Fall 2011

Cornsilk

The Quarterly Magazine of

The DeKalb County Historical - Genealogical Society

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Officers of the 105th Illinois Infantry

DeKalb County men made up six of the ten companies of the 105th Regiment Illinois Infantry Volunteers. Field staff shown left to right, seated: Everell Dutton, Henry Vallette, Daniel Dustin, Horace Potter, Alfred Waterman; standing, Daniel Chapman, Timothy Wells, David Chandler, George Beggs. The Sycamore GAR post was named in honor of regimental surgeon Horace Potter, killed in battle in Georgia on June 2, 1864. In 1881 the newly formed Sons of Union Veterans camp was named in honor of Everell Dutton.

Courtesy Joiner History Room

. . . more Civil War tributes inside

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DeKalb County Historical-Genealogical Society meetings are usually held the second Wednesday of the month at Oak Crest Little Theater, 2944 Greenwood Acres Dr., DeKalb, 7:00 p.m.

Events of interest around the county . . .

Oct 2 Sycamore History Museum, Elmwood Heritage Cemetery Walk, 1 pm, Elmwood Cemetery, $5

Oct. 3 DeKalb Area Women's Center, Domestic Violence Awareness Vigil, 6:30 pm

Oct. 8 DCAHSM quarterly meeting, 9:30 a.m. Glidden Homestead, 921 W. Lincoln, DeKalb

Oct. 12 DCHGS meeting, 7 pm; program TBA

Oct. 15 Sycamore History Museum, Exhibit Grand Opening: "Manufacturing in Sycamore," 1-4 pm

Nov. 6 Glidden Homestead 150th Anniversary Celebration, noon-4, includes blacksmith demonstrations.

Nov. 6 Glidden Homestead. Barbed wire sites bus tour, 2-4 pm. Reservations required, $10.

Nov. 16 Kirkland Historical Society, 309 S. 5th (Olson Chapel), 7 pm; program TBA

Nov. 19 DeKalb Area Women's Center, Winter Coat Drive Distribution, 10-2

Nov. 20 Glidden Homestead Holiday Antique Toy and Doll Show, noon-4 pm; blacksmith demonstrations.

Dec. 2-3 DeKalb Area Women's Center, Holiday Shopping Fair; Fri. 6-9, Sat 9-4

Cornsilk is published by the DeKalb County Historical - Genealogical Society in the months of March, June, September, and December. The deadline for submission of information is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Send submissions to: Marcia Wilson, *Cornsilk*, 433 S. California St., Sycamore, Illinois 60178; or mwilson25@tbcnet.com. **Back issues are available for $5.00 plus $1.00 shipping each. See order form, page 19.**

A Tribute to DeKalb County Historian PHYLLIS I. (HORTON) KELLEY 1924-2011

DeKalb County Historian Phyllis (Horton) Kelley, 87, of DeKalb, passed away Sunday, July 3, 2011, at the DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center.

Phyllis moved to DeKalb in 1956 with her husband, Lewis Kelley, and two daughters. It was the year of DeKalb's Centennial celebration, and Phyllis's interest in the history of her new home took root.

In the late 1960s, her insatiable curiosity and love of history led Phyllis to begin researching her own ancestors and those of her husband. She began a quest of traveling to cemeteries, courthouses, archives, and libraries, and interviewing relatives. She treasured every new find. Eventually, she began writing her own memoirs.

Phyllis became a founding member of the Genealogical Society of DeKalb County. She served as a board member and president, presented programs, and headed up the GSDC's project of copying and publishing the tombstone records of over 60 county cemeteries.

After working at Kroger grocery stores for twenty years, Phyllis landed her dream job. DeKalb County Clerk Terry Desmond employed her in 1979 to inventory, organize, and index the large collection of old records long hidden away in the courthouse basement. Desmond was delighted to find someone who had already spent years reading old handwritten documents. Her work with county records was instrumental in the genealogy society's 1981 publication *Naturalization Records of DeKalb County Illinois, 1852-1908.* The Illinois State Genealogical Society recognized her work with a certificate "for outstanding and meritorious service.…" When she retired from the County Clerk's office in 1984, the DeKalb County Board presented Phyllis with a certificate of appreciation for her services in the preservation of the county's historical documents. Little did they know she was just getting started!

Phyllis was involved in planning the county's 1987 sesquicentennial celebration. In her favorite role, as a teacher of history, she shared her knowledge of DeKalb County's 150-year history. She presented nearly 200 programs, lectures, slide shows, classes, and radio interviews on a variety of topics, along with a series of newspaper articles, between 1984 and 2001. She particularly enjoyed ten years of teaching Elderhostel classes at Stronghold in Oregon, Illinois. Her favorite topics included newspaper research and memoir writing.

On April 19, 1989, Phyllis was officially given the title "DeKalb County Historian" by the DeKalb County Board. After this appointment she went right to work, with Marian Anderson at her side, establishing the Joiner History Room in a small space set aside in the basement of the newly renovated DeKalb County courthouse. The initial collection of official county records was expanded through donations of documents, photos, and other records. The JHR soon outgrew its space, and it was moved to the original Carnegie Library section of the newly expanded Sycamore Public Library in 1998. This work was Phyllis's passion, and she continued to be excited about every new find and every success in providing just the right photo and piece of information for everyone who requested help. She was able to continue that work until just a few weeks before her passing.

Civil War 150th Anniversary, 1861-2011

Reflections of the Civil War

An interesting bit of Civil War trivia has to do with the names given some of the battles. The Federal Army named them after water facilities in the area; the Confederates named them after land junctions. Bays, creeks, lakes and such were nothing new to the Southern boys, but urban landmarks were novel to them. It points up differences between the urban North and the rural South. For example, Shiloh Meeting House and Pittsburg Landing are one and the same battle. So are Sharpsburg (a town) and Antietam (a creek); Manassas (a town) and Bull Run (a river).

- *Twigs and Branches*, June 1991
North Central Gen. Soc., Rockford, IL

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It was just 40 years ago that A. Barney, of Sycamore, with many others was released from the rebel prison at Florence, S.C. He was a prisoner six months. When captured he weighed 205 pounds and when released he weighed 85 pounds and could not walk without assistance.

- *Sycamore True Republican*, Nov. 30, 1904
40 Years Ago column

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The old soldiers from Sycamore who attended the reunion of the 105th Regt. Illinois Volunteers last Friday report it one of the most enjoyable and interesting occasions of the kind ever. General Dustin delivered a rousing address and some correspondence was read between the general and a southerner. The latter wanted the return to them of a southern flag captured by General Dustin's regiment during the war. It was agreed that they would be pleased to grant a favor if courteously asked, but that they would never be ordered by anyone, even the President, to surrender a trophy so dearly won.

- *Sycamore True Republican*, Sept. 7, 1887

The 17th Illinois Cavalry, a company of which was from DeKalb County, became involved in a mutiny at Lawrence, Kan.

- *Sycamore True Republican*, Sept. 23, 1905
40 Years Ago column

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We were hungry as usual. It was New Year's day, 1863. A group of us were sitting around the campfire playing cards on a drum-head … thinking of the folks up home enjoying the day with dinners which included everything the heart could desire.… But just then an old sow with seven or eight nice, roasting pigs, came rooting along in the leaves … We had for our New Year's dinner a fine roasted pig, sweet potatoes, hardtack and coffee.

- *Sycamore True Republican*, Mar 31, 1917
"Sketches of Camp Life" by William A. Cougle

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[GAR] Potter Post No. 12 was formed in Sycamore in 1868 with 85 members.

- *Sycamore True Republican*, June 26, 1878

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The Potter Post has just finished a collection of photographs of all its members. They were taken by Sycamore photographer M.F. Carlson. Seventy-seven photos are grouped in a 4 x 7 foot frame ... The photos were originally displayed in the DeKalb County Court House, in the Post's third- floor meeting room. After the last old veteran died, the photos were given to the Sycamore Library. They were reframed and put on the wall in the rotunda. In 1998 the pictures were given to the Joiner History Room archives.

