memories out of the person who's doing the reminiscing. Question #23, for instance, is "Tell about some naughty thing you did." Hmm... that could make for a very interesting story...

Randolph County Genealogical Society Quarterly 17:3 (2007) includes a story about the **robbery of the Steeleville Bank in January 1903**. The bank had only been open for business a few weeks. During the night on the 27<sup>th</sup>, local residents heard what sounded like a series of explosions. Thieves, after breaking into the bank, had used nitroglycerin to "blow the safe." The three robbers managed to escape a posse that gave immediate pursuit (they fled on foot). One of the robbers, however, then used his cut to get drunk, and stupidly recounted the details of his transgression to an acquaintance from whom he had recently stolen the affections of a young lady. The acquaintance naturally gave him up to the cops, and a search of his apartment revealed loot from the bank, some of it much the worse for wear due to its proximity to the nitroglycerin used to blow the safe. All three robbers wound up in jail.

The Saga of Southern Illinois 33:4 (Oct-Dec 2006) includes an article on the Williamson County **cholera epidemic** of 1866. It seems the county remained relatively untouched by calamity (disease, insect pests, and drought) until 1866, when for six weeks the county was visited by cholera. Twenty five persons died, including "the three beautiful Ferguson girls, ladies without parallel in the arena of beauty and refinement." The county was then visited in 1873 **by smallpox**, which caused numerous deaths in southern Williamson County.

The same issue has an article **on mortality patterns in Franklin County**. The article notes that in 1840, only two percent of Illinois residents were 45 or older. A look at the Franklin County mortality lists for 1850 and 1860 shows that 49% of deaths that state cause involved children under five, and 61% involved children under ten. **Most frequent causes of death:** fever, croup and whooping cough; and cholera, diarrhea, and other dehydrating conditions. 21 persons died of cause unknown, not surprising in an era when the average doctor had less medical training, and much less medical knowledge, than a modern LPN fresh out of school.

**WE DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOU!**

Please advise us of changes in postal and /or email addresses. Send them to Rob Taylor at:

<[taylor.robertw@gmail.com](mailto:taylor.robertw@gmail.com)>.

Please note that **annual dues for MoSGA** expire at the end of each calendar year. Your prompt payment ensures uninterrupted mailing of the MoSGA Journal and Show-Me State" Genealogical News, and saves us the cost of a postcard.

Dues are still only \$20 per household per year, and may be mailed to PO Box 833, Columbia, MO 65205-0833.

Thanks for helping us save you money!

## FROM YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

**President's Report**

MoSGA Board Meeting- 3 November 2007

Your board met Saturday, November 3rd in Columbia, MO on a beautiful fall day. Highlights of the meeting:

1. Jerry Ennis reported that 28,000 surnames, abstracted from member's **4-generation charts**, are now available on the MoSGA Web site. President Henderson thanked Jerry for all the work he put into creating the surname database. The board approved raising the price for copies of 4-generation charts from \$2.00 to \$5.00 per copy.
2. The board approved printing 5,000 **new membership brochures** following a presentation by Public Relations Director, Carolyn Branch. Carolyn designed an entirely new brochure that is attractive and up to date. The next time your local society plans a workshop, contact Carolyn and she will send you a packet of brochures to distribute that will help you to promote MoSGA: publicrelations@mosga.org
3. Treasurer Jerry Ennis reported that the **2007 Annual Conference** made a profit of \$1,700. Thanks to Tim Dollens and Nancy Waller Thomas for their hard work in putting on a most excellent conference. Conference evaluation forms were overwhelmingly complimentary with several positive comments on the food. One person wrote "best banquet I've had in 5 years at this conference."
4. Several conference evaluators commented **on the lack of vendors**, especially local society vendors. We understand and would like to have more vendors. We are working on possible solutions. Stay tuned!
5. Newsletter Editor Tom Pearson suggested **the creation of a MoSGA Blog** as a means to 1) quickly post timely items; 2) promote MoSGA events/publications in a free forum;

and 3) as a way for the public to learn more about MoSGA. The board agreed and by the next day Tom had created the **MoSGA Messenger: the Official Weblog of the Missouri State Genealogical Association**. Sign up today to receive posts: <http://mosga.blogspot.com/>, and to post your own comments.

6. And finally, I am happy to report **that my call for volunteers was answered**. Two longstanding MoSGA members, Nancy J. Norris of Ridgedale, Missouri and JoAnne Magner of Olathe, Kansas offered their services. When I mentioned the availability of volunteers at the board meeting, Mary Celeste, Missouri First Families Chair, immediately said "send me their names and I'll put them to work." Volunteers are always needed. Contact me if you can help. Thanks.

Martha Henderson, MoSGA President

Nancy Thompson of the **Tri-County Genealogical Society** says that the society's October 2007 newsletter is available on their website:

[www.rootsweb.com/~motcogs/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~motcogs/)

**Contribute:** Submission of **news items, photos, and queries** is encouraged. Deadlines are the 15<sup>th</sup> of November, February, May, and August. Publication is at the discretion of the editor, and contributions may be edited for length and/or content. Send items for review to PEAR1236@CS.COM or to: Show Me State Genealogical News, P.O. Box 833, Columbia, MO 65203-0833.

**Please note:** Send membership applications, renewals, and address changes to **Membership**; Inquiries about and orders for MoSGA publications & back issues to **Publication Sales**; Books for review or donation to our **Library**; the address for each department is: MoSGA, P.O. Box 833, Columbia, MO 65203-0833.:

## Membership Application & Renewal Form

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP: \_\_\_\_ \$20 Per year. 4 journals & newsletters; one vote and one conference discount.

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP: \_\_\_\_ \$20 Per year: for societies & libraries. Same benefits as individuals; one vote can be assigned.

CONTRIBUTING MEMBER: \_\_\_\_ \$40 Per year; same benefits as individual. Donation advantages.

PATRON MEMBER: \_\_\_\_ \$100 Per year; same benefits as individual; 20% discount on publications (not to be used for resale) and 20% discount on annual conference. Donation advantages.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP: \_\_\_\_ \$400 One time payment; other benefits same as individual. Active member status for life. Never needs renewing; non-assignable.

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