



# 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](http://www.sangamonhistory.org), [SangamonLink.org](http://SangamonLink.org)

VOLUME 54 NO. 6

JUNE 2018

## Reservation Deadline June 9

# Annual Meeting June 19: Honors, Grants, Elections

Members and guests of the Sangamon County Historical Society will gather in Springfield on Tuesday, June 19 for the organization's annual meeting and dinner.

The event, to be held in the Parish Hall at historic Westminster Presbyterian Church, Tuesday, starting at 5:30 p.m., will honor historian and educator G. Cullom Davis who will receive the Society's first Lifetime Achievement Award.

Dr. Davis, who served as president of the Society from 1991 to 1992, created an oral history program at Sangamon State University (now the University of Illinois at Springfield) in the 1970s.

Dr. Cullom's early efforts provided an invaluable tool for current researchers and others to hear first-hand the recollections of people who served or participated in activities, events, or decisions that helped shape Sangamon County.

The recorded interviews made by the students he trained and the accompanying transcripts are available on-line through the Brookens Library at UIS.

Among the speakers reflecting on

his achievements will be Illinois State Historical Society executive director William Furry, Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum Director of Oral History Mark DePue and Illinois Supreme Court Historic Preservation Commission executive

received no later than Saturday, June 9.

### Project Winners, Elections

In addition to honoring Davis, the Society will also announce the winners of its annual Special Projects Grant program and hold election of officers and directors for 2018-2019.

**From the Lincoln Interment Book at Oak Ridge to chronicling the area's historic Black families, grants from the Society's Special Projects Fund have made an impact on local history. See story, photos, page 6.**

director John Lupton.

Tickets for the dinner are \$29 per person for members, \$31 for non-members and can be purchased on-line at [sangamonhistory.org](http://sangamonhistory.org) or by mail, by sending a check with the reservation form on page 7.

Reservations and payment must be

Elaine Hoff, chair of the Special Projects Grant program, will announce the winners of the annual competition that helps underwrite up to three local history projects that preserve or promote the history of Sangamon County with grants of up to \$1,000 each.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## INSIDE:

From the President's Desk.....	2
R-Lou Barker, A History Legacy.....	3
Candidate Guide.....	4-5
Dinner Reservation Form.....	7
Calendar of Events.....	7

CARS of every vintage, along with folk and Bluegrass music, art, blacksmithing, a Kids Fun Village and more are part of the line up at historic Clayville for its Summer Fun Day, June 23. See Calendar,

Page 7





## Annual Dinner Ahead; Serving as President Memorable

The Society is winding down another season of great programs and events. We hope you have enjoyed our programs during the year, which will culminate with our Annual Dinner Meeting on Tuesday, June 19 at the Westminister Presbyterian Church in Springfield. (*Details start page 1, Dinner reservation form, page 7.*)

As my term of President comes to an end, I want you to know that I have thoroughly enjoyed serving the Society and meeting many of our members during the past two years.

We encourage you to help Illinois celebrate its 200<sup>th</sup> birthday by attending the many Bicentennial events throughout the community and state during the year. Also watch for the Society's new season of programs which will begin in September.

### Bicentennial Events

◆ **Camp Butler as a Civil War training camp and Confederate Prisoner of War Camp** will be presented Thursday, June 7 at 6:30 p.m. at Books On The Square, 427 E. Washington St., Springfield. Because so many soldiers died there, President Lincoln declared Camp Butler a National Cemetery in 1862. It will be presented by Kathleen Heyworth. Free.



◆ **Illinois Antislavery and the Struggle for Freedom** will be presented Sunday, June 17 at 2 p.m. at the Thorne Deuel Auditorium, Illinois State Museum, 502 South Spring Street, Springfield. Jeanne Schultz Angel will be the speaker. It is part of the Culture and Heritage of Illinoisans series. Free.

◆ **Triple A: Sports and Recreation in Springfield** will be discussed Monday, June 18 at 5 p.m. at The State Journal-Register Community Room, with Jim Ruppert and a panel of well-known local athletes. Free.

### June Historical Facts

◆ **June 24, 1888** - Ten women formed the first King's Daughters Circle in Springfield. As of its 125th anniversary this year (2018), the King's Daughters Organization

continues with the mission it set itself more than a century earlier: "to charitably aid the elderly in our community."

