



HISTORICO

Sangamon County Historical Society Newsletter

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 9744, Springfield, IL 62791-9744, Phone: 217-525-1961, e-mail: schsoffice@gmail.com web: www.sangamonhistory.org, SangamonLink.org

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NOVEMBER 2018

Indiana-Based Researcher with Deep Family Ties to Illinois History to Share Stories November 20

When it comes to talking about the Civil War and Illinois state and local history, Indiana resident McClernand Butler Crawford has few rivals.

Crawford is the great-great-great grandson of Civil War Major General John A. McClernand, great-grandson of World War II hero Colonel McClernand Butler, and great great-great-grandson of Illinois State Treasurer and County Clerk William Butler for whom Camp Butler National Cemetery in Springfield, is named.

Crawford will talk about his illustrious family and much more, when he speaks to the Sangamon County Historical Society on Tuesday, November 20. The meeting, free and open to the public, begins at 5:30 p.m. in Carnegie Room North at the City of Springfield's Lincoln Library, 326 South Seventh Street.

Armed with photos and a wealth of information, Crawford, an amateur historian and genealogist, will focus on the personal family reminisces of the McClernand and Butler families of Springfield and the histori-

ography of the contributions to the Union War effort by John McClernand and William Butler, both of whom had personal ties to Abraham Lincoln.

Admitted to the bar in 1832, McClernand served in the Illinois House of Representatives from 1840 to

the 1860 presidential election, but was on close terms with Lincoln after the election and during the Civil War. He resigned his Congressional seat in 1861 to lead the McClernand Brigade in Illinois at the outbreak of the Civil War. He is interred at Oak Ridge Cemetery,

Born in Adair, Kentucky in 1797, Crawford's other great-great-great grandfather, William Butler, at the age of 15 during the War of 1812, carried important dispatches from the Governor of Kentucky to General William Henry Harrison in the field. He later became deputy of the Circuit Clerk for Adair County where he met Lincoln's future law partner, Stephen T. Logan, who would become his life-long friend.

In 1828, Butler moved to Sangamon County and was appointed Clerk of the Circuit Court by then Judge Logan in 1836, a position he held until he resigned in 1841. He was appointed by Governor Bissell as State Treasurer in 1859, to fill a vacancy and elected to the same office in 1860 for two years

(Continued on page 9)



ALL IN THE FAMILY: Famous military figures and Lincoln associates shape the family history of McClernand Butler Crawford (right) who will share the results and photos of his ancestral research with the Society on Tuesday, November 20.

1843 and in the United States House of Representatives from 1843 to 1851, returning to fill a vacancy in 1858, McClernand supported the campaign of his friend, Stephen Douglas, in

resigned in 1841. He was appointed by Governor Bissell as State Treasurer in 1859, to fill a vacancy and elected to the same office in 1860 for two years

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*Annual
Membership
Roster*



PAGES 5-8



Membership Roster Defines Our Continued Growth

Publication of our membership roster—historically each November—is always an out-of-sync challenge, since our membership year runs from June 1 to May 31, but so be it. The greatest benefits are that it gives us a chance to see what direction our membership is taking and offers an opportunity to change course in mid-year if need be.

Fortunately, our numbers keep going up and is driven—our members tell us—by the quality and diversity of our monthly programs, tours and special events. I'll buy into that, but only if we can credit our committee members and board who work at making what we do successful. Case in point: the recent Oak Ridge Cemetery walk, whose chair, Mary Alice Davis, skillfully led a team of over four dozen members addressing virtually every element of the event.

Look for Mary Alice to repeat her achievement, not only with next year's walk (which we suspect she's already thinking about) but also our coming Trivia Night on Saturday, March 23. I'll wager that will be a hit, too. You might want to circle that date on your calendar now.

