



# HISTORICO

*Sangamon County Historical Society Newsletter*

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## GAME ON!

### Society's Trivia Night March 23

Are you ready to have fun? Then head to the Sangamon County Historical Society's Seventh Annual Trivia Night on Saturday, March 23, an event that not only helps underwrite our Special Projects Fund, but also offers an opportunity to win big!

Top prize for the most savvy table of players is \$200, with second and third place winners picking \$100 and \$75 table prizes, respectively. This year, the Society is adding two new visual "Heads and Tails" games for which the winner in each will share the game pot.

#### New Heads & Tails Game

"People always have a lot of fun playing both trivia and the special Balloon Game in which one question in each of the 10 rounds of trivia, was designated as the "Balloon" question.

"Tables bought a balloon at the start of the evening and had to pop the balloon if they answered incorrectly. The table with the last balloon standing

shared the money collected for the balloon game," explained Mary Alice Davis, the Society's special events co-chair.

"This year we decided to do something different, a visual heads and tails game that gives individual players a crack at winning the pot," says Davis. "We think everyone will love it!"

Individual tickets for Trivia (at \$10 per person) and tables of 10 (at \$100) can be ordered on-line at the Society's website, [sangamonhistory.org](http://sangamonhistory.org) or by filling out the form on page 7 and sending it to the Society before March 18 to guarantee a seat. Tickets will be available at the door provided seating is still available.

"Tickets tend to go fast along with tables so that players can guarantee there will be a seat. We run close to capacity before the doors open at the Trivia site, in the Parish Hall at Christ the King Church in Springfield.

"I urge you to buy your tickets or a

table in advance to avoid disappointment," she advises.

As in past years, WSEC-TV *Illinois Stories* host Mark McDonald will serve as master of ceremonies.

Well-known Trivia guru Al Gietl will be running the game. Wine, beer, and soda will be available for sale as will chilli prepared by nationally-known chilli maker Les Estep, along with desserts.

Copies of Estep's book, *Springfield, Illinois: A Chilli History*, published by the Society, will also be on sale at the event.

#### Doors Open at 6 p.m.

"Doors will open at 6 p.m. and there's plenty of free parking adjacent to the Christ the King Parish Hall at 1930 Barberrry Drive, Springfield. Play will begin at 7 p.m.

Some 300 trivia players filled the room last year, playing the 10 rounds

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**FAIR FARE:**  
Historian Tom Fitch shares a look back in time.

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## Support Trivia, Oral History and Harvesting Too!

I hope you'll make the effort to sign up for and go to Trivia Night on March 23. It's a lot of fun and easy to play. What's more, it's the key source of funding for the Society's Special Projects Grants that annually provide up to three \$1,000 awards that enable individuals and historical societies in Sangamon County funding to launch small but significant history projects or do research within the course of the year.

The results of the Special Project Grant program have been amazing. Look around and you will see our logo on signage, publications, programs and more, that signify these projects have been underwritten by the Society thanks to your support.

This year's competition is already underway and proposals are coming in. Individuals and organizations have until April 26 to seek funding (see **Grant Funding** on the Society's website, *sangamonhistory.org*). The winners will be announced (and will be our guests) at the Society's annual dinner in June, where they'll tell you more about their projects.

\* \* \*

We're delighted that Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Oral History project director Mark DePue will be providing a training course on March 21 in doing oral history interviews. It's a wonderful class and a must if you'd like to join those of us who have taken

the training and will be doing interviews. Our vice-president, Angie Weiss, who is about to begin conducting these valuable additions to local history, is in charge of coordinating our effort. As the interviews are done and transcribed, they will be placed on the ALPLM website in a section set aside to reflect the Society's efforts. Please call or e-mail Mark and let Angie know you are planning to attend.



DePue

Weiss

\* \* \*

We've given you a hint, but you'll get the full details on April 16 from Devin Hunter on what people showed up with when the University of Illinois History Department held its History Harvest, part of a nationwide program to photograph, research, and create a digitized archive of a cross-section of political memorabilia. You know what that is: old political posters, hats, pins, clothing and more that most times winds up hidden in a dresser draw or and closet, fading to yellow on walls or otherwise winding up on a shelf collecting dust!

The University has held History Harvest sessions twice over the past two years. Dr. Hunter share what's ahead and lots of other history-related things UIS is contemplating in the future.

*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](http://www.sangamohistory.org) or [sancohis.org](http://sancohis.org). Send event announcements to [historicoeditor@gmail.com](mailto:historicoeditor@gmail.com).  
Vicky Whitaker, *Historico* Editor, Photos by Kathy Dehen, Larry Stone

# Oral History Training Class Set for March 21 at ALPLM

Society members who would like to be trained as oral history interviewers or even refresh their skills, will have the chance to do so on Thursday, March 21 at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library.

The free class, to be taught by Mark DePue, Director of the Library's Oral History Program, will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Library's Classroom. Society members who take the class will be able to contribute to a new collection of interviews accessible on line, reflecting life in Sangamon County. Pre-registration is required.

For information, call DePue at 217-558-8984 or contact him at [mark.depue@illinois.gov](mailto:mark.depue@illinois.gov), with a copy to SCHS vice-president Angie Weiss at [weissangela5@gmail.com](mailto:weissangela5@gmail.com) who is coordinating the Society's participation in the training program.



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Mike Kienzler, *SangamonLink.org* Editor

# SCHS April 16 Meeting Will Provide Look at Harvesting History, More

The Society returns to its regular meeting schedule on Tuesday, April 16 at the City of Springfield's Lincoln Library with a program exploring both the colorful past and future of the University of Illinois History Harvest and state and local history initiatives in the works at UIS.

UIS Assistant Professor of History Devin Hunter will be the speaker, armed with examples of some of the items uncovered in the last two History Harvests here, designed to photograph research, and digitize political memorabilia local residents have stashed in attics, put in display cases or otherwise stored at home.

The most recent History Harvest was held in October at the Old State Capitol.

Dr. Hunter, who earned his PhD in History from Loyola University, Chi-



cago. teaches courses on 20<sup>th</sup>-century U.S. History and Public History at UIS.

The meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. in Carnegie Room North and is open to the public.

## MARCH 2019 MEMBERSHIP & DONOR REPORT



*The Society is pleased to welcome new members Jane Boehler, Jane Boehler, Bill Kinzer, Diane Kinzer, Barbara McKean, Malcolm McKean and Wanda Riseman and to extend its appreciation and thanks to Phil Fukenbusch his donation.*

Please make note of our official mailing address:

**SCHS  
 Box 9744  
 Springfield, Illinois,  
 62791-9744**

# FAIR FARE



**BACK TO THE FUTURE:** Tom Fitch (far right) captivates a full-house audience at the Society's February 19 meeting at the City of Springfield Library with these rarely seen photos of the Illinois State Fair, on these pages, from 1912. Fitch, a retired Illinois Department of Transportation standards engineer, served as historian for the Illinois State Fair Foundation and is a past board member. Today he volunteers at the Sangamon Valley Collection at the City of Springfield's Lincoln Library and other community organizations.





# SCHS Trivia Night Coming Up Quickly

*(Continued from page 1)*

that make up the Trivia Night game, each round with 10 questions that may be visual or audio. One player at each table oversees an answer sheet that reflects the consensus of that table's players.

After each round, each table has a few minutes to fill in any blanks or change its answers, after which their answer sheet is brought over to a panel of judges who review the answers and give each table a score from zero to 10.

There's a way for a table to leave a blank space if they don't know the answer without hurting their score: using a Mulligan.

Before the game begins, each table will be able to purchase a strip of 10 Mulligans, stickers that they can paste on the answer sheet in place of one of the ten answers in each round.

With a Mulligan in place of a blank space for question you and your tablemates couldn't answer, you'll get credit for the question as if you answered it correctly. A strip of 10 Mulligans will cost \$10 per table.

While its origin is uncertain, the best known use of a Mulligan is in golf, in which a player is informally allowed to replay a stroke, even though this is against the game's formal rules.

Heads & Tails game pieces, at \$5 per person, also will be sold before play begins.

### Important Fundraiser

"Trivia Night is an important fundraiser for the Society," notes Davis, "which is why I encourage every member to try to come out for the event and bring friends, family, and neighbors to play. Our Special Projects Fund looks

to award some \$3,000 a year to support history research and significant projects across the county. All the profits from this event go to this effort."

### Donations Appreciated

Davis expressed hope that many of the winning tables will donate their good fortune back to the Society.

"We have been delighted in the past when most of our Trivia Night players not only enjoyed the evening, but saw fit to turn back their prizes to aid the Society in raising funds for its Special Projects efforts. We are always very thankful and appreciative of their decision."

The event will be held in place of the Society's regular monthly program meeting which resumes on April 16 at the City of Springfield's Lincoln Library.



# TRIVIA NIGHT TABLE, TICKET, ROUND SPONSOR ORDER FORM



Register on line at [sangamonhistory.org](http://sangamonhistory.org) or use this mail-in form. Advance table and individual reservations sent by mail must be received by March 18.

**TABLE RESERVATIONS:**

Enclosed is my check. Sign me up for \_\_\_\_ tables of 10 for the Saturday, March 23 SCHS Trivia Night @\$100 per table.

**INDIVIDUAL TICKET RESERVATIONS:**

Enclosed is my check for \_\_\_\_ seats. Society members and their guests who purchase individual tickets (at \$10 per person) in advance will be seated at designated Sangamon County Historical Society tables.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*Checks should be made payable to SCHS and mailed to SCHS,  
P.O. Box 9744, Springfield, IL 62791-9744.*

**ROUND SPONSOR**

Companies, organizations and individuals are welcome to sponsor individual rounds at \$100 per round. The name of the company, organization or individual will appear on the screen at the start of the round. You will need to furnish any art work associated with your sponsorship along with your payment. Please indicate if you wish to be contacted to discuss any technical details.

Please contact me at: e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## CALENDAR OF AREA HISTORY EVENTS

◆ **Wednesday, March 13: Family History Workshops, Illinois State Museum.** Registration is underway for two hour-long workshops, *Family History 101*, at 6 p.m. and *Dating Old Photographs by Clothing* at 7:15 p.m. at the Illinois State Museum led by history curator Erika Holst. Fee is \$15 for one, \$20 for both (\$10 and \$15 respectively for ISM members). For registration information, contact Sarah Davis at [events@illinoisstatemuseum.org](mailto:events@illinoisstatemuseum.org) or call 782-6044.



◆ **Thursday, March 21. ALPLM Oral History Training Class,** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. APLM Library. (See page 3 for details).  
 ◆ **Saturday, March 23: SCHS Annual Trivia Night.** 6 p.m. (See story page 1).  
 ◆ **Tuesday, April 16: Harvesting History.** The Sangamon County Historical Society returns to its monthly meeting format with University of Illinois history prof Devin Hunter providing both a show-and-tell on this nationwide project that he and his students have brought to Springfield and what the future holds for the effort to create a digitized archive of history. 5:30 p.m., Carnegie Room North, City of Springfield Lincoln Library. Free and open to the public.

**Sangamon County Historical Society**

P.O. Box 9744,  
Springfield, IL 62791-9744  
Return Service Requested

Non-profit Organization  
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Springfield, Illinois

**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](http://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