



The Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois

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NEWSLETTER

August-September 2016
Volume 44 #9

GSSI Meeting
Saturday, October 8, 2016
2:00p.m.
General John A. Logan Museum
1613 Edith Street
Murphysboro, IL

Michael P. Jones, Director of the General John A. Logan Museum, will introduce a new display of historic political cartoons from PUCK magazine. As part of the GSSI program on Saturday, October 8, Jones will discuss the Museum's ongoing study of Civil War military service by Southern Illinois soldiers. To date, Jones has amassed approximately 4, 000 names of area men who fought. The 2:00 p.m. program is open to the public.

GSSI members whose relatives fought in the Civil War, can learn if that service has been recorded in the Museum's study. Submit the soldier's name and rank to Dusty Renee Boner, GSSI Newsletter editor at dstboner@gmail.com, before October 5. Members, and others, who know of soldiers whose names have not yet been listed by Museum researchers, are urged to provide relevant data at the October meeting.

The GSSI Board will hold an executive meeting at the Museum at 12:30.

Submitted by Dorothy Rudoni

St. John's Lutheran Church to celebrate 200th Anniversary **September 17 and 18**

St. John's Lutheran Church in Dongola, Union County Illinois will be celebrating its bicentennial the weekend of September 17 and 18, 2016. St. John's is the oldest Lutheran

Church in the state of Illinois. There will be an open house on Saturday September 17th from 8 AM until 2 PM at the church. Various activities are being for this day which will include horse and surrey rides.

A church service will be held on Sunday, September 18th starting at 10:30 AM. Four former pastors will be in attendance to perform the service. Church records for St. John's Lutheran Church and Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church have been transcribed and will be available.

Submitted by Julia Mowery

Lisa Louise Cooke speaks at the 2016 Family History Conference

Although the Saturday event started off with rain, a great crowd assembled to hear Lisa Louise Cooke, of *Genealogy Gems*. Lisa presented a wealth of information about new technology at our fingertips. Each new program addressed, can make a family genealogists research time more productive and with better results. Log onto her *Genealogy Gems* pod cast to hear more tips. What a great speaker!

This year the Book Fair had more vendors, which provided a great opportunity to purchase books, maps, or just fun things to make your family history journey more enjoyable. Although we had a very wet day, it was really enjoyable. Meeting old genealogy buddies and making new ones was the great benefit. If you were not able to make it this year, hope to see you in 2017!

Dusty Renee Boner

Report on the Family History Conference, August 13, 2016

Speaker Lisa Louise Cooke's most recent books include *Mobile Genealogy* and *The Genealogist's Google Toolbox, 2nd edition*. Family Tree Magazine listed *Genealogy Gems* among their 101 best genealogy websites for 2016!

How to Find Living Relatives

Lisa Louise Cooke presented valuable information on locating living relatives. She suggested using the most obvious; finding a phone number via 411 or using phone books. By using the last known mailing address you can mail a letter to relative and see if it is returned, or not. She stressed that people are creatures of habits and to note their church attendance, clubs or hobbies and industries they might be associated with. Two good websites to track down living relatives are: www.whitepages.com and www.Pipl.com

Recommended Free Downloads for Genealogy Research:

1. Google Earth
2. Evernote
3. OneNote (from Microsoft)
4. Free podcasts from Genealogy Gems website

Creative Ways to distribute your family history

- Upload your old movies or videos to [Youtube](#)
- Locate or post photos of relatives to [DeadFred](#).
- Make a [custom collage of your favorite family photographs](#)
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Submitted by Leann Johnson

[EVERNOTE SOFTWARE](#) by *Leann Johnson (Revised August, 2016)*

Evernote is a “cloud based” message system that will record your messages, insert graphics and include voice recordings. According to Lisa Louise Cooke, Evernote has a powerful search box and OCR is applied to all image notes making them searchable. Evernote will allow you to clip and store items found on the Internet, and to create lists of contacts, to do lists and projects. It can be used with multiple devices including your mobile devices.

The basic package is FREE to download at <https://evernote.com/pricing/>, but Cooke recommends the “Plus” edition if you need additional features. Cyndi’s List has excellent tutorials and advice on how to use the program. There are also some great tips and tricks and templates genealogists can use at <http://www.cyndislist.com/evernote/> and <http://www.cyndislist.com/evernote/templates/>

Have you used Findmypast?

[Findmypast](#) is now offering a beginning researcher subscription price of \$34.95 for a year. This site offers the family historian access to over 2.9 billion records. The collections include an array of US and British records, which includes birth, marriage and death, travel and immigration records, US newspapers and an entire group of UK census records.

[Genealogy is all about chasing our own tale](#)