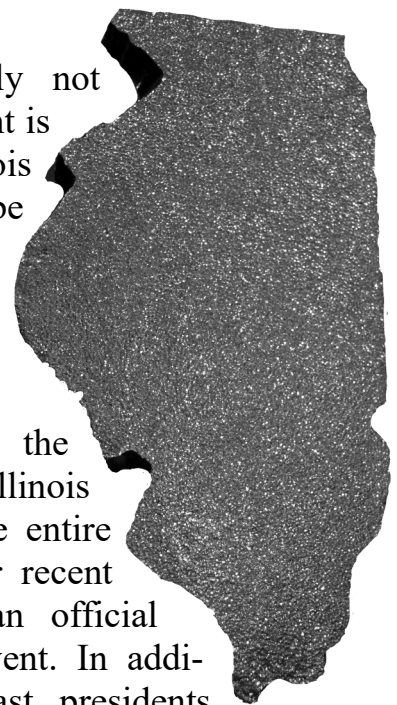
It may be called Trivia, but it's an important event for the Society, one that needs your support either by putting together a table of 10

players, identifying potential round sponsors, or just rolling up your sleeves and offering to help before, during, and/or after the event.

The profit from this, our single fundraiser, provides the underpinnings for our annual Special Project Grant awards that financially support historically significant local projects. In January, you'll learn more about how you can help!

Last, but certainly not least, the photo at right is of our sparkling Illinois tree-topper that will be on display from November 17-25 at Memorial's 2018 Festival of Trees.

Our tree salutes the 200th anniversary of Illinois statehood as does the entire Festival that like our recent cemetery walk, is an official State Bicentennial event. In addition, one of our past presidents, Kathryn Harris, is the honorary chair of this year's event whose proceeds benefit regional health care. Don't miss seeing it!



Vicky Whitaker



Historico, published 10 times a year (except July & December), is the official bulletin for members of the Sangamon County Historical Society. *Winner, Certificate of Excellence, Illinois State Historical Society.*

You can download back issues of **Historico** in PDF format by going to our website, www.sangamohistory.org or sancohis.org. Send event announcements to historicoeditor@gmail.com.
Vicky Whitaker, **Historico** Editor, Photos by Kathy Dehen, Larry Stone

December 11

It's November! Time to Sign Up for the Society's Annual Holiday Party

With November here, can December be far behind? Not for Sangamon County Historical Society members looking forward to our annual holiday party on Tuesday, December 11.

Reservations and payment can be made on line at our website at sangamonhistory.org or by filling out the form on page 11 and mailing it with your check. All reservations and payment must be received no later than Tuesday, November 27.

As last year, the party will run from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Springfield area home of Roger and Vicky Whitaker. Party-goers will be able to choose from a selection of hors d'oeuvres and desserts, accompanied by wine, soda or water.

Tickets are \$29 for members, \$34 for non-member guests of members.

Cemetery Walk Draws Over 600 Visitors, Planning for 2019 Walk to Begin Next May

The weather was a bit cool, the skies grey, but that didn't stop a record crowd turning out for the Sangamon County Historical Society's annual Oak Ridge Cemetery Walk, *Echoes of Yesterday*, on Sunday, October 14.

"We were a little concerned because of the rains a few days earlier," admitted Cemetery Walk chair Mary Alice Davis, "but Mother Nature once again came through for us." Over 600 visitors took the free tour, stepping aboard

Directions to the Whitaker residence will be e-mailed or sent directly to ticket purchasers on request.

"We had an excellent turn-out last

**Reservation form on page 11
or pay on-line at
sangamonhistory.org**

**Deadline: Tuesday,
November 27.**



year and anticipate another this year," said event co-chair Mary Alice Davis. "We have been fortunate over the years to be able to celebrate the holidays in informal settings conducive to conversation, music, and good cheer! This year should be no exception."

buses to the first stop, then walking to six other burial sites to see and listen to Dennis Rendleman portray Lincoln's first law partner, John Todd Stuart (1807-1895); Roni Betts who detailed the life of civic leader Martha Hicklin (1838-1922), Lincoln Colored Home board member and treasurer and a member of the Illinois State Historical Society and the Illinois Colored His-

(Continued on page 9)



