



# The Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois

c/o John A. Logan College, 700 Logan College Road, Carterville, IL 62918-2500

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

## NEWSLETTER

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### Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois 2015 Family History Conference

**It's not too late to register!!**

Featuring National Speaker

D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS

D. Joshua Taylor is the President of the Federation of Genealogical Societies and the Director of Family History for Findmypast.com. You might recognize him as the featured genealogist on the PBS show *Genealogy Roadshow* and NBC's *Who Do You Think You Are?*

If your registration is received by July 24, 2015, you can join us for a great lunch. If not, feel free to bring your lunch, or visit the nearby restaurants. And don't forget the Vendor Fair. So, come on! Click on this link and join us for a fun time!  
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilgssi/conf2015.html>

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### Free Genealogy Workshops Sallie Logan Library Murphysboro, IL

Whether you are just starting out on your family research quest, or have been researching your family history a while, the following sessions are for you! GSSI is happy to announce, our association with the Sallie Logan Library, to present three free genealogy workshops starting July 25.

Mr. Ed O'Day will be the main presenter and has been involved with teaching genealogy for many years. He can provide you with the tools, to help make the most of your research time.

**Session One: July 25.** Ed will be starting with the basics of Genealogy Research. Joining Ed will be Sue Wallace, speaking on Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR).

**Session Two: August 1.** Internet Research. You will be taught how to use **the Census** and the free library databases; Heritage Quest and GenealogyBank.com.

**Session Three: August 15.** Learn how to use FamilySearch.org and get answers to your general research questions.

To register contact: Loretta Broomfield, MS LIS Library Director at the Sallie Logan Public Library, Murphysboro, IL. 618-684-3271.

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## **Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois October Meeting**

**Mark and save this date: Saturday, October 10!**

GSSI will meet at the celebrated Stinson Memorial Library at 416 S. Main, Anna, Illinois. Darrel Dexter, distinguished historian and author, will present a program on the Genealogy and Biography of Robert Stinson, for whom the Library was named, at 1:30. Stinson's family history and life are a fascinating story and GSSI is pleased to offer members, and the public, this opportunity to experience one of the architectural jewels of Southern Illinois.

The distinctive library's entrance leads to a vestibule with three flights of stairs, one heading to the upper-level library and two to the lower-level auditorium. The library was designed as a single open room with bookshelves delineating the different areas within the space. The room is accentuated by decorative light fixtures and stained glass patterns. The auditorium, which features a small stage, is lit by five windows on the rear side of the building. The lower level auditorium, where GSSI will meet, is easily accessible from the rear parking lot by a side door which entails only three steps.

A tour of the historic building including the genealogical resources housed there will be provided. October colors, a popular speaker, and the unique setting will combine to make the October 10 GSSI program memorable. For further information, call Dorothy Rudoni at 618-549-0822 or 618-525-2562.

# Stonefort Railroad Depot Museum

Stonefort, IL 62987

*by Leann Johnson*

If you want to take a step back in time, but not get too far from home, take a nice, scenic drive to Stonefort, Illinois. Linda Blackman, Owner has shined up the old depot building and turned it into a museum for railroad history, hardware store, community history and genealogy

Stonefort is located on Route 45, only 14 miles from Harrisburg. If you are coming from the Marion area, take Route 166 south 3 miles east of Marion. Travel through Creal Springs and New Burnside. Take Route 45 North to Stonefort.

**Railroad History:** This Depot was part of the Cairo & Vincennes Railroad (1872). Later on it was part of the Chicago, Cleveland, Cincinnati and St. Louis line (CCC&St.L) or “the Big 4”. She has an authentic office area where the chief telegrapher/operator worked. Her collections of railroad documents, photographs, railroad equipment and railroad references are numerous and well worth viewing. She even has the original Patent for a car coupling device dated 1879. There are Illinois Central Railroad materials also.

**Hardware Store:** Her father owned the Hardware store and the building contains typical items found in a hardware store during that era.

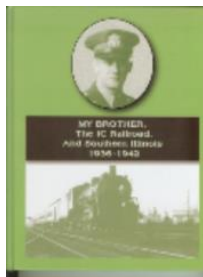
**Community History & Genealogy:** Linda Blackman had made it her mission to collect and maintain local history and genealogy on local families that resided in the Stonefort area.

**Beggs, Blackman, Camden, Craig, Damron, Gurley, Joyner, Mitchell, Oshell, Pulley, Turner,** and many other family histories are available

**Special Date!** August 29: Saturday “Railroad Day Event 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Featuring railroad speakers

For more information, please check the Stonefort Depot website:

[http://www.heritech.com/stonefort\\_depot/](http://www.heritech.com/stonefort_depot/)



## Book Review

*Submitted by Leann Johnson*

*My Brother, the IC Railroad and Southern Illinois, 1936-1942.*

By Edward L. Miller with Norbert J. Shacklette, copyright 2005.

If you ever took a train, are interested in railroads, had a relative that worked for the Illinois Central Railroad or lived in Carbondale, this is a book you should read.

The photographer, Donald H. Miller, the author's brother, had a fascination with trains. As children, when the brothers heard the train whistle in Carbondale they would race down to the station to see the train come into town.

This book is a photo album dedicated to Donald H. Miller who died in World War II. His photos document the time period 1936 to 1942. He has unique photos of steam engines including "The Daylight Special" Engine #2012.

The ICRR Green Diamond Engine debuted in 1936. He has also captured great pictures of the City of New Orleans, Panama Limited and City of Miami. Did you know that "The Creole" was the name of the train before it was called the "City of New Orleans?"

Besides photos of the Carbondale train station, there are great pictures of the Roundhouse, north of Carbondale. Station depots at Reevesville and Rosiclare are also featured. He also photographed the Paducah car shops, freight operations and Railway Post Offices. There is even a chapter on the CE & I line.

According to World Cat, the book is available at the following public libraries: Benton, Carbondale, Carterville, Marion, and SIU Morris Library. It is available for sale at The Book Worm, Carbondale, IL. <http://www.thebooksyoulove.com/>

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## IRISH PARISH REGISTERS LAUNCHED ONLINE

If your genealogy research extends to Ireland, you are in luck!

In early July, the National Library of Ireland released the entire Catholic Parish Register online. Almost 400,000 microfilm images make up the new online genealogy resource.

These records contain baptismal and marriage records, for the 1,091 parishes in Ireland. Information included in these records, are dates and people involved, such as godparents and witnesses. The digital register images are searchable by parish location only.

The registers are available online at <http://registers.nli.ie/>.

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I'm not stuck  
I'm  
Ancestrally  
Challenged