<http://sangamoncountyhistory.org/wp/?p=10467>

◆ **June 27, 1913** - Gov. Charles Dunne signed a law making it a misdemeanor to sell any toy pistol that can shoot blank cartridges. Such pistols had killed or maimed dozens of people, mainly young boys, since the Civil War. On the day of the signing, young Walter Hartman of Springfield shot himself in the face with a toy pistol. "It was feared that he would lose the eyesight in one eye, but the powder scattered and he is doing nicely," the **Illinois State Journal** reported.

<http://sangamoncountyhistory.org/wp/?p=10333>

◆ **June 29, 1881** - Springfield inventor Albert Ide's electric light display – a traction engine, two arc lights and a little copper wire – in what is now Lincoln Park marks the first time many local residents had seen artificial light. "Thousands came to Springfield to witness the then startling demonstration," according to a later report.

<http://sangamoncountyhistory.org/wp/?p=10193>

◆ **June 1905** - Last classes held at Sangamon College in Pleasant Plains. The college, founded in 1898 by educators John L. Scott and Hugh M. Curry, was non-sectarian and open to both men and women. Its course of study is unclear, but school advertisements promised "special training for teachers."

<http://sangamoncountyhistory.org/wp/?p=9704>

◆ **June 5, 1928** - Seven young people – six siblings and a cousin – died when the car they were in drove in front of a southbound Interurban train near Auburn. The train's motorman told authorities the car suddenly lurched onto the rails.

<http://sangamoncountyhistory.org/wp/?p=9626>

Find these stories and more at [www.SangamonLink.org](http://www.SangamonLink.org), edited by Mike Kienzler.



**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

## R-Lou Barker: Lasting Imprint on Local History

Former Sangamon County Historical Society board member R-Lou Barker (2005-2010) died at age 84 on April 21 after a brief illness.

An unassuming woman of style, grace, and knowledge, she never wandered far from a love of history and community, demonstrated over the years not only to the Society as a Life Member and active participant, but also in so many other ways including serving on or leading numerous other boards and commissions.

Barker played an integral role as an officer or director of the Illinois State Museum Society, the Illinois State Museum, Daughters of the American Revolution, the Springfield Art Association, the Vachel Lindsay Association, the Springfield Historic Sites Commission and the Dana Thomas House Foundation and the Land of Lincoln Girl Scout Council.

By reading family documents and writing about her own ancestors, Barker contributed to preserving the historic Shepherd family farmstead, the Strawbridge-Shepherd House. In 2007, the Barker family donated artifacts that once belonged to Susan Lawrence

Dana to the historic Dana Thomas House. The pieces were among the thousands of items auctioned off to the public in 1943 after Barker, Goldman and Lubin purchased the entire Susan Dana Lawrence estate.

In an interview with *Historico* in 2011 in conjunction with the publication of a book, *40 Fathers, The Search for Father In Oneself*,

Barker--whose essay



on her father, John Porter, was among those included in the book--attributed her long commitment to the area to her father "and his invaluable legacy of dependability, fidelity and determination, qualities so inherent to the skills needed in my lifelong work in the world of community service."

Born in Kansas, her family moved to Illinois in the late 1930s, then to Centralia, Missouri, and finally back to Illinois,

settling in rural Glenarm in the spring of 1942. There, her father, an engineer with Panhandle Eastern Pipeline, oversaw the company's natural gas pipeline operation.

She met her late husband, Morton D. Barker Jr. while working at Barker Lubin, a family-owned lumber company in Springfield. They wed in June, 1953. That fall, motivated by her own inability to join Girl Scouts and go to meetings as a child during World

War II "when there was no gasoline to get there," she applied for and took the lengthy two month training to qualify as a Girl Scout Brownie Leader. Tapped to serve on the Land of Lincoln Girl Scout board, she became its vice-president by the time her third son was born. She stayed with the Girl Scouts through the birth of her five sons.

The Barkers moved to her husband's family home, Stonegate, on Chatham Road in 1976 that her in-laws had purchased in 1935.

By then, the Barker Lubin Company had extended its property holdings to include the site of what today is White Oaks Mall and nearby areas that spawned rapid growth of Springfield's west side.