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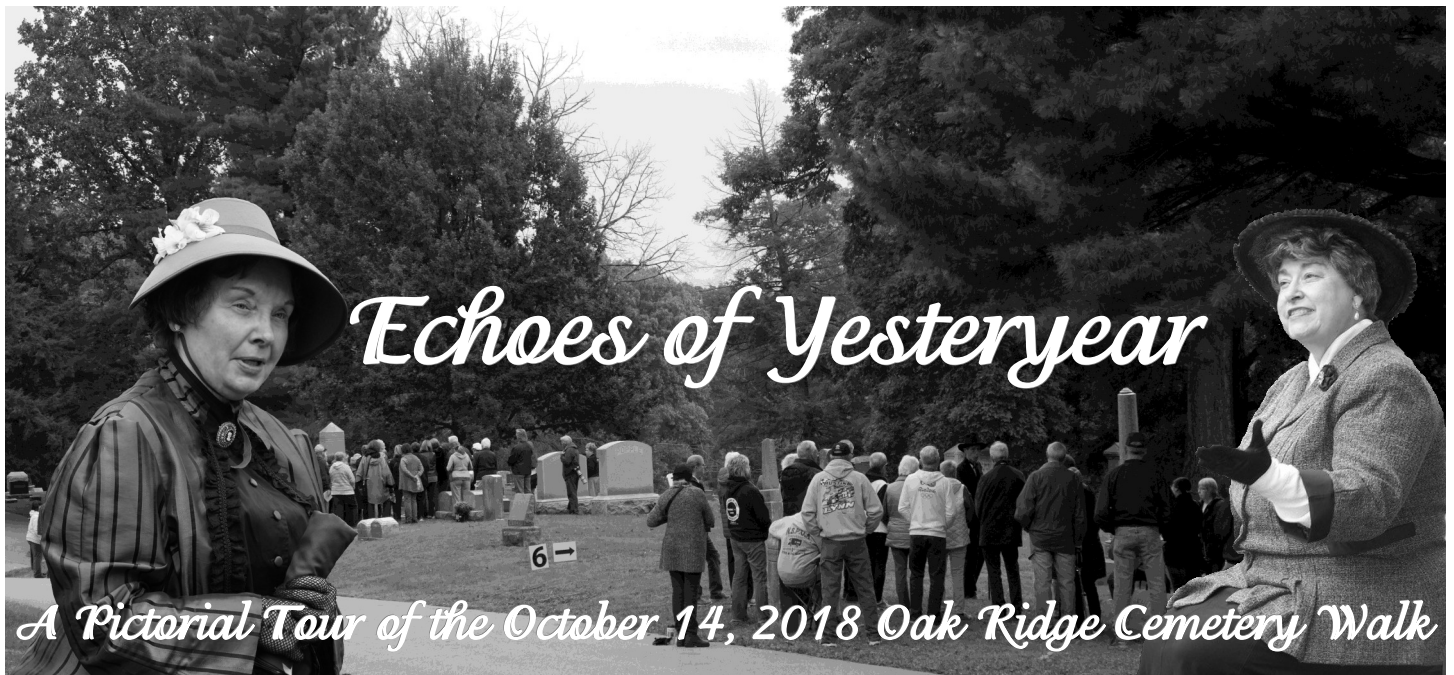
Please make note of our official mailing address:

SCHS
Box 9744
Springfield, Illinois,
62791-9744

NOVEMBER 2018 MEMBERSHIP & DONOR REPORT

The Society is pleased to welcome new members Mark Flotow, Linda Flotow, Tom Gillespie, Hal Perkins, and Mary Perkins.

...And expresses appreciation of a donation to the Society from Marion Leach.



CAPTURING HISTORY: Armed with custom scripts, reenactors gave participants in the the Society's annual Oak Ridge Cemetery Walk insight into the people who shaped local, county and state history. This year's cast consisted of (top, left) Mary Disler as Catharine Lindsay, (top right) Linda Schneider as Catharine Bergen Jones. At center (from left) Dennis Darling as John Broadwell, Roni Betts as Martha Hicklin, Tracy Petro as Aunt Carrie Post, and Dennis Rendleman as John Todd Stuart. At right, Pat Foster as John Kelley. Read more about the Walk on starting on page 3.