- *Sycamore True Republican*, June 4, 1892 and
County Historian Phyllis Kelley, Aug. 2002
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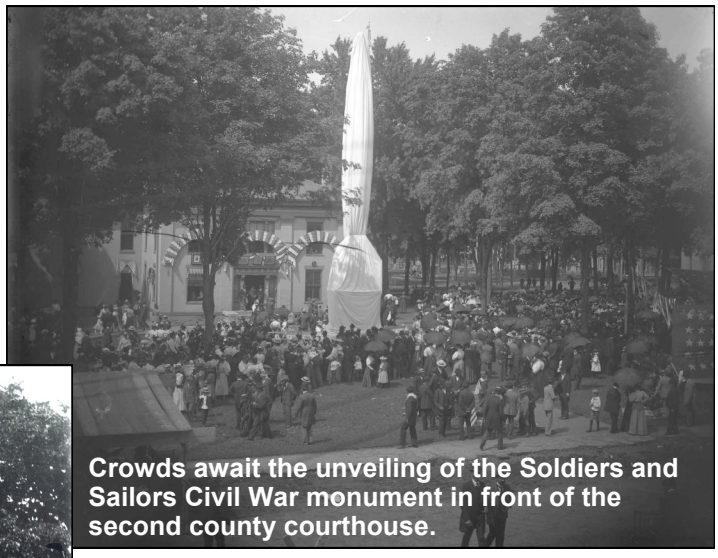
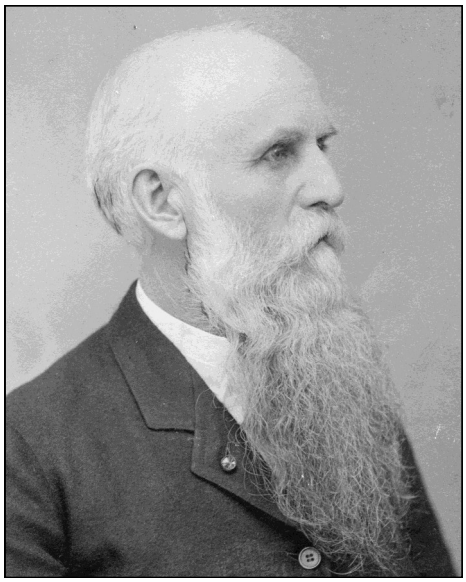
During the Civil War DeKalb County had furnished the Union Army with over 2,000 men.... In 1895, the GAR Potter's Post endorsed the establishment of a monument in honor of the DeKalb County Civil War dead. The Board of Supervisors voted to approve the project and appropriate funds…. When the Post learned the War Dept. had discarded many surplus cannon barrels and was offering them free of charge



Crowds await the unveiling of the Soldiers and Sailors Civil War monument in front of the second county courthouse.

to any GAR post, they applied. Two cannons were received from the arsenal on Governor's Island, New York. When the cannon barrels arrived, Mr. Bollinger of Sycamore, a cabinet maker, built the carriages. During WWII the cannons were dismantled and used for scrap metal to help the war effort.

-Excerpted from *DeKalb County Sesquicentennial Tab*, July 15, 1987



The Sons of Union Veterans camp was chartered in 1881 and named after General Everell F. Dutton (left) of the 105th Illinois Infantry. Members posed c. 1897 at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument at the DeKalb County Courthouse wearing their ancestor's uniforms. A son of Sycamore's first black resident, Henry Beard, stands third from the left. *All photos courtesy of the Joiner History Room*

Civil War 150th Anniversary, 1861-2011

Local Sons of Union Veterans Camp Re-chartered

It is fitting that this year, the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War, the local Sons of Union Veterans organization has been re-chartered. The General Everell F. Dutton Camp No. 49 covers the counties of DeKalb, LaSalle, and Ogle. Originally chartered in 1881, the Dutton Camp was an active organization until the mid-1930s when it became dormant.

The Congressionally chartered Sons of the Union Veterans fraternal organization was established to preserve Civil War history, replace and repair headstones on the graves of Union veterans, to offer descendants a way to perpetuate the memory of their ancestors, and to teach patriotism and the duties of citizenship.

General Everell Dutton served with the 105th Illinois Infantry from DeKalb County and is buried in Elmwood Cemetery in Sycamore. After his military service he founded the National Bank and Trust Company in Sycamore.

Sycamore residents and local historians Tom Oestreicher and Jim Lyon were instrumental in having the local camp re-chartered during the Sons' National Encampment in Reston, Virginia, in August. Camp 49 is one of nine Sons of Union Veterans camps in Illinois.

The new camp will meet the third Wednesday of every month at Federated Church, 612 W. State, Sycamore, most appropriately in Dutton Hall, named for the general.

Union Army Recipe for Homemade Liquor

Bark juice
Tar-water
Turpentine
Brown sugar
Lamp oil
Alcohol

Three types of memberships are available:

- Descendant (having a direct ancestor who served)
- Associate (general interest in the Civil War)
- Junior (under the age of 14)

One of the first tasks of the renewed camp will be to obtain headstones from the U.S. Bureau of Monuments for two Civil War veterans buried in Fairview Cemetery, DeKalb, who do not have proper tombstones. Activities the camp may undertake are: other Civil War grave site maintenance, participation in local veterans affairs, promoting the camp, recruitment, and attending events like the Lincoln Tomb Observance in April, military balls, and Memorial Day services.

Men interested in more information can contact Jim Lyon at 815-895-6735 or Tom Oestreicher at 815-895-2576.

Hardtack

A rock-hard biscuit, best eaten when dunked in chicory coffee.

- Use one part water to six parts flour
- Roll dough flat and score into cracker shapes
- Bake 20-25 minutes and cool until completely dry before storing in canisters.

The crackers should be hard as bricks and indestructibly unappetizing.

DeKalb County Corn Picking Contest Winner of 1939

by Mary Smith Marshall, 2003

Mary Smith, Champion Lady Corn Picker of 1939

Being a city gal born around World War I, farm life wasn't considered by my family until hard times hit home and our country. In 1927, Dad received a pension for disability, causing him to give up his job after 30 years of service in the American Steel and Wire Company. The crash of 1929 caused my uncle to get the family farm back. My parents purchased the farm with inheritance money they didn't lose when most banks closed. They would at least have something to eat on the farm.

In 1931, we left all the comforts of the city life in DeKalb, Illinois, and moved to a farm having no electricity, no furnace, and water we had to run outside for. We adjusted very well growing nine kinds of fruits, a vegetable garden, dairy products, chickens, pork, and eggs, also used to purchase the staples. With hard work, determination, and help from above, we did well during the Depression years in the 1930s.

I continued my education and won 4-H county and state honors in clothing and cooking while my parents put together a dairy and the equipment to farm the land, including two horses and a Farmal F20 tractor. Farm life on the 160 acres gave me a little experience in just about everything both inside and out.

Corn husking started in October after the spring and summer work was finished and the corn was dry enough to crib. Picking corn for seven weeks took a lot of determination, endurance, and strength to keep going day after day and as quickly as possible to avoid bad winter weather.

With breakfast over, horses fed, and milking done, daily we cleaned the stalls, brushed, harnessed, watered the two horses and headed to the corn field with the horses pulling a triple wagon box with a 4- or 6-foot bang board on one side to make the ears of corn drop into the wagon box as they were thrown at the bang board.

To open the fields three rows were picked at leisure and gathered up later from the ground with the team and wagon. This was done to keep the horses away from the corn while we were husking as they straddled the middle row. Back and forth we went day after day, Dad with his wrist hook and me with a straight pin that fit in the palm of my hand, with a leather strap connected to each end with three loops for fingers that went over the back of my hand. Grabbing the ear with my left hand, I opened the husk with my pin, got my hand to the ear, and with a quick upper twist motion out came the ear and into the wagon hitting the bang board. Some distance away neighbors could hear the bang bang.

Frosty mornings meant cold, wet gloves. My gloves were the small lined ones, but men used the double thumb gloves to get twice the wear, speed, and thoroughness. Good aim makes for a successful hand corn picker.

One day as I stopped the horses to line up to the corn crib I fell head-first between the horse's tail and the evener. Thank goodness the smart horses

never moved or it would have been curtains for me. Back on the wagon I went and into the crib with the load, unhitching horses that headed straight to the water tank, then to the barn to be unharnessed and fed. At quitting time Dad unloaded the corn by hand while I tended to the milking.

At the start of my second year of husking, I entered the DeKalb County Corn Husking Contest for men and women to be held October 23, 1939, on the Wright farm near Kirkland.

One afternoon when my folks went to town with the team and wagon, I husked two rows down and one row back in a field one-half mile long, just for speed. My uncle had my pin so sharp it couldn't miss.

Not wanting my folks to see me make a fool of myself on contest day, I drove to the Farm Bureau in DeKalb and explained that I entered their contest but had no idea how to get there.

"Oh, we'll take you," was their reply. In the field, competing against six other gals, we were soon all lined up and signaled to go. Being like a race, horses all fired up, my first nine ears went over the wagon, which my two gleaners gathered. Away I went with regularity ending up with a total of 9.17 bushels in 40 minutes with 11 lbs. of gleanings that included the first nine ears that went over the wagon, with not enough husks to hurt. I became the DeKalb County Champion Lady Corn Picker, making the headlines of the *DeKalb Chronicle* plus pictures and write-ups.

Alva Baxter of Kirkland won for the men, picking 31.06 bushels in 80 minutes. It takes a lot of stamina but it's a thrill, especially to win.