### OFFICERS

**President**.....Ruth Slottag  
**Vice-President**.....Vicky Whitaker  
**Secretary**.....Kathy Dehen  
**Treasurer**.....Jerry Smith  
**Past-President**.....Mary Alice Davis

### DIRECTORS

#### Term Ending 2018

Larry Stone  
 Roger Whitaker  
 Sue Massie  
 Doug Polite  
 Kathy Hoffmann

#### Term Ending 2019

Jennie Battles  
 Elaine Hoff  
 Mary Muccianite  
 Mary Schaefer

#### Term Ending 2020

Peter Harbison  
 Susan Helm  
 Stephanie Martin  
 Eugene Walker  
 Angela Weiss

### Committee Chairs

**Legal:** Bruce Beeman  
**Finance:** Doug Polite, Larry Stone  
**Membership:** Stephanie Martin, Peter Harbison  
**Nominating:** Mary Alice Davis  
**Hospitality:** Marion Leach  
**Publicity and Marketing:** Ruth Slottag, Susan Helm  
**Publications:** Roger Whitaker  
**Programs & Special Events:** Mary Alice Davis, Vicky Whitaker  
**Social Media Chair:** Mary Schaefer  
**Special Projects:** Elaine Hoff

### Staff

Mike Kienzler, *SangamonLink.org* Editor

## JUNE 2018 MEMBERSHIP & DONOR REPORT

*The Society is pleased to welcome new members: Mikki Buhl, Harry Berman, Deborah Berman and Debra Coe. We expresses appreciation to the following for donations to the Society: Nancy Chapin (in memory of Mary Marada); and to Mary Townsend, David Joens, Monica Martin Jones, Kathy Dehen, Jon Noll, Ida Noll, and Patricia Boyce.*

Please make note of our official mailing address:

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

# Society to Elect Officers, Board

(Continued from page 1)

The proposed slate of officers consists of Vicky Whitaker, president; Angela Weiss, vice-president; Kathy Dehen, secretary; and Jerry Smith,


treasurer.

Dehen and Smith are running for a third term. Whitaker is the current vice-president. Weiss joined the Society's board of Directors in 2017.

Ruth Slottag, who has served as president for the past two years, will remain on the executive board as past-president. In addition to the executive board, Society members will be voting


## OFFICERS

### FOR PRESIDENT, Vicky Whitaker




A New York City native, prior to retirement in 1999 when she moved to Springfield, Whitaker headed State University of New York at Stony Brook News Service for 14 years. Previously, she was a reporter and editor for a business daily and managing editor of a prize-winning newspaper chain. Whitaker served 10 years on the national board of the Society of Professional Journalists. A past president of the Press Club of Long Island, in 2016 she was inducted into its Journalism Hall of Fame. She is also a past vice-president of the Deadline Club in New York City. Whitaker has written for the *State Journal-Register*, Copley News Service and Creators Syndicate. Vice-president of the Society for the past two years, she has co-chaired the program committee for several years and has served as editor of *Historico* since 2009. Whitaker has also co-chaired Memorial's Festival of Trees entertainment committee for the past 14 years and is a past vice-chair of the Springfield Area Arts Council, past chair of the Sangamon Auditorium Advisory Board and has served on the boards several other local organizations. A licensed amateur radio operator, she is public information coordinator for the Illinois Section, ARRL, the national association for amateur radio, and is public information officer for the local ARRL Chapter, the Sangamon Valley Radio Club. She holds a bachelors degree in journalism from Hofstra College.

### FOR VICE PRESIDENT, Angela Weiss




Born in Du Quoin, Illinois and raised in Du Quoin and Winchester, Illinois, Weiss has been a fan of history since childhood, favoring reading historical books and novels even as a pre-teen. She is a graduate of Winchester High School and attended Lindenwood University in Missouri and later Lincoln Land Community College, garnering enough credits for an associates degree. Her love of history took a more interesting turn, she says, when her husband became involved in the national Surveyors Historical Society, a decision that has taken them across the United States for studies of various surveys and surveyors in different parts of the U.S. and in different eras. Elected to the board two years ago, Weiss has served on several Society committees. She is also a member of the Menard County Historical Society, served an interpreter at the Old State Capitol, and on the Old State Capitol Foundation board. She was a costumed interpreter at Fort Du Bois in celebration of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and in other costumed events throughout the years. A resident of Sherman, Weiss is a member of the Cool Cruisers Car Club and the Petersburg-based 97 Crusaders Car Club.