Photos by Lee Milner and Kathy Dehen,





Annual Membership Roster 2018-2019

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Nadine Ferguson
Bette Franke
F. Sheplor Franke
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Farrell Gay
Karen Graff
Donald R. Graham
Patricia Kienzler Graham
Marilyn Hall
Perry Hall
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Paula S. Myers
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Mikki Buhl
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Kathryn Cartwright
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Cathy Caughlin
Gloria Claussen
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Nell Clay
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Debra Coe
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Mark Collebrusco
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Betsy Cornelius
James Cornelius
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Janet Faulk
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Mark Flotow
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Patrick Foster
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Ruth Ann Fraker
Galen Furry
Paula Furry
William Furry
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Margaret Gaedtka
Lance Garrison
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Joseph George
Kathleen George
Mike George
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Karen Gietl
Zach Gietl
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Margaux Green
Martha Green
Thomas Green
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Richard Herndon
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Margiet Palmatier
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Sandy Pecori
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Taylor Pensoneau
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Kathryn Rem

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Linda Rodenburg
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Sara Ross
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Steven Rowoldt
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Terri Runions
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Richard Saal
Jan Sables
Roger Sables
Bob Sablotny
Patricia Sabo
Richard Sabo,
Paul Sangster
Don Schaefer
Mary Schaefer
Sue Scherer
Christopher Schnell
Don Schneider
Linda Schneider
Steven Schroll
David Schultz
Edward Schultz
Kathy Schultz
Sharon Diane Senalik
Larry Senalik
Matthew Senalik
William Shannon
Irv Smith
Jerry Smith
Kay Smith
Greg Smith
Shelia M. Smith
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Thomas Spada
Katie Spindell
Pam Springer
Shirley Springer
Francie Staggs
Jan Staggs



Annual Membership Roster 2018-2019

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Karen Thompson
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Linda Tinkham
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Ron Tucker
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Deborah Usherwood
Gary Vitale
Roberta E. Volkmann
Jolen Vollmer
Charlene Vollmer
John Vollmer
Andy Volpert
Judy Wagenblast
Anita Walbaum
Robert Walbaum
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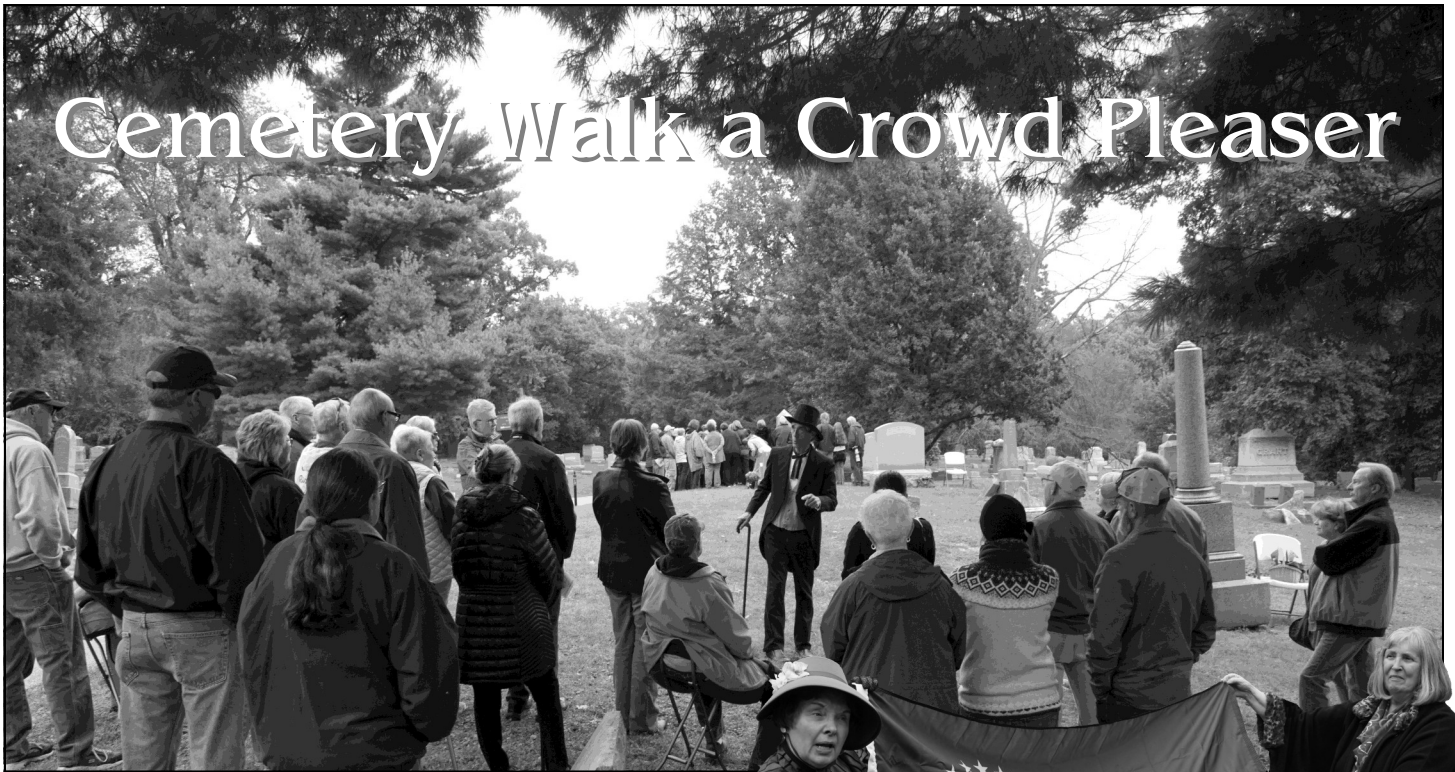
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Chatham Railroad Museum
Rochester Public Library
Riverton Village Library
Sherman Public Library
Tri City Library
West Sangamon Public Library
Williamsville Public Library & Museum
Clayville Historic Site
GAR Memorial Museum

Historic Marbold Farmstead Association
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Illinois Supreme Court Historic
Preservation Commission
Illinois State Historical Society
Illinois State Military Museum
Kings Daughters Organization
Lincoln Home National Historic Site
Macon County History Museum
Mr. Lincoln's Hometown Civil War
Round Table
Oak Ridge Cemetery Board of Managers
Oak Ridge Cemetery Foundation
Pleasant Plains Historical Society
Rochester Historical Preservation Society
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War,
Department of Illinois
Springfield & Central Illinois African-American
History Museum
Springfield Art Association/Historic
Edwards Place
Illinois State Fair Foundation

Cemetery Walk a Crowd Pleaser



(Continued from page 3) as Aunt Carrie (Caroline Lathrop) Post (1824-1914) for whom the King's Daughters Home in Springfield was named; Mary Disseler as Catharine Frazee Lindsay (1848-1922), mother of poet Vachel Lindsay; and Dennis Darling as Moses Broadwell (1764-1827), founder of Clayville.

Davis worked with a committee of some 50 volunteers that handled everything from script writing to costume design to directing

Tour goers also heard Pat Foster speak as John Kelley (1783-1823), the first settler of Springfield; Tracy Petro

as Aunt Carrie (Caroline Lathrop) Post (1824-1914) for whom the King's Daughters Home in Springfield was named; Mary Disseler as Catharine Frazee Lindsay (1848-1922), mother of poet Vachel Lindsay; and Dennis Darling as Moses Broadwell (1764-1827), founder of Clayville.



FLAG BEARERS

Mary Disseler (left) who portrayed Catharine Lindsay, gets a hand from SCHS vice-president Angie Weiss (right) in showing Cemetery Walk visitors a reproduction of the winning city flag designed by S.T. Wallace in 1917 in a contest conceived by Lindsay's famous son, poet Vachel Lindsay.

Lee Milner photos

costume design to directing

effort," said Davis, in not-

ing that that work will begin in May on next year's event.

November 20 Speaker's Roots Entwined With Illinois History

(Continued from page 1)

and served in the cabinet of Governor Richard Yates. Before Abraham Lincoln became a leader in political life of the nation or even the state, Butler became a friend of the struggling young lawyer, giving him a home with his own family when he came to Springfield. Lincoln remained a member of the household until the day of his marriage to Mary Todd.

Crawford's great-grandfather, Springfield native McClernand Butler, died at age 91 in 2001 and is buried at Oak Ridge. During World War II,

395th Infantry, led by Butler, occupied the area around Höfen, Germany on the border with Belgium. Inflicting disproportionate casualties on the Germans, it was one of the only units that did not give ground during the famed Battle of the Bulge, limiting the success of the German offensive.

Colonel Butler was awarded the Silver Star, a Distinguished Unit Citation, the French *Croix de Guerre*, the Belgian *Fourragère*, the Belgian *Ordre de la Couronne*, the Bronze Star Medal and the Oak Leaf Cluster. Pro-

moted to lieutenant colonel, he remained in the Army until 1946 and returned to Army service during the Korean War.

Crawford, his great-grandson, is a commercial banker and lives in Carmel, Indiana with his two teenage children. He is member of several hereditary societies including Order of the Indian Wars of the United States, of which he is a past National Commander and the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States of which he is past Indiana State Commander.



TRANSIT PAST: Society members and guests got a visual look back at transportation systems like the city trolley (above) that evolved in Springfield and Sangamon County over the last 200 years, in an October 16 powerpoint presentation on the history of transportation researched and assembled by speaker Ernie Slottag (right) at the city of Springfield's Lincoln Library. The presentation was part of the Springfield Bicentennial Town Hall Lecture Series. *Kathy Dehen photo*

2019 to Bring Mix of History Tours, Talks and Trivia

It won't be too long before 2018 slips off the calendar and 2019 makes its bow. The Society is ready for it, with a line-up of programs and special events earmarked from January through May, the end of our fiscal year.

We'll hold our annual dinner meeting in June, as usual, then take a summer hiatus till September when we return with a bevy of programs and activities bound to keep our members active.

As you may have noted on page 3 of this issue, the Society will be holding its annual holiday gathering on Tuesday, December 11, a week earlier and in place of what would be our normal program meeting day. We do that each year so as not to put a crimp in individual holiday shopping and entertaining demands that tend to become more acute as the season progresses. Also, the next issue of *Historico* will come your way in late December-early January.

Here's a look on what's coming up as we enter 2019:

Tuesday, January 15: Members-Only Tour: Historic Edwards Place 2nd Floor Renovation. Society member Sarah Adams, who earlier this year became curator of collections and interpretation at the Springfield Art Association's historic Edwards Place, will talk about the challenging task involved in restoring the second floor of Italianate-style house, one of the oldest in Springfield.

Tuesday, February, 19: Lost & Found: A First Look at Newly Discovered early photos of the Illinois State Fair. Tom Fitch, president, Illinois State Fair Foundation & Museum, will be our guest when the Society returns to its usual meeting place, Carnegie Room North at the city of Springfield's Lincoln Library starting at 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 23: Annual Trivia Night. We'll be

back in the Parish Hall at Christ the King Church in Springfield, for another round of what has become one of the most popular "must-do" activities for trivia fans across the county and beyond. If you'd like to be part of the committee that runs this major event, now's the time to contact chair Mary Alice Davis at schsoffice@gmail.com. It's a busy night and extra hands are always welcome. Proceeds benefit the Society's Special Projects Grant fund.

Tuesday, April 16: Harvesting History: University of Illinois History prof Devin Hunter and some of his students will do a show-and-tell on the results of their 2018 History Harvest that put much of the political memorabilia previously tucked in a draw or in the back of your closet, on public display via the internet. The History Harvest, held on October 13, was the second time the University's history department

has participated in this nationwide effort that allows the public to place their political artifacts in the historical record digitally, for free. You can see its earlier effort in 2016, on line at uishistharv1.uis.edu, a first for Illinois. The 2018 effort, billed "Being Illinoisan," sought photos, letters, documents that connected individuals and families to recent or past state history that, as in 2016, were photographed or scanned for inclusion in the online archive and exhibit.