The best prize of all was my close neighbor, Art Marshall—we were soon married and lived on Jericho Road in Big Rock for 34 years before retiring to the place where I started farming 64 years ago in 1931.

Being the only female to sign up for the contest the next year, ended my run.

Husking corn by hand was already on the way out. Hybrid seed corn and mechanical corn pickers were on the market, which farmers adapted to in no time at all.

One time we had a mechanical corn picker pick about 10 acres of our non-hybrid corn. The picker left so much in the field that Dad and I gleaned from Christmas until New Years in the snow.

Another time we planted a bag of hybrid corn that we picked by hand. My wrist hurt so bad that I said if any more of *that* seed was planted again, they could pick it all themselves.

Hybrid seed corn was bred for mechanical corn pickers so the corn hangs better on the stalk for cleaner fields, as it does for mechanical combines today.

Looking back to all the changes, God has blessed our beautiful America.

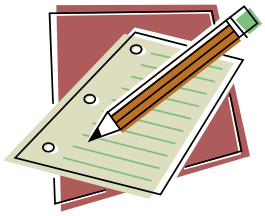
[Mary Smith Marshall passed away on June 7, 2011, at the age of 92. Memoir reprinted with permission of the family.]

Writing Your Memoirs: Where Do I Start?

Have you thought about writing your memoirs but don't quite know where to begin or what to include? An outline with these topics was used by Mary Smith Marshall. Maybe it will get you started!

- Name, including maiden: Who were you named after, or how did you get your name? What would have been your name had you been born the opposite sex?
- Where you were born: Town? Hospital or location?

- Describe the homes you have lived in, where they were located, ages you lived there
- What family members do you resemble? What family personality traits do you have?
- Schools attended; favorite and least liked subjects; type of dress
- Ethnic heritage
- Religion: Memories of going to church, your church family, religious events
- About your parents, grandparents, in-laws: Personality traits, occupations, favorite pastimes, where they lived, when they were born and died, memorable activities you did with them
- Memories of other family members, i.e. aunts, uncles, cousins
- Some important lessons learned from parents or others
- Adolescent memories: activities outside of school, learning to drive, friends, fads, hairdos, fashion, dances



- Dating memories
- Finding "the one": How you met, memories of courtship, the marriage proposal
- Describe your wedding and honeymoon; what memorable wedding gifts did you receive?
- Memories of your children and the child-rearing years
- States and places you have visited; how you traveled; why you visited each location
- Favorites: TV show, actors, season, foods (to eat, to cook), color, flower, trip, times
- Family pets
- Your hobbies and collections
- National and world events during your lifetime: How did you feel about them? How did they affect you/your family?
- Biggest: events; scares of your life; hurdles you have overcome; achievement
- Describe the person/people you most admire and why
- What kinds of adventures would you still like to have?
- What things are still on your bucket/to-do list?

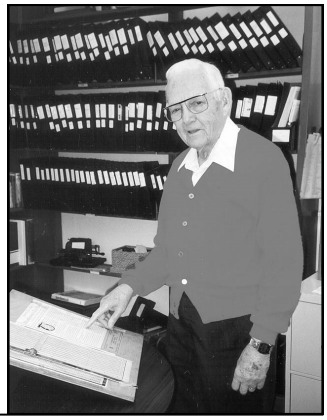
You can use paper and pen, an audio recorder, or a computer … just get started!

When you are done, give copies to:

⇒ family members

⇒ local historical society, archive, or library

Memoirs of County Clerk Ralph Joiner
Part IV: Operations of the Clerk's Office



Ralph Joiner served as DeKalb County Clerk from 1954 to 1974. Ralph died on November 8, 2008, at the age of 94. This is the last of a four-part series reprinted from his column "Recollections" published in the Joiner Room Journal *from March 2000 to May 2007.*

Elections

One of the main duties of the county clerk is to be in charge of all primary and general elections; his duties being the preparation and printing of the ballots and delivering the supplies and ballots to all of the 46 precincts (in 1954) and making official results known (79 precincts in 1998).

In the days before permanent registration, there was a registration day in each precinct. On registration day people were to go to the place designated to write their name in a book provided. If a person failed to register on this day, the register would be in the polling place on Election Day and if the judges approved their right to register, they could also vote that day.

Permanent registration began in 1942. This required every person to register to vote, and the original card and duplicate were to become permanent as long as they were residents of the county. If a person moved within the county, it was the duty of the voter to notify the county clerk and his original cards were thus marked. The original cards were designed to record a person's vote until the year 2001. Each time a voter voted, his record was marked with an "R" or "D" in a primary election and with an "X" if voting in a general or special election. My original registration is still in the precinct binder as I have only lived at three addresses all of my life. I have moved only one time since 1942.

Permanent registration is not without its problems. A few people feel they cannot be denied their right to vote. If they failed to change their address, they might try to go back to their old address and vote. If they would do this, they would have to declare under oath they lived at the old address. When advised by the judges that they might be in trouble, they would give up their right to vote but go away very disgruntled.

It is a big responsibility for the clerk to supervise all the hundreds of details such as publishing notices, printing ballots, etc. There are some thirty different articles in the election code. The "Election Law" book that was in force during my last year as clerk in 1974 was 5 inches by 8 inches and 1 inch thick.

Two election pages that were unusual remain indelibly impressed in my memory. In 1964 the Legislature failed to reapportion the State for representative districts. Therefore, all candidates had to run "at large." This meant that there were 177 names on the ballot. This was nicknamed "The Bedsheet Ballot." After the ballots were printed, a few candidates died or were removed for other reasons. The decision was that these names had to be removed and people named to replace them placed on the ballot. This was done by having a

rubber stamp made that blocked out the name to be deleted and stamping in the new name. This procedure had to be done on all the ballots. The ballots were always wrapped in packages of 100. The ballots then had to be re-sealed before delivering to the various precincts. The judges and clerks had a nightmare in tallying these ballots.

The presidential election of 1968 was a real bug-a-boo. It was the first time for using election machines. We worked with the printing company who provided the computer program and the new type of ballots. The day before the election I was on the phone almost all day working out *little* bugs, which later proved to be *large* bugs. When the tallies started to be made, it was discovered that certain cards were being rejected and certain officers were not receiving their full and correct count.

Democratic County Chairman Martin Dubin believed that all the ballots were incorrect and should be recounted by hand. This meant appointing special teams of equal numbers of Republicans and Democrats to go over each and every ballot to get the correct vote. The first night we worked straight through until 8:00 a.m. in the morning. Then another crew of teams worked all day Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. I don't remember how many teams worked, but we did not finish the count until Saturday at about 4:00 p.m. This did not make a bit of difference in the outcome of the election, but Mr. Dubin insisted the correct total for each candidate was necessary.

The county clerk's office was the place to be on election night. The results of each precinct were unofficially tallied on special forms as the results of each precinct were telephoned in by the judges of election or brought in if the telephone was too busy. For the public's benefit, we constructed a large board on which the results could be seen by anyone in the crowd. The newspapers and radio station usually had a desk somewhere nearby and a runner would carry the totals back to them. Giles Findlay of the *Chronicle* and Russ Pigott of WLBK were very helpful in reporting results from their contacts with some precinct judges.

It was very seldom that the total unofficial results were received until well past midnight, and on a number of elections we saw the sun come up the next day. After the official results were completed by the Canvassing Board consisting of the chairman of each major political party, the county clerk would certify the results to the State Board of Elections. As a courtesy to anyone interested in the final results, we would print a full count for each candidate precinct by precinct. We would get calls for these printouts many years after the election for political strategizing.

Presidential Elections

Every four years when a president of the United States is elected, there is a lot of extra work for the county clerk. I have previously described the many duties involved to have an election for primaries and special elections.

One of the largest problems with presidential elections is the absentee voting. This requires the voter to file an application. If qualified, the voter, whether regular, incapacitated, or student, is mailed instructions with a ballot. A vote by absentee must be returned to the clerk on or before Election Day. If received, even on Election Day, the clerk must make every attempt to deliver it to the proper voting place. Absentee ballots received after the supplies had been picked up were delivered by car on Election Day.

The clerk had to keep a list of all absentee ballots issued. This allowed precinct committeemen and others to check on who had voted and whether

their ballot had been returned. It is estimated that in some elections around a thousand persons voted absentee.