### FOR SECRETARY, Kathy Dehen



A Springfield native, after graduating from Springfield High School and Springfield Junior College, Dehen completed her undergraduate education at the University of Illinois. She taught elementary school for 20 years and then worked at Sangamon State University/University of Illinois for 16 years, first in the Payroll Office and then in charge of Student Employment in the Financial Aid Office. She has been active in the community as a volunteer for 20 years. She is a founding member and second president-elect of the Good as Gold event committee of the Academy of Life Long Learning at Lincoln Land Community College and a member of its Bicentennial Committee. She was a Sangamon Auditorium Advisory Board vice-chair and is a member of the Springfield Chapter, National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution of which she served treasurer, a position she also held with the Springfield Ceramics and Crafts Club. Dehen is a member of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants

### FOR TREASURER, Jerry Smith



A Springfield native, Smith earned an associates degree from Springfield College in Illinois after graduation from Springfield High School, and later pursued studies in business administration at Southern Illinois University. His first paying employment was as a houseman, helping to open the Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge South-East in 1966 and for almost 35 years traveled the United States opening and managing various hotels in Florida, Colorado, Ohio, Indiana, North Carolina, Montana, Maryland, Alabama, and finally back to Springfield to retire. After returning "home" in 2006 he managed the conversion of the Springfield Renaissance Hotel to the independent President Abraham Lincoln Hotel for three years. Since that time he has been an active volunteer at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum & Library, Westminster Presbyterian Church and the Pleasant Plains Historical Society, Clayville, where he has served as vice president.

# for 2018-2019 at Annual Dinner



to fill positions on the 15-member board of directors. Nominated for three-year terms ending in 2021 are: Sue Massie, Doug Polite, Kathy Hoffman and Mary Alice Davis. Nominated for a two year term ending in 2020 to fill a vacancy is Roger Whitaker. Nominated for a one year term ending in 2019 to fill a vacancy is Larry Stone.

## PAST PRESIDENT, Ruth Slottag



Slottag, president of the Society from 2016 to 2018, has more than 20 years' experience in the public relations and communications industry. Retired from the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine's Public Affairs Office, she now is a partner in Slottag Communications, Springfield. Prior to joining SIU, she served as Illinois Association of Park Districts Public Relations Director and as Illinois Student Assistance Commission Community and Media Relations Manager. Slottag is on the Illinois Bicentennial Commission and the Springfield Bicentennial Coordination Committee. She was vice-regent of the Caleb Hopkins Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution and a past chair of the Springfield Commission on International Visitors and a past president of the Central Illinois Public Relations Society of America. She earned a bachelor's degree in Speech Communication and a Master's in Communication Organizational and Public Relations at the University of Illinois, Springfield.

## FOR 3-YEAR TERMS ON THE BOARD

### Sue Massie



Massie, a senior landscape architect/planner at MassieMassie+Associates, Springfield, is a Decatur native. On moving to Springfield in 1978, she directed the state's abandoned mines reclamation program. Elected to the Society board in 2012, she has served on several committees and as secretary. She has also been a board member and past president of the Elijah Iles House Foundation. She is currently vice-president and member chair of the Springfield and Central Illinois African American History Museum. Her volunteer activities have largely focused on preservation and restoration of historic sites. She is a graduate of the University of Illinois at Champaign/Urbana.

### Doug Polite



A semi-retired real estate broker who owns and operates the historic Flag Farmstead Bed and Breakfast in Sherman, Polite graduated from Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois in 1964 with a degree in business administration and economics and received a masters degree from the University of Tennessee in 1969 in transportation economics and statistics. He served on the historic committee for the 150th anniversary of the Village of Sherman. Polite is co-chair of the Society's Finance Committee.

### Mary Alice Davis



Davis holds a bachelor of arts degree from Denison University, Ohio and taught for four years before co-owning a children's clothing store for 10 years. She also co-owned a chain of fast food stores for 35 years. A past president of the Society, (2014-2016), and its secretary from 2012-2013, Davis has chaired the Society's annual Oak Ridge Cemetery Walk since 2015 and co-chairs Program Committee. She is a past vice-president, Old State Capitol Foundation where she also served as a docent; is past chair and a trustee of the Illinois State Museum Society Board and a past vice-president, Land of Lincoln Girl Scout Council board.

### