

# Edgar County Genealogical Society

## Membership Renewal Time!

**Volume XXVII**  
**Number IV**

**May 2016**

*Special points of interest:*

*Membership Renewal*

*Annual Meeting*

*FGS Annual Conference in  
Springfield, IL this year*

*Inside this issue:*

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It is once again time to renew your membership with the Edgar County Genealogical Society. If you receive your newsletter by mail, please check the mailing label to see if your membership is expiring. If "2016" is listed, it's time to renew. If there is another year listed, your membership will expire June 30 of that year. If there is an "L" you are a Life member.

If you receive your newsletter electronically, you will receive an email if we do not get your renewal.

If you would like to continue to be a part of this society, please complete the form on the back cover of this issue and return it to the address listed.

Just what are the benefits of membership?

\*Each membership receives one volume (four issues), either electronic or paper, of the Quarterly annually.

\*The Society presents four programs yearly, including the Annual Business Meeting in June.

\*Each member is entitled to have at least one query published annually in the Quarterly, more if space allows.

To continue your membership, just send in the form on the back cover along with your membership fees, \$20.00 annually or \$150.00 for a lifetime membership, and you won't miss a single issue of our quarterly! *Please update any information such as address, surnames or email also at this time.*



### Looking for something to do this summer?

How about volunteering at the  
Edgar County Genealogy Library!  
Call for more information.

### Coming Events

**All events in the Historical Annex at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted**  
**Meetings are open to everyone interested in family history.**

#### **Monday, June 6th, 2016**

Annual meeting and presentation of the Edythe Stephens Family History Award

Check our Facebook page anytime for the latest updates!

## Society Information

### Society Officers 2015-16

President

Sharlynn **Kraemer**

Vice President

Jenny **Barkley**

Program Chair

Secretary

Teresa **Pennington**

Treasurer

David **Neal**

Newsletter Editor

Debbie **Wilson**

Director (1st year/3 yr term)

Phyllis **Sutton**

Webmaster

Teresa **Pennington**

### Membership:

**Individual \$20 annually**

**Single Life \$150**

Annual Year: July 1 - June 30

Newsletter published:

August, November,

February & May

Each membership receives one volume (four issues) of the Newsletter annually.

Fees received after March 1st will be applied to the coming year, unless you state otherwise on membership application.

### Meetings:

The Society presents four programs yearly, including the Annual Business Meeting in June. Those are announced in the Newsletter, the Paris, IL Beacon News, on our website and Facebook pages.

### Queries:

Each member is entitled to at least one query published annually in the Newsletter, more as space permits.

Non-Members are charged \$2 per query.

Please limit each query to 10 typed lines, including your name and address. A query should provide at least 3 items: name(s), date(s) and location(s).

### Address Changes:

If your address is changing for any reason (moving or 911 address change) ECGS must be notified. We ARE NOT responsible for lost copies of the Newsletter. Replacement cost is \$3 per issue if you joined after July 2015, you will have to pay \$1.50 extra to receive the past Newsletters. If you joined after October 2015, you will need to add \$2.00 extra. And if you joined after January 2016, you will need to add \$2.75 extra to your annual dues. **All past Newsletters must be mailed separately.**

ILLINOIS STATE  
Genealogical Society  
#361R27  
Founded in 1984

*The Society welcomes **Ancestor Charts** from ECGS members for publication. Charts must be typed or clearly printed on 8 1/2" X 11" paper. A letter, signed and dated by the submitter must be included with the charts, giving permission to ECGS to publish the charts in the next available Newsletter issue.*

*After publication all charts will be placed in the files of the Genealogy Library for reference by other family researchers. Please be sure to include your name, address (snail and email) and current date on each chart.*

## Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Edgar County Genealogical Society will be held on Monday, June 6th at 7 p.m. in the Historical Society Annex building.

Along with the election of officers for 2016-2017, the presentation of the Edythe Stephens Family History Award will be given.

Refreshments will follow.

The public is invited to attend.

# Edgar County Genealogy Library

Hello all,

The Genealogy Library has been busy, helping not only people away from here but also helping the local authors, compile information for their newspaper articles.

We continue to have patrons asking for information from: obituaries, cemetery records, history books or family histories. We charge small fees for this information, some think we are asking for too much while others pay the fees and also give us a donation.

Remember we are all volunteers, and the fees we charge help us pay our monthly bills.

The money we take in also used to adds more material to our collection, like more newspapers.

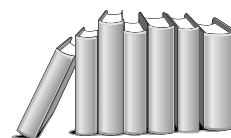
When you come to research you will find librarians are on different days, some asked for another day, and some of us are working different day to keep the Library covered/open.

We are also training a former resident, who has moved back, Joy **Van Meter**. She thinks there is a lot to learn, but she is working with the records and learning where they a located. She is not new to research as she is a DAR member, so she knows how to research. Welcome aboard Joy.

Reminder: The Edgar County Genealogy Library Board has set a policy that no more than 10 pages can be copied out of any one book, and the use of Scanners and camera are limited!

Obituaries can be looked up if we have the newspapers – however we need full name and full death date, we cannot search an entire years or papers. Newspapers are not indexed; they are actual copies of the entire paper.

Thank You,  
*L. Cary, Director*



408 N Main  
Paris, IL 61944-1549

217-463-4209

Hours:  
Wednesday,  
Thursday & Friday  
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

1st & 3rd Saturdays  
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Closed all holidays

Call for appointments during off hours or during inclement weather

## ***Librarians:***

*Linda Cary  
Norm Carroll  
Linda Barrett  
Jenny Barkley  
Phyllis Sutton  
Judy Cash  
Monica Brunelle*

# Time Travel - Centuries of Memories

Federation of Genealogical Societies  
2016 Conference  
Springfield, IL  
August 31 - September 3, 2016

Celebrating 40 years since the founding of FGS, each day of the conference is full of sessions aimed at strengthening attendees research skills no matter what level or area of interest they may have.

## Conference Highlights:

Conference Sessions - with over 160 sessions, 72 expert speakers from around the world, 10 luncheons with speakers, 7 workshops and 2 interactive seminars, learning opportunities abound in the FGS 2016 program. With strong daily tracks covering the U.S. Midwest (regional track), the United Kingdom (British Isles and Commonwealth track), and continental European research (ethnic track), attendees of all skill levels will learn a multitude of ways to uncover more about their family history.

Exhibit Hall - The large exhibit hall will feature the latest software, books, maps, databases and gadgets on the market for genealogists and family historians, as well as information about genealogical organizations. Located in the special Society Showcase area, representatives of FGS Member Societies will be on hand to demonstrate how their society can help attendees with their family history.

Special Events - With built-in networking opportunities, registrants can meet like-minded genealogists and family historians at FGS special events including “Farms & Families: Across the Decades” on Wednesday evening sponsored by FamilySearch and co-hosted by the Illinois State Genealogical Society and the Illinois State Historical Society; the “Meet & Greet” sponsored by Ancestry.com on Thursday evening; and the FGS 40th Anniversary Gala on Friday evening.

Focus on Societies - On Wednesday, August 31, 2016, sessions are jam-packed with ideas and tools to help societies promote themselves, develop projects, increase membership, and leverage technology. The day kicks off with a plenary session that explores the opportunities and challenges facing societies today and showcases ways to facilitate the changes needed for societies to succeed and thrive.

Librarians' Day - On Tuesday, August 30, 2016, ProQuest will sponsor a pre-conference full-day of sessions designed for librarians, archivists, and other information professionals serving family history researchers.

Also visit the conference website at <http://www.FGSConference.org> for additional details including links to conference hotels, research opportunities, and more. Keep up with conference news and announcements by reading the FGS Voiceblog at <http://voice.fgs.org/> and by subscribing to the FGS Voice Newsletter at <http://fgs.org/cpage.php?pt=71>.

A conference this size need a lot of volunteers to help be successful. Room monitors, technology troubleshooting, registration, assembling materials, etc. Check out volunteer options under the Volunteer tab at <https://www.fgsconference.org/>. If you are interested in helping with the ISGS reception or luncheon, those volunteers ARE NOT part of the online volunteer sign-up.

*This information was taken directly from the ISGS May-June Newsletter.*

## Gleanings from local newspapers

Paris Daily Beacon Monday December 10, 1900

Two Deaths, Mrs. Samuel **Zimmerly** of Grandview township, died Sunday.

Mrs. Samuel **Zimmerly**, an aged lady residing in Grandview township nine miles southwest of this city died at her home at an early hour Sunday morning. Last week Mrs. **Zimmerly** underwent an operation in which a toe was removed. The wound refused to heal and gangrene set in causing her death as above stated. She is survived by her husband who is 79 years of age.

The Funeral was conducted from the residence at 10 o'clock this morning and the remains were interred in the **Zimmerly** graveyard which is near the residence.

### Mrs. Matilda **Turner**

Mrs. Matilda **Turner** aged 27 years died this morning at her home on Broom street after an illness with appendicitis. The deceased was the widow of John **Turner** who died in this city a few years ago. She is survived by two children, a girl and a boy aged 8 and 4 years respectively. [Buried in Edgar Cemetery – see Tille **Turner**]

### Dies Very Suddenly John **Blood** of Kansas Tp., Pass Away After Brief Illness

Warrenton, ILL. Dec. 9, 1900 – [Special to Beacon] – John **Blood**, a well known and highly respected citizen residing two miles north of town, took very suddenly ill Saturday evening and died about 11 o'clock p.m. His sudden death was quite a shock to the community, which loses an exemplary Christian and a first-class citizen. He had many friends and no enemies. He had been a leading member in Harmony M. E. church from childhood. He leaves a wife and one daughter, Mrs. M. I. **Delap**, to mourn his sudden death. Funeral services were conducted at the M. E. church here Monday afternoon at one o'clock by Rev. E.S. **Wamsley** of Kansas.

### Death of Mrs. **Bristol**.

The death of Mrs. Mary A. **Bristol** occurred at her home on East Washington street this afternoon, being consequent to an illness of many months. The lateness of the hour forbids extended mention, but a suitable obituary notice will be printed later.

Arrangements for the funeral are not yet complete. [Follow up in December 11, 1900 newspaper.]

### **Menke** Divorce Case Settled.

The divorce case of Mrs. Wilella **Menke** vs. B. F. **Menke** was settled in an interval of court business this afternoon. It consumed but a few minutes, a compromise having been affected Saturday which made the procedure very simple. The complainant withdrew all allegations but that of drunkenness, and to this charge no defense was interposed, the decree being granted accordingly. Under the terms of the agreement Mrs. **Menke** keeps the two children and is given the real estate, comprising two pieces of town property. Her husband takes the billiard hall, free of any claims on her part, and is released from the payment of alimony. The settlement of the matter on this basis is satisfactory to all concerned.

The Paris Beacon, Friday, November 28, 1884

Bud **Elliott**, who was shot on Oct. 11th, here in Paris, by Marshall **Smith**, died last Saturday afternoon. A post-mortem examination revealed the fact that the ball has passed through the right lung, ranged downward, and lodged in the spine, making the wound similar in character to that of Garfield's. No new facts were obtained from the coroner's investigation. The murder was inexcusable, with no mitigation circumstances, and the murderer should have the full penalty of the law meted to him, and there may be a smaller number of shooting scrapes in the future.

Personal Mention

Mrs. Judge **Steele** is visiting her daughter, at Alton, Ill.

Mill Nellie **Eads** is home from Greencastle for Thanksgiving.

Jos. **Stanfield**, proprietor of the Chrisman hay barn was in the city Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. **Shepherd** are re[ ] in the arrival of a brand new pair of twins, a son and a daughter. They made their appearance of Friday last, and are healthy little specimens.

The marriage of Mr. Hugar **Hodge** and Miss Blanche **Clubertson** will be [ ] at the residence of the bride's father, this (Thursday) evening, in the presence of the relatives and a few invited friends. A more extended account will be given next week.

Little Lalia **Gist**, six-year-old daughter of John **Gist**, died at the residence of Mr. J. M. **Bell**, Saturday morning the 22nd, and was buried on Sunday, Nov. 23. She was taken sick on the 7th of Nov. with diphtheria which with an affection of the heart, finally resulted in death.

Paris Daily Beacon, Wednesday, December 6, 1939

Mrs. Ravilla **Combs** - Following an illness from pneumonia and general debility, Mrs. Ravilla **Combs**, 86, died at 6 o'clock on Tuesday evening at the home of her brother, T.M. Wilson, seven miles southwest of Paris in Symmes township.

She was a daughter of Andrew J. and Susan L. **Wilson** and was born in Edgar county where she had always resided. Her husband, William **Combs**, died in 1920.

Four brothers are surviving, as follows: Charles of Yuma, Ariz., T. M., Alonzo and William, all of Edgar county. A sister, Mrs. Sarah **Griffin**, died several years ago.

Funeral rites will be held at 2 o'clock to Thursday afternoon at the Zieren funeral home, with Rev. Earl **Ross** officiating. Interment at Edgar cemetery.

Mrs. **Combs** was a member of the New Hope Methodist church.

Mrs. Lucille **Handy Elledge** - Mrs. Lucille **Elledge**, 44, died at 8:30 o'clock on Tuesday evening at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. **Handy** at Oliver. She had been seriously ill from kidney trouble for several months which developed after injuries received when hit by an automobile while crossing a Terre Haute street about a year ago.

She was born at Oliver and formerly resided in Paris and Marshall. A daughter, Ruth Elaine **Elledge**, died in 1934 at the age of 19 years. Her parents and a brother, Russell, of Kankakee are surviving. A brother, Harold, preceded her in death.

Paris Daily Beacon, Friday, February 6, 1891

Wm. **Rude**, an aged resident of the Western part of the city died at an early hour this morning. The deceased was a brother of Gresham M. **Rude** and uncle of F. M. **Rude** of this city. The remains will be taken to Indianapolis for burial to-morrow. A brief funeral service was conducted by Elder H. M. **Brooks** this afternoon.  
(G.M. **Rude**, brother of Wm. **Rude**, obit follows)

Paris Daily Beacon, January 18, 1892

Among the many deaths that have brought sadness into this community during the past few weeks, there is not one that has been the occasion for more universal regret, than that of Elder G. M. **Rude**, which occurred shortly after midnight last night, at his home in the western part of the city. The deceased was a native of New York, being born at Saratoga, Nov. 31, 1808, having therefore passed his eighty-third mile stone. At the age of twenty-eight, he entered the ministry of the Christian denomination and his life thenceforth was one of unswerving devotion to his chosen vocation. For eighteen years he held a charge at Harrison, Ohio and thence removed to Indianapolis where he engaged in evangelistic work. From that time forward, he preached the gospel in season and out of season, working wherever his services were most needed until failing health disabled him for further activity in the pursuit of this profession. He removed to this city with his family in 1855 and has resided here ever since, preaching at various points whenever his health would permit. he was married in 1832 to Miss Margaret **Gould**, of Dearborn county, Ind., who survives him. Of the eight children born of this union, five are still living, viz: W. B. **Rude** and Mrs. Jennie **Snyder** of Arcola; Mrs. Lida **Leitch**, Miss Emma **Rude** and F. M. **Rude** of this city, all of whom have grown to manhood and womanhood, reflecting honor upon their parentage, and universally respected in the communities where they reside.

Mr. **Rude** was a Christian in all that the name implies. His devotion to the Master's cause was manifested not only in his active and fruitful ministerial labors, but in countless deeds of kindness which brought happiness into the lives of all around him. No appeal for sympathy or assistance was ever made to him in vain. He was charitable and just in all his dealings exemplifying in his own life the way in which he would guide the footsteps of others. He has been quite feeble for the past year and an attack of la grippe served to extinguished forever the lamp of life, which already burned with a dim, uncertain light.

Funeral services will be conducted at the residence Wednesday, Jan. 20th, at 10 o'clock a.m., Elder H. M. **Brooks** officiating.

Paris Daily Beacon, October 26, 1961

The death of Daniel **Ryan**, 77, of Grandview occurred at Paris Hospital where he had been a patient for several days after suffering a heart attack.

He was born in Grandview Aug. 9, 1884, the son of Daniel **Ryan** and Mary **Herrington Ryan**. On March 31, 1928 he was married to Virginia **Beadle**, who survives him with three brothers, William, George and John, all of Grandview and two sisters, Mrs. Lora **Smith** of Grandview and Mrs. Mae **Wheeler** of Springfield.

For several years Mr. **Ryan** operated a grocery store at Grandview. He was a member of the Modern Woodman lodge and the Sycamore Club of Terre Haute.

Funeral services will be held at eleven o'clock Saturday morning at the Blume-Steward Funeral Home with Rev. Larry **Beebe** officiating. Interment will be at Grandview Cemetery.

Paris Daily Beacon, Monday, August 30, 1937

An Edgar county farmer, William J. **Thiel**, Paris R. R. No. 2, was killed and nine others were injured about 11:30 o'clock Sunday night in an automobile accident at the intersection of state routes No. 133 and 49 four miles west of Redmon. Mr. **Thiel** died a few minutes after the crash. The other are being treated at the Paris and Jarman Hospitals.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred **Smittkamp**, R. R. 4, their two children, Lester and Helen, a nephew, James, son of Chester **Smittkamp**, and Mr. **Thiel** were returning from a week-end pleasure trip to Chicago when the accident occurred. Their car was struck by an automobile owned by Leon **Gillis** of Brocton and driven by Lenwood **Volk** of Hume. Other occupants of the **Gillis** car were Miss Lena **Volk** of Hume and Marion **Brown** of Newman. Mr. **Brown** and Miss **Volk** were the only occupants of the **Gillis** car seriously hurt. They were taken to the Jarman Hospital, Tuscola, but the occupants of the **Smittkamp** car were brought to the Paris hospital. All of the injured were able to leave the hospitals today except for Lena **Volk**, who has a fractured arm.

Mr. **Smittkamp** was unable to appear at a corner's investigation conducted this morning by Dr. W. S. **Jones** of Redmon at the **Morrison** funeral home, be he told members of his family and C. F. **Morrison**, that he had stopped at the intersection of the two state routes. Then he put his car in low gear and started to make a left hand turn on state route No. 133 towards Redmon.

The crash occurred about the middle of the intersection. Mr. **Smittkamp** also told friends that he looked down the highway and did not see any cars approaching. The **Gillis** car, going north on Rt. 49 struck the right front wheel of the **Smittkamp** vehicle, tearing into the side of the card. Mr. **Thiel** was sitting in the front seat on the right side of the card and sustained the full effect of the crash.

None of the other occupants of the car were seriously hurt, but all required treatment at the Paris Hospital. Mr. **Smittkamp** suffering from shock and soreness due the numerous bruises and abrasions which he sustained, was unable to leave his bed today.

Mr. **Thiel's** death was thought to have been caused primarily from crushing injuries to the chest. He also suffered a fracture of the right leg, a bad bruise to his right shoulder and a blow on the head.

Following the inquest the body was removed to the John T. **Owen** funeral home at Chrisman. It will be taken to the family home south of Paris Tuesday morning where it will remain until the funeral hour.

Mr. **Thiel** was born near Redmon in Buck township on March 8, 1879, the son of Frank **Thiel** of France and Mary **Fisher Thiel** of Germany. His parents preceded him in death.

He is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Paul **Honnold** of Chrisman and Mrs. Arthur **Sudduth** of Paris R. R. No. 7; one stepdaughter, Mrs. Anna Helen **Manerval** of Jamestown, N. Y.; two brothers, Lewis of Paris and Fred of Cleveland, Ohio; and three sisters, Mrs. Anna **Stotts** of Paris, Mrs. Oscar **Goodpasture**, Paris R. R. No. 7, and Mrs. Walter **Parrish** of Indianapolis, Ind. One sister preceded him in death.

Mr. **Thiel** was a member of Prairie Lodge No. 77, A. F. & A. M., and of the Paris Christian church, where funeral services will be held at ten o'clock Wednesday morning. Rev. Charles E. **Jackson**, pastor, will officiate. Burial will be in Edgar cemetery. The Masons will assist with the service.

Paris Daily Beacon, Tuesday, August 31, 1937

James **Smittkamp**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chester **Smittkamp** and one of the five occupants of the Fred **Smittkamp** automobile injured in an accident Sunday night at the intersection or state routes No. 49 and 133 west of Redmon was the only one who remained at the Paris hospital today. W. J. **Thiel** of Paris R. R. No. 2 was fatally injured in the crash.

The condition of the child was not considered serious, but he will be confined to the hospital for a few days pending improvement.

Lester and Helen **Smittkamp**, children of Mr. and Mrs. Fred **Smittkamp**, have been returned to their home.



## The next great search

Are you looking for someplace new to search for your ancestors? Think you have searched the internet until there is no website left unturned? Have you tried Pinterest? Who doesn't love Pinterest! But have you ever thought of doing a search for "genealogy"?

You may not find information about your specific relatives, but there are many, many other great ideas here, so give it a try. You can find articles like "How to use Pinterest for Genealogy and Family History", how to build a genealogy research plan, most common photograph types of the 19th century, tips for organizing your genealogy records and much, much more. You can download research forms, questions to ask your family at the next family reunion and a 10-generation family tree.

Remember, anytime you get genealogy information from the internet, be sure to back it up with documentation and proof. There are many people with good intentions putting family history information on the web, but it is not always 100% accurate.

Go to Pinterest, do a search and have some fun. You don't know what you might run across that will be just what you are looking for.

Do you have a favorite website for research? Send us an email and let us know.

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Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Edgar-County-Genealogy->

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Check us out on  
Facebook!

Membership renewal time  
See page 1 for details

## Publications for Sale

### Cook Funeral Home

(three books in one volume)

Vol. I Jul 1892-Mar 1897

Vol. II Mar 1897-Dec 1902

Vol. III Oct 1918-Dec 1928

\$19 postage paid

### Edgar County, IL Marriages:

Vol. I 1823 - 1859 \$29ppd

Vol. II 1860 - 1877 \$24ppd

Vol. III 1878 - 1886 \$26ppd

Vol. IV 1887 - 1893 \$26ppd

Vol. V 1894 - 1900 \$26ppd

Vol. VI 1901 - 1906 \$28ppd

Vol. VII 1907 - 1910 \$30ppd

Vol. VIII 1911 - 1914 \$28ppd

### Paris, IL Illustrated & Descriptive 1908

44 pages

138 photos

\$22.50 postage paid

These publications can be ordered from the Edgar County Genealogical Society at PO Box 304, Paris, IL 61944. For a complete listing of our publications send #10 self-addressed envelope to same address or visit our website at [www.edgarcountygenealogy.org](http://www.edgarcountygenealogy.org).

Edgar County, Illinois  
Genealogical Society

Member Name:

Expires: June 30, 2017