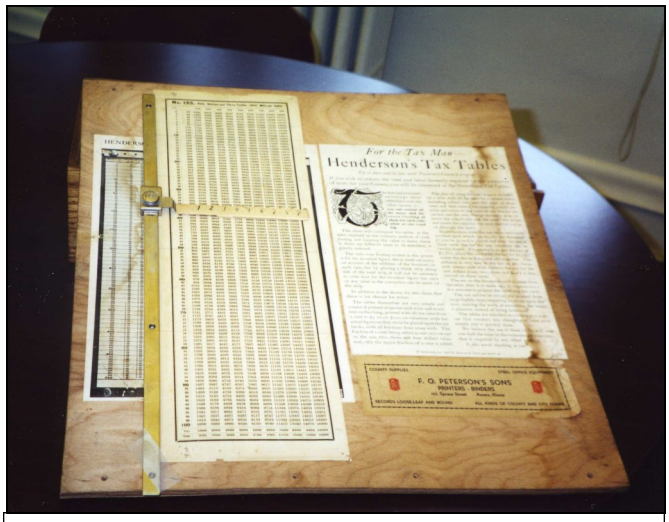
College students, in some instances, vote absentee from their own county; others insisted they could vote in the county where they attended college. In any case, wherever they voted, they had to show proof of residency.

The first year we used voting machines was in 1968, and being a presidential election, they caused a lot more work than paper ballots. The company that provided the technical knowledge did not do a good job, and consequently, the total correct count for each candidate was not determined until Saturday after the election.

Tax Extension Methods

It is soon time for the county clerk to establish tax rates for every taxing district in the county and to extend the tax on every real estate description (written March 2001). This is a long and complicated procedure.

During the time of my father's term of office, 1926-1954, and prior county clerks, the "Henderson Tax Tables" were used to extend taxes. These tables were copyrighted in 1911 by S.M. Henderson, a former clerk. These tables consisted of a plywood board 17 inches square with nine strips of fairly stiff Bristol board one inch in width. The first strip on the left was for the valuation; the next eight strips were for individual tax rates and a total tax. After the rates were ready, any tax rate needed was attached to the board along with the total tax. The operator would then place a straight edge below the value and would write in the tax for each column on the collector's sheet plus the total tax.

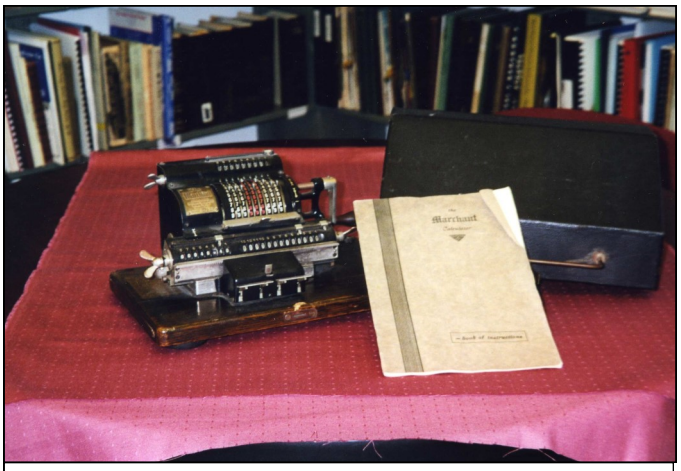


The Henderson Tax Tables, copyrighted in 1911 by former clerk S.M. Henderson, were used to establish tax rates in the early 1900s.

The plan of using the rate strips was to build up a table with all of the rates for a certain township including school rates. When there was a school district change, the only strips that had to be changed was the school rate strip and the total strip. The values of property were very low in proportion to present values.

Just a word on how the tax rate strips were made under the Henderson method. Beginning with valuation one and going through one thousand in multiples of five, every tax rate from one cent to five dollars had to be calculated. These calculations were made by using the calculator shown here. The figures then had to be typed and printed to be legible and permanent for extensive use. My father, E.W. Joiner, told me that he worked many extra hours running the calculator and typing the results. The reason for this cumbersome way of extending taxes was that every tax for a given township had to be determined and the only way to do it was to record it page by page and then an abstract made to certify it to the county collector.

After extending each page, each column had to be added and balanced. The adding had to be done the old fashioned way of adding in your head. Every page had to be balanced to prove correct extensions.



The calculator used by County Clerk Ralph Joiner is now part of the Joiner History Room collection.

With modern computes and printers it is much simpler to determine individual taxes, the total taxes for any taxing district, and certification to the collector.

Taxes

The figuring of real estate and personal property taxes, until about 1970, when I was county clerk was a complicated but challenging procedure. As I wrote in previous articles, the collector's books were all typed and proofread and took several weeks. The values of each real estate parcel were written in by hand. Each page was added and totaled. To get the final value of each township, an abstract was made. To obtain the value of taxing bodies, such as schools, parks, fire protection districts, etc. outside of cities and villages, a school sheet was made up. The value of any given district was totaled for each page and each district total transferred to the school sheet. Several of the 19 townships have more than one school district or fire protection district and overlap with other townships or even other counties. When all of the township values were determined, they were transferred to the rate book.

The rate book was a leather-bound book consisting of pages about 12-14 inches high and 24 inches wide. Each township had a separate page which showed all the taxing districts and the breakdown of the township levies as well as the many units that make up a city or village levy. In addition to the local assessed values, the department of revenue of the state certified values for railroads, telephone and telegraph, and capital stock, which were added to the local values to determine the total value of any given township and all other types of districts within that township.

When all values were obtained, the county clerk determined the total tax rate for every taxing unit. Tax rates were limited by several factors: state law, voted limits, exceeding the actual levy certified, etc. On bond levies the clerk checked each one to know the amount to be paid off each year. After all the rates were determined, the office extended the individual taxes on every real estate listed and personal property owners. After all taxes were extended, the clerk certified to the county treasurer the amounts to be collected for each taxing district.

Going back a little, the county treasurer's office had to type all the tax bills, including the legal description. Each bill had to be proofread for accuracy. The treasurer mailed the bills and collected all taxes. As a thought for the "railport" discussion, the railroads do pay a hefty tax. In fact, to be able to protect their interests, they had special tax experts come every year and check all budgets, levies, filing dates missed, or any other violation that may provide information for a viable tax objection. They do get their taxes reduced on technical reasons after being heard by the courts.

It will be interesting to see how the many "cell towers," now appearing all over the county, will

be taxed and amounts collected. As a means of comparison on the total taxes extended in 1954, the amount was $4,436,214.49. In 1999 it was $99,123,126.91. My real estate tax for 1954 was $137.32; for 1999 it is $3,456.328. As I have said before, "Oh, for the good old days," but only in a very few respects.

County Warrants

Immediately following a board of supervisors meeting, the county clerk issued County Warrants for all claims approved by the board. The warrants were all hand written and signed by the county clerk or one of his deputies and were delivered to the county treasurer who countersigned them. The warrants were put through a check protector to avoid changing any figure. Later a newer check protector was used which allowed the clerk's and treasurer's signatures to be embossed on the warrants to save time in signing.

The County Warrant Register was a bound leather-covered book. I always insisted on "Byron-Weston" paper to ensure durability of the record and also if some figure, etc. needed to be corrected, the paper would be heavy enough to make the correction without messing up the record.

The pages of the warrant register were designed with columns to show the number, the payee, the budget item for which the warrant was issued, and when the warrant was canceled. The county budget consisted of a variety of different designations.

The county treasurer also had to keep a record of all warrants and keep posted the proper budget item. Each month the treasurer made up a list of all warrants received from the bank as having been paid. The returned warrants and a list and an adding machine tape was given to the clerk.

The clerk then had to post the date each one was marked off the record in the warrant register. We used a rubber stamp marked "Canceled" and a date stamp. This operation took three employees, as one read the number and amount from the treasurer's list and stamped the date and the other did the stamping of the cancellation.

Each six months, the treasurer's statements and our records had to be reconciled to show that each budget item was posted correctly. This also showed the amount expended in each category and what balance remained in the account.

The clerk was authorized to issue warrants on demand for items such as fox bounties, postage, hauling trash, utility bills, etc. after a request for payment was received.

The county did not have an auditor in those days, and a private auditor was hired to verify that all things were in order.

Fox Bounties

In the early days of the county, cash bounties were paid on certain predators, including wolves, fox, and sparrows. Fox were a menace that could take out a whole flock of a farmer's chickens.

Fox bounties were paid for many years in DeKalb County. The amount paid for each fox varied from three dollars to seven dollars. At one time, when seven dollars per head was the going rate and other surrounding counties were paying less, it was thought that foxes from other counties were brought here for the higher bounty. To stop this practice, a hunter would have to take his hides to the township supervisor who would verify the foxes were killed in his township. This did not set well, because the hunter had to find the

(Continued on page 15)

Museum Corner

Featuring
DeKalb Area Agricultural Heritage Association

The DeKalb Area Agricultural Heritage Association, Inc. (DAAHA) is a dynamic, newly formed organization dedicated to collecting, preserving, and sharing with people of all ages the storied history of agriculture and its innovators in northern Illinois. DAAHA recently received status as an Illinois Not-for-Profit Corporation and is a federal 501(c)3 tax exempt entity.