Tuesday, May 21: Governor's Mansion Panel and Tour. The date is set but the arrangements are still tentative for a program focusing on the history and architectural and material challenges involved in the recent renovation of the Governor's Mansion as told by those who were integral in making it happen.

Tuesday, June 18: Annual Meeting and Dinner.



Annual SCHS Holiday Party

Mail In Reservation Form

Please fill out and mail in this form with your check for the Tuesday, December 11, Annual Sangamon County Historical Society Holiday Party or register and pay on-line at sangamonhistory.org. The party runs from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the home of Roger and Vicky Whitaker. Tickets are \$29 per person for members, \$34 for non-member guests of members. Checks should be made payable to SCHS and be received by Tuesday, November 27. Please indicate if you need directions to the Whitaker residence by mail or e-mail.

Your Name:

Other SCHS members covered by your reservation/payment: (Please print)

Names of your non-member guests: (Please print)

Amount of Your Check: _____ Phone _____

Please send driving directions by Regular Mail e-mail to _____

Make checks payable to and mail this form to SCHS, Box 9744, Springfield, 62791-9744. Payment must be received by November 27.

On the Calendar

Tuesday, November 20: A Veteran's Legacy: the McClellands in Springfield, 5:30 p.m., Carnegie Room North, City of Springfield's Lincoln Library. Free. *For more information, see story, page 1.*

Friday, November 9: "Against the Tide: Illinois College and Abolition," encore presentation at 7 p.m. at the Governor's Mansion in Springfield of a play by SCHS member-Tara McClellan McAndrew dramatizing the earliest days of Illinois College at the fore of the rising tide of the abolition movement. (You can catch performances at the college's Sibert Theatre in Jacksonville through November 4). Tickets are \$10 per person. For reservations and information, call 245-3471 or see www.ic.edu/theatre/tickets.

Friday, November 9 through Sunday, November 11: Edwards Place Fall Play. Letters and stories from Civil War era writers is packaged into short vignettes with music

performances from the period written and directed by Will Barnhart. Performances Friday & Saturday are at 7:30 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Springfield Art Association's Historic Edwards Place, 700 North Fourth Street, Springfield. Tickets are \$20 per person, \$15 for SAA members. For information see collections@springfieldart.org or call 217-523-2631

Tuesday, December 11 Annual SCHS Holiday Party, 5:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. For information see page 3.

Saturday, December 8: Victorian Christmas Tea, 2 p.m. at Historic Edwards Place, Learn about 19th century holiday traditions and practices over tasty tea and delectable desserts along with carols and holiday stories, 700 North Fourth Street, Springfield. Tickets are \$20 per person, \$15 for SAA members. For information see collections@springfieldart.org or call 217-523-2631

Sangamon County Historical Society

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Sangamon County Historical Society MEMBERSHIP/MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL Form

Mail this form with your check to the Sangamon County Historical Society, Box 9744, Springfield, IL 62791-9744. You may also join or renew on line by going to sangamonhistory.org. Our membership year runs from June 1 to May 31. All memberships — except Business/Corporate and college/university students — cover adults and children 16 and over at the same address. Be sure to include their names.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone: _____

Cell: _____ E-mail: _____



Status

___ New Member

___ Renewal

___ 2018-2019 GIFT of Membership from:

Phone _____

2018-2019 Membership Levels

Except for business and college/university student membership, all levels listed below cover adults and children 16 and over *living at the same address*. **Please list their names in the space below.**

- Regular Membership - \$30
- Pioneer Level - \$100
- Trailblazer Level - \$500
- College/University Student (individual) -\$20.
- Settlers Level - \$250
- Lifetime Membership - \$700 (one time fee)

I am adding a donation of \$ _____.

Business /Corporate Membership - \$200