The association is an outgrowth of the DeKalb Ag Alumni organization but its focus will go beyond the story of "the Ag." From its current home at the Nehring Gallery in downtown DeKalb, DAAHA will share the story of other agricultural innovators that have grown out of the DeKalb area. In addition, plans are being developed for taking this impressive story to a much larger audience, including the next generation, via traveling exhibits, educational programs, and a virtual museum website.

Jennifer Abplanalp, Curator/Educator (left) and Elizabeth Horoszko, Collections Intern

Because it is in its infancy DeKalb Area Agricultural Heritage Association, Inc. must develop a strong membership base for ongoing financial and operational support of activities and programs. Other major sources of financial support that DAAHA will rely upon include grant requests, establishment of an endowment fund for major contributions and for planned gifts, and corporate sponsorships from various companies and organizations that have common interest in telling this story.

Curator and intern positions have been established, largely funded by grants from Monsanto and the DeKalb County Community Foundation. Jennifer Abplanalp, the museum's new curator and educator, has a background in archeology and will develop educational programs and assist with fundraising, grant writing, and website development

Elizabeth Horoszko, collections intern for the next six months, is working to catalog all of the new materials that have been donated to the museum.

The name of the museum is still being determined. The museum was closed this summer for exhibit changes and reopened in mid-September.

Membership dues are $50 yearly or a lifetime membership is $1,000. Becoming a member will ensure that you are among the first to hear about progress of the organization.

Anyone interested in contributing to the museum's historical agriculture collection or making a monetary donation can call 815-757-5959. ♦

DeKalb Area Agricultural Heritage Association
111 S. Second Street
Suite 204
DeKalb, IL 60115
815-757-5959

DeKalb County Association of Historical Societies and Museums

The DCAHSM, a division of DCHGS, is made up of representatives of museums and historical societies within DeKalb County. The public is welcome at all meetings and activities. Representatives of historical groups within the county are encouraged to attend quarterly meetings.

Minutes of the Meeting, July 9, 2011

by Marcia Wilson

The meeting opened at the Sycamore History Museum with 14 present. Chair Sandy Lyon asked for a moment of silence in honor of DeKalb County Historian Phyllis Kelley who died July 3. The chair welcomed representatives from two organizations who joined us for the first time, Hinckley Historical Society and Regional History Center at NIU.

Announcements: Greetings from Betty and Ivan Prall were relayed by Dave Woodin. Pralls hope to rejoin us soon. DeKalb Twp. has eliminated the part-time cemetery position held by Steve Bigolin.

Old Sycamore Depot: The depot on DeKalb Avenue is being restored. An NIU grad student has been hired through a grant from the Roberts Family Foundation to research the history of the building. It will be rented out as commercial space by the city.

The former Isaac Ellwood home, across from the DeKalb Library, has been demolished. The library will expand. Anna Marie Coveny potted heritage lily of the valley and offered it to some museums. She replanted a bridle wreath at DAWC. She also received permission to remove a metal sign left by a chiropractor who lived there after the Ellwoods.

Nonprofit Day: DCCF and NIU are offering a series of free workshops for nonprofits on July 27.

Reports: Hinckley Historical Society is open in downtown Hinckley on Saturdays 10-2. / **Regional History Center** is gearing up for Archives Month in October. / **SLR Museum** building campaign still in progress. President Nancy Partridge is finalizing her book on the Shabbona area. / **Sycamore History Museum**: Steve Bigolin is doing downtown and historic district walks on Sundays. Elmwood Cemetery walk Oct 2. Have new junior docent program that staffs Family Fun Days. Brown Bag lunches first Thurs of each month. / **DAWC** has genealogy exhibit thru July; Aug. is artist displaying creative wedding gowns; Lincoln Hwy. Byway garage sale in Aug.; Oct. domestic violence month candlelight vigil; Nov. free coat giveaway; Dec. holiday shopping fair. / **Malta Hist. Soc.** was not able to become a senior services center because of nonaccessibility to handicapped. The program has been established in the Village Hall. / **Glidden Homestead** opened new Welcome Center in May; obtained Past Perfect software with Roberts Family Fnd. grant; blacksmith demos 2 Sundays/mo; open Tuesdays. / **Kirkland** is active and doing great programs.

DCCF is formalizing a nonprofit consortium that will provide: 1) dedicated computers for funding sources with volunteers to help guide and 2) programs. Next grant deadline is Sept 1. Deanna Cada is always happy to preview grants and make recommendations before submission.

Leadership: Ada Gallagher of the Shabbona-Lee-Rollo Museum has agreed to serve as the 2011-2012 DCAHSM chair. Sandy Lyon will serve as interim secretary until another volunteer comes forward.

Next Meeting: Saturday, October 9, 2011, 9:30 a.m., Joseph Glidden Homestead & Historical Center, DeKalb.

*(***Ralph Joiner** *continued from page 12)*
supervisor and then make another trip to the courthouse to collect the bounty.

In some instances the hunter would bring in twenty or thirty hides at a time. At one time the bounty was changed to pay four dollars for a pup and several dollars for a full-grown fox. The determining factor for a pup and full-grown fox was their weight; four pounds and under being a pup.

To identify that a fox was not brought in more than one time, a hole was made in the right ear with a leather punch. This hole was not very noticeable so later a half-inch triangle piece of the right ear was cut out.

I recall two unusual situations where fox bounties were paid. One time a person made an affidavit that he had a litter of eight or nine foxes. When asked to bring them in, he said they were still alive in a gunny sack in the back of his pickup. When he was informed that they must be dead, he proceeded to knock each one in the head with a tire iron. Another time a large litter was brought in, still so small and wet that it was not discernable if they were foxes or some other type of small animal. A township supervisor was in the building and said that if the person who brought them in signed an affidavit they were foxes dug out of their hole, the bounty should be paid.

The bounty was paid immediately by the clerk, issuing a county warrant and countersigned by the county treasurer.

My father, E.W. Joiner, county clerk (1926-1954), remembered that at one time a wolf bounty was established but that only one warrant was ever issued. ♦

Update on County History

Book Project

by Kate Schott

A title has been chosen for the new book to be produced by the DeKalb County Historical-Genealogical Society. *Acres of Change: A history of DeKalb County, Illinois 1963-2012, A sequel to From Oxen to Jets* will chronicle changes and development in the county during the past fifty years. The book committee, which consists of the chapter authors and editor Kate Schott, voted on the title at the August meeting.

Authors continue to work on the thirteen chapters that will be in the book, which are agriculture, arts and entertainment, county/local government, education, industry, law, libraries, media, medicine, religion, service organizations, technology, landmarks and museums, and profiles of the county's nineteen townships. First drafts were turned in this summer to Schott, who provided feedback to chapter authors as she finished her first read.

The society entered into a contract this summer with the Evansville, Indiana-based M.T. Publishing, who also published the society's 2006 *Rural School Journeys: A Legacy of Learning*. The book is scheduled to be 304 pages, in color, with dust jacket. The finished product will be ready by the Sandwich Fair in 2013.

The committee is looking into the possibility of making the 1963 history *From Oxen to Jets* available separately on DVD.

Sponsorship levels and how sponsors will be displayed in the book are also being determined. The group meets monthly at 7 a.m. on the third Thursday of the month at the law office of Klein, Stoddard, Buck, Waller & Lewis in Sycamore. ♦

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May 16, 2011-August 15, 2011

compiled by Norma Coleman and Kristy Gravlin

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LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	DEATH DATE	RESIDED IN	DATE OF ISSUE	
Adams	Wayne T.	52	5/30/2011	Kingston IL	6/3/2011	
Aden	Velma Eiben	81	7/25/2011	Blue Spring NE/Sandwich IL	8/2/2011	VFP
Adkinson	John Ray	60	5/3/2011	Florence AZ	5/21/2011	
Albrecht	Brenda N. Ferguson	64	5/19/2011	Rochelle IL	5/24/2011	
Allen	Douglas W.	33	5/31/2011	DeKalb IL	6/2/2011	
Allen	Maxine Rose Tanser	88	7/19/2011	Earlville IL/Sandwich IL	7/21/2011	ABN
Ament	Geraldine E. (Mrs.)	89	3/3/2011	Sandwich IL/Minnesota	6/9/2011	ABN
Askeland	C. Jeanette Winterton	97	7/22/2011	Rochelle IL	7/23/2011	
Askelson	Edna Mae Kohler	94	5/12/2011	Waterman IL	5/18/2011	
Aves	Kenneth A.	90	7/8/2011	Kingston IL	7/11/2011	
Bahmer	Mildred V. Cline	97	7/4/2011	DeKalb IL	7/9/2011	
Baird	Robert Lester	68	8/7/2011	DeKalb IL	8/8/2011	
Barrett	Kristin Ann	26	8/3/2011	Waterman IL	8/6/2011	
Baxter	Gary	52	6/2/2011	Aurora IL	6/6/2011	
Belnap	Helena M. Danielsen	102	6/8/2011	DeKalb IL	6/11/2011	
Birbilas	Matthew Ryan	26	7/1/2011	Maple Park IL	7/5/2011	
Birch	Dorothy D. Westphall	89	8/2/2011	Paris MO	8/6/2011	
Bourge	Ana M. Gorordo	65	7/1/2011	Sycamore IL	7/4/2011	
Boyd	Marcia J. Hess	60	6/20/2011	DeKalb IL	6/23/2011	
Bray	Donald Wesley	72	7/4/2011	Sycamore IL	7/6/2011	
Brown	William R. Jr.	67	6/28/2011	Rochelle IL	6/30/2011	
Brown	Donald T. III	28	7/14/2011	Sycamore IL	7/25/2011	
Brown	Betty L. Castenson	79	7/27/2011	Sycamore IL	7/29/2011	
Brown	Betty Jean Franzen	80	5/29/2011	Wickerburg AZ	6/11/3011	
Brue	Marion	76	7/9/2011	Sandwich IL/ Plano IL	7/11/2011	ABN
Bryer	Frances A. Fruin	99	7/5/2011	Franklin Grove	8/6/2011	
Bunnell	Justin Paul	35	6/12/2011	Rockford IL	6/15/2011	
Burson	Douglas R.	66	5/31/2011	Hinckley IL	6/2/2011	
Byrd	Gary W.	58	7/24/2011	Maple Park IL	7/26/2011	
Carlson	Patricia A. Sohne	73	7/4/2011	DeKalb IL	7/25/2011	
Carroll	Eugene Thomas	81	5/27/2011	Genoa IL	6/1/2011	
Case	John A.	63	7/12/2011	Malta IL	7/14/2011	
Chapman	Brenda S. Garrett	60	6/22/2011	Kirkland IL	6/24/2011	
Chesnutt	William	75	5/22/2011	Sycamore IL/Yorkville IL	5/23/2011	ABN
Christensen	Robert Edward	79	7/20/2011	Sandwich IL	7/24/2011	ABN
Christensen	Emogene R. Fields	92	5/23/2011	Plato Center	5/26/2011	
Clapper	Lonnie Edward	61	6/22/2011	Somonauk IL/Plano IL	6/24/2011	ABN
Cornish	Cynthia Thomas	65	5/25/2011	FL	6/2/2011	
Cullison	Harold Frank "Cully"	77	6/25/2011	Cortland IL	7/9/2011	
Danekas	Wilfred E., Jr.	80	6/23/2011	Rochelle IL/ Hinckley IL	6/24/2011	ABN
Davidson	Ernest Sinclair	28	5/12/2011	Aurora IL/DeKalb IL	5/17/2011	ABN
Davis	Arvel R. "Ozzie"	89	1/29/2011	Sycamore IL	5/17/2011	
Dean	Zia Irie "La La"		5/26/2011	DeKalb IL	6/10/2011	
Deutsch	Betty L. Sauber	86	5/29/2011	North Aurora	5/31/2011	
DeVliegher	Alberta N. "Moeken"	92	6/12/2011	Cortland IL	6/17/2011	
Diehl	Elmer G.	90	6/2/2011	Maple Park IL	6/4/2011	
Diveley	David John	58	5/19/2011	Hinckley IL	5/22/2011	ABN
Dugan	Mary Alice Barrett	85	6/26/2011	Sycamore IL	6/29/2011	
Edwards	Arnold R.	88	8/7/2011	Sycamore IL	8/10/2011	
Eisenberg	Scotty R.	47	6/20/2011	Sandwich IL	6/21/2011	ABN
Erickson	June M. Karge	86	7/9/2011	DeKalb IL	7/12/2011	
Fanning	John	75	7/2/2011	Fort Meyers FL	7/6/2011	
Felbinger	Evelyn A. Vavra	91	7/2/2011	Sycamore IL	7/6/2011	
Ferguson	Elisabeth Herkens Schmidt Sachs	81	6/29/2011	Peoria IL/Sandwich IL	7/12/2011	ABN
Flinn	Robert A., M.D.	76	6/22/2011	Somonauk IL/Peoria IL	6/7/2011	VFP
Fox	Leroy Harold	78	7/9/2011	Sandwich IL	7/11/2011	ABN
Francis	Alexander	61	5/30/2011	Hinckley IL	6/3/2011	ABN
Fraunberg	James H.	77	7/12/2011	Maple Park IL	7/19/2011	
Gallagher	T. Jordan (judge)	63	6/25/2011	DeKalb IL/Sycamore IL	6/28/2011	ABN
Galvin	Nellie B.Larsen	54	5/28/2011	Birchwood WI	6/2/2011	
Ganzer	Stella Glick Moade	89	7/15/2011	DeKalb IL	7/20/2011	
Geisen	Mark F.	38	6/6/2011	Maple Park IL	6/10/2011	
Gephard	Donald C.	86	5/12/2011	Aurora IL	5/17/2011	
Goulding	Lola Lois Hilborn	86	7/12/2011	Lewisville NC	7/29/2011	
Gustafson	Larry	55	8/11/2011	Cordova IL	8/15/2011	
Halverson	William	64	5/18/2011	Genoa IL	5/19/2011	
Hart	Elzabeth M. Rumpza	90	5/12/2011	DeKalb IL	5/16/2011	
Harto	Roland W.	84	6/21/2011	Sycamore IL	5/23/2011	
Hayes	Vincent A.	88	7/27/2011	DeKalb IL	7/29/2011	
Hernandez	Justin W.	27	8/3/2011	DeKalb IL	8/6/2011	
Hill	Mary Margaret Quinn	70	6/22/2011	Genoa IL	6/25/2011	
Hinkle	Troy Charles	34	6/6/2011	DeKalb IL	6/9/2011	
Hipps	Luke	80	5/18/2011	Cortland IL	5/19/2011	
Hogan	Georgiana A. Schloemer	68	5/25/2011	Chicago IL/Sandwich IL	6/7/2011	VFP
Hoy	Grace M. Conrad	93	6/18/2011	DeKalb IL	6/21/2011	

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LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	DEATH DATE	RESIDED IN	DATE OF ISSUE	
Hudson	Donald R.	86	7/11/2011	Las Vegas	8/10/2011	
Hunley	Mervin W.	83	6/24/2011	Aurora IL/Sandwich IL	6/26/2011	ABN
Jackson	Donna Mae Wisted	81	7/24/2011	DeKalb IL	7/26/2011	
Johnson	Charlotte A. Burkum	69	6/29/2011	Soldiers Grove WI/Sandwich IL	7/12/2011	VFP
Jungels	Cletus "Mick"	92	5/20/2011	Lemont	5/27/2011	
Kamm	Gayle A. Kline	81	5/9/2011	Sycamore IL	5/16/2011	
Kaster	Walter R.	69	8/6/2011	DeKalb IL	8/8/2011	
Kelley	Phyllis I. Horton	87	7/3/2011	DeKalb IL	7/7/2011	
Kelley	Kenneth G.	87	7/7/2011	Sycamore IL	7/12/2011	
Kempfer	Marie B. Vales	92	7/29/2011	Rockford IL	8/1/2011	
Killey	Arthur G.	97	7/17/2011	Somonauk IL/Sandwich IL	7/20/2011	ABN
Kittleson	Margaret E. Harris	83	7/21/2011	DeKalb IL	7/22/2011	
Klasing	Lester J. Jr.	87	6/16/2011	Sycamore IL	6/18/2011	
Lagan	John Thomas	64	6/20/2011	DeKalb IL	6/23/2011	
Lake	Ann Osman	89	6/19/2011	Rollo	6/22/2011	
Land	Kathleen Pool	96	8/10/2011	DeKalb IL	8/13/2011	
Lange	Cassidy H. Langone	35	5/30/2011	Chicago IL	6/2/2011	
Larsen	Delbert	86	5/20/2011	DeKalb IL	5/26/2011	
Larson	Terry L.	70	5/17/2011	Sandwich, IL/Newark IL	5/19/2011	ABN
Larson	Warren Charles	87	7/10/2011	DeKalb IL	7/13/2011	
Lawler	Patricia A.	69	5/21/2011	Sycamore IL	5/23/2011	
Layman	Richard L.	68	6/15/2011	Aurora IL/Hinckley IL	6/17/2011	ABN
Leady	Amanda	19	6/30/2011	Genoa IL	7/4/2011	
Leifheit	Alma E. Jump	92	7/25/2011	Rollo IL/Sandwich IL	7/27/2011	ABN
Lindahl	Stanley W.	64	7/5/2011	DeKalb IL	7/7/2011	
Lindus	Barbara E. Elliott	80	7/12/2011	DeKalb IL	7/15/2011	
Loew	Margret F. Ford	49	7/3/2011	Cary IL	7/7/2011	
Luepkes	Betty L. Greenhow	83	8/3/2011	Kirkland IL	8/5/2011	
Lutz	Margaret E. Kopp	87	7/10/2011	DeKalb IL	7/13/2011	
Luxem	James Robert Jr.	68	6/5/2011	DeKalb IL	6/9/2011	
Malsy	Ingeborg	76	8/8/2011	Cole Camp MO	8/11/2011	
Marshall	Mary Emily Smith	92	6/7/2011	DeKalb IL	6/15/2011	
Marshall	R. Mason	93	6/19/2011	Monticello IA	6/22/2011	
Marx	Marvin Y.	94	7/7/2011	Genoa IL	7/11/2011	
Matson	Janet Eloise Gould	69	5/29/2011	Morgan	6/2/2011	
McKay	Carmen Inez Phillips	69	8/5/2011	Kingston IL	8/6/2011	
McMillan	Sean Paul	38	6/8/2011	Kirkland IL	6/11/2011	
Meyers	Linda L. Brown	70	6/27/2011	DeKalb IL	6/28/2011	
Middleton	Gertrude M. Rohrer	95	6/18/2011	Sandwich IL/Somonauk IL	6/19/2011	ABN
Miller	Ward L. Sr.	97	11/21/2010	DeKalb IL	6/25/2011	
Miller	Murray C. "Hank"	88	7/12/2011	Elburn IL	7/21/2011	
Mogler	Lucy Susanne Butt	88	7/25/2011	Sycamore IL	7/27/2011	
Muellman	Marlynn Hughes	84	8/7/2011	DeKalb IL	8/10/2011	
Mullvain	Lois B. Underwood	74	5/21/2011	Genoa IL	5/25/2011	
Najera	Barbara J. Baker	67	5/19/2011	Sycamore IL	5/21/2011	
Nelson	Frances L. Blue	76	6/17/2011	Sycamore IL	6/21/2011	
Neuendorf	Arthur	94	7/12/2011	Rhinelander WI	7/16/2011	
Newman	Maxine E. Kietzman	87	5/19/2011	Hoopeston	5/23/2011	
Niewold	Geraldine C. Larson	90	7/10/2011	Sycamore IL	7/13/2011	
Noren	Annette G.	94	4/27/2011	DeKalb IL	7/26/2011	
O'Bryan	Edward P.	95	6/17/2011	Sterling	6/20/2011	
Oleson	Thelma Humpherys	83	7/5/2011	DeKalb IL	7/8/2011	
Oliver	Margarira	90	5/18/2011	Pherr TX	6/7/2011	
Olson	Allen L.	65	6/23/2011	Bristol IL/Sandwich IL	6/26/2011	ABN
Olson	Dorothy E. Carlson	87	7/30/2011	Clare IL	8/4/2011	
Palmer	Lorna A. DeSautel	65	7/9/2011	Genoa IL	7/12/2011	
Parish	Warren Lee "Bud"	84	5/27/2011	Big Rock IL/Sycamore IL	6/1/2011	ABN
Passow	Amelia Pinks	103	6/25/2011	Aurora IL/Somonauk IL	6/27/2011	ABN
Petersen	Bonnie Marie Haka	75	7/13/2011	Cedar Rapids IA	7/16/2011	
Piper	Betty J. Seiber	74	6/10/2011	DeKalb IL	6/13/2011	
Pivar	Joseph Jerome	91	7/20/2011	Sycamore IL	7/23/2011	
Plenger	Robert Eugene	53	6/8/2011	Sycamore IL	6/9/2011	
Plenger	Janet V. Ferguson	75	8/9/2011	Sycamore IL	8/10/2011	
Pollock	George R.	90	7/18/2011	DeKalb IL	7/20/2011	
Poore	Heather Ann	17	5/28/2011	Elgin IL/Somonauk IL	6/1/2011	ABN
Powell	Rita T. Cohen	82	7/9/2011	DeKalb IL	8/8/2011	
Prothero	Janna T.	74	8/9/2011	DeKalb IL	8/13/2011	
Quenett	Doris Louise Olson	87	8/8/2011	Genoa IL	8/10/2011	
Quitno	Michael Andrew	20	5/21/2011	Sycamore IL	5/26/2011	
Radovic	Veronica Brown	22	6/4/2011	DeKalb IL	6/7/2011	
Read	Janet E. Eiermann	50	8/3/2011	DeKalb IL	8/5/2011	
Reeve	Percy L.	88	7/8/2011	Hinckley IL/Plano IL	7/10/2011	ABN
Reints	Kenneth Eugene	67	5/30/2011	Peoria IL	6/2/2011	
Reynolds	Donald E.	81	7/15/2011	Sandwich IL/Montgomery IL	7/19/2011	ABN
Richardson	Freida M. Perrine	77	5/12/2011	Belvidere IL	5/16/2011	

DeKalb County Quarterly Obituaries

May 16, 2011-August 15, 2011

compiled by Norma Coleman and Kristy Gravlin

ISSUE KEY

ABN = AURORA BEACON NEWS
DMH = DIETERLE MEMORIAL HOME, MONTGOMERY
KCR = KENDALL COUNTY RECORD
SR = SANDWICH RECORD
TEF = TURNER EICHNER FUNERAL HOME ONLINE
VFP = VALLEY FREE PRESS
NONE = DEKALB DAILY CHRONICLE

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	DEATH DATE	RESIDED IN	DATE OF ISSUE	
Richardson	Louise Kathryn	94	5/22/2011	DeKalb IL	6/4/2011	
Riedelsperger	Mavis B. Vermeland	86	7/23/2011	Sandwich IL/Hinckley IL	8/2/2011	VFP
Riemenschneider	Brandon Daniel	31	7/14/2011	Yorkville IL/Sandwich IL	7/17/2011	ABN
Ruland	Richard "Jerry"	83	6/29/2011	DeKalb IL	7/2/2011	
Saarela	Antoinette Jiminaro	91	8/10/2011	DeKalb IL	8/11/2011	
Sasman	Margaret Gunderson	84	5/28/2011	Geneva IL	6/3/2011	
Schramer	Yvonne Scaceianoce	64	6/17/2011	DeKalb IL	6/21/2011	
Scott	Donna M. Dolan	90	5/24/2011	DeKalb IL	5/26/2011	
Senff	Robert M.	82	6/7/2011	Genoa IL	6/9/2011	
Sester	Ruth I. Dickey	94	7/14/2011	Kirkland IL	7/16/2011	
Seymour	Sam Frederick	88	6/9/2011	Cheyenne WY	7/7/2011	
Shepherd	Taylor D.	76	4/27/2011	DeKalb IL	6/16/2011	ABN
Sheppard	Glen R.	82	7/7/2011	DeKalb IL	7/9/2011	
Sheridan	Richard B.	70	6/22/2011	DeKalb IL	6/24/2011	
Sheriff	Dr. Marion Geraldine	94	6/10/2011	DeKalb IL	6/14/2011	
Shew	Carol Berkes	53	7/17/2011	Clinton IN	7/19/2011	
Shipp	Jean Ruth Lindus	90	5/31/2011	Cortland IL	6/3/2011	
Short	James H. "Jay" Jr.	63	7/15/2011	Sycamore IL	7/29/2011	
Siener	Paul R.	72	7/1/2011	Kingston IL	7/7/2011	
Silburn	Samuel George	74	7/4/2011	Earlville IL	7/6/2011	
Sinkler	Elizabeth C. Ahrens	80	7/11/2011	Plano IL/Sandwich IL	7/14/2011	KCR
Smith	Patricia Wolf	85	7/28/2011	DeKalb IL	8/3/2011	
Snider	Betty M. Hinkston	86	8/3/2011	Shabbona IL	8/5/2011	
Sparrow	Winnifred B. Brennan	91	7/10/2011	Rockford IL	7/12/2011	
Sprowls	Raymond T.	86	5/29/2011	Sandwich IL/Rantoul IL	5/31/2011	ABN
Stearns	Mary Louise Olsen	69	5/26/2011	Mason OH	6/22/2011	
Stephenson	Jennie Wright	74	6/16/2011	Columbus GA	6/18/2011	
Stone	Shirleyanne Rickman	87	6/8/2011	DeKalb IL	6/10/2011	
Taylor	Yvonne S. Hallman	54	5/22/2011	Cortland IL	5/25/2011	
Tietjen	Leona L. Huber	73	5/31/2011	Naperville IL	6/2/2011	
Tigan	Ellen Hayes "Joan"	88	6/12/2011	Rochelle IL	6/15/2011	
Tyner	John T.	85	5/20/2011	DeKalb IL	5/23/2011	
Tyrrell	Robert J.	84	6/26/2011	Sycamore IL	6/28/2011	
Van Kirk	Helen R. Happes	92	abt 8/12/2011	Aurora IL/DeKalb IL	8/14/2011	ABN
Vaughn	James Robert	52	7/18/2011	DeKalb IL	7/20/2011	
Venuso	Lydia A. Ambida	82	7/2/2011	Philippines/Somonauk IL	7/14/2011	KCR
Walker	Dr. Albert	91	6/22/2011	DeKalb IL	6/25/2011	
Wasson	Karen L. Heinbuecher	67	7/13/2011	Streator IL/Somonauk IL	7/14/2011	ABN
Watne	Alvin L. M. D.		7/31/2011	Marietta GA	8/5/2011	
Watson	Richard Clive	96	5/25/2011	Genoa IL	5/28/2011	
Watson	Jay Dee	51	7/4/2011	Malta IL	7/14/2011	
Wellander	John L.	85	6/12/2011	DeKalb IL	6/15/2011	
Westberg	Lester John	96	7/9/2011	Monticello IA	7/12/2011	
Westbrook	William Smith	85	8/4/2011	Chicago IL/Somonauk IL	8/7/2011	AB
Wheeler	LoAnn J.	69	8/6/2011	Ontario WI/Somonauk IL	8/10/2011	ABN
Whitford	Charles Wilson	95	6/10/2011	Waterman IL/Hinckley IL	6/13/2011	ABN
Whitney	June F. Schermerhorn 83		7/7/2011	Rochelle IL	7/8/2011	
Wielert	Donna M. Vincent	52	5/25/2011	Roscoe	5/28/2011	
Wildey	Patrick	63	5/17/2011	TX	6/1/2011	
Willer	Lawrence F.	56	not given	Sandwich IL	7/28/2011	ABN
Williams	Teddy F. III	51	6/25/2011	Rockford IL	6/28/2011	
Williams	James L. "J.W."	84	7/27/2011	DeKalb IL	8/2/2011	
Witt	Elizabeth	85	6/24/2011	Dixon IL	6/27/2011	
Wycoff	Barbara J. Bauerle	74	7/11/2011	Forrest	7/14/2011	
Yates	Shirley B.	90	7/3/2011	Kirkland IL	7/5/2011	
Yopst	Thomas Bradley	53	7/1/2011	Streamwood	7/6/2011	
Zbinden	Gerald W.	76	6/29/2011	Aurora IL/Waterman IL	7/12/2011	ABN

PUBLICATIONS ORDER FORM

CEMETERY BOOKS BY TOWNSHIP

Afton	7.00
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Malta	8.00
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Oakwood Cemetery, DeKalb	16.50
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Pierce	8.00
Sandwich	8.00
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Victor	7.00

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Afton	9.00	8.50	8.00
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DeKalb	16.00	19.50	
Ward 1 City			10.00
Ward 2 City			10.00
Ward 3 City			10.00
Ward 4 City			10.00
Franklin	9.00	10.50	
Genoa	9.00	10.50	
Kingston	9.00	10.50	
Malta	10.00	10.50	
Mayfield	9.00	8.50	
Milan	8.00	9.50	
Paw Paw	9.00	10.50	
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Somonauk	24.00	27.00	
South Grove	8.00	7.50	
Sycamore	22.00	32.00	
Victor	9.00	8.50	
DeKalb Co. Index	20.00	22.00	

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Atlases of DeKalb for 1871, 1892, 1905, 1929	50.00
Civil War Journals of Wilson E. Chapel	15.00
The Mark of Chief Shabbona	6.00
Prairie Farmer's Reliable Directory of Farmers & Breeders of DeKalb County, Illinois, 1917	30.00
Rural School Journeys: A Legacy of Learning	29.95
Plastic Book Cover for *Journeys*	4.00
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2009/vol. 28: Spring, Sumer, Fall, Winter
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All of the above, plus note cards with sketches of county depots and historic buildings by artist Bob Meyers, are also available from: Ron Klein, law office, 2045 Aberdeen Court Suite A, Sycamore, IL 60178. Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

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DeKalb County Historical Society, Museum, Archive & Cultural Center Resources

DeKalb
Barb City Motorcycle Museum
www.pierceh-d.com
815-756-3226

DeKalb Area Agricultural Heritage Association (at Nehring Gallery)
815-757-5959

DeKalb Area Women's Center
E-mail: dawc@niu.edu
815-758-1351

Egyptian Theater
www.egyptiantheatre.org
815-758-1215

Ellwood House Museum
www.ellwoodhouse.org
E-mail: ellwoodhouse@tbc.net
815-756-4609

Glidden Homestead & Hist. Center
(815)756-7904
www.gliddenhomestead.org
Email:
info@gliddenhomestead.org

Gurler House & Heritage Assn.
www.bios.niu.edu/gurler
815-756-4259

At NIU
Anthropology Museum
www.niu.edu/anthro_museum
815-753-0230/815-753-0246

Art Museum
www.niu.edu/artmuseum
815-753-1936

Blackwell History of Education Museum & Milan Township One-Room School
www.cedu.niu.edu/blackwell
E-mail: blackwell@niu.edu
815-753-1236/815-753-1241

Regional History Center
www.ulib.niu.edu/reghist/index.cfm
815-753-1779

Genoa
Kishwaukee Valley Heritage Society & Museum
http://dekalb.ilgenweb.net/KVHS/KVHS_homepage.htm
E-mail: kvhs@atcyber.net
815-784-5559

Hinckley
Hinckley Historical Society
www.hinckleyhistoricalsociety.com
815-286-7443

Kirkland
Kirkland Historical Society
815-522-6260

Malta
Malta Historical & Genealogical Society & Museum
http://dekalb.ilgenweb.net/MaltaHistGenSoc.htm
815-384-3481/815-825-2367

Sandwich
City Hall and Opera House
www.sandwichoperahouse.com
E-mail: operahouse@sannauk.com
815-786-2555

Stone Mill Museum & Sandwich Historical Society
www.prairienet.com/stonemill/
815-786-8141/815-786-2513

Shabbona
Shabbona-Lee-Rollo Museum
www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilslrhm/
E-mail: slrmuseum@frontier.com (general)
E-mail: slrmuseum@gmail.com (research)
Phone: 815-824-2597

Somonauk
Olmstead Memorial Museum
815-498-2417/815-228-1474

Sycamore
DeKalb County Historical - Genealogical Society
815-758-4831
www.dekalbountyhistory.net
http://dekalb.ilgenweb.net/DekCoHistSoc/DekCoHistSoc.htm

Family Search Center at LDS Church
815-895-0702

Joiner History Room
http://dekalb.ilgenweb.net/JoinerHistoryRoom/home_page.htm
E-mail: joinerhistoryroom@ dekalbcounty.org
815-895-7271

Midwest Museum of Natural History
www.mmnh.org
E-mail: guestrelations@mmnh.org
815-895-9777

North Grove School & North Grove School Assn.
www.northgroveschool.org
E-mail: info@northgroveschool.org

Sycamore History Museum
www.sycamorehistory.org
E-mail: sychist@tbc.net
815-895-5762

Waterman
Waterman Area Heritage Society & Museum
http://dekalb.ilgenweb.net/WatermanSoc.htm
815-264-7773/815-264-7717

Looking to research your Civil War ancestors?

Explore Civil War genealogy records and history at these online sites, named the Top 10 Civil War Websites by *Family Tree Magazine.*

1. Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System: www.itd.nps.gov/cwss
2. Fold3.com (formerly footnote.com)
3. Ancestry.com
4. Civil War.com
5. ehistory.osu.edu
6. Civil War Trust: www.civilwar.org
7. Nationwide Gravesite Locator: gravelocator.cem.va.gov
8. Ken Burns' "The Civil War": www.pbs.org/civilwar
9. Library of Virginia: www.lva.lib.va.us/whatwehave/mil
10. American Civil War Homepage: sunsite.utk.edu/civil-war/warweb.html

Some online sites require a subscription or fee for use. The Family Search Center at the LDS Church, 675 Fox Avenue, Sycamore, offers use of many premium sites free of charge. Their databases include:

- Access Newspaper Archive
- Alexander Street Press (Civil War DB)
- Ancestry.com
- Find My Past
- Fold3.com (military DB)
- The Genealogist
- Genline Family Finder
- Godfrey Memorial Library
- Heritage Quest Online
- Historic Map Works Library Edition
- Paper Trail
- World Vita Records
- 19th Century British Library Newspaper Digital Archive

Although hours change from time to time, currently the Family Search Center is open Tues. 11-1 & 7-9; Thurs. 7-9; 2nd & 4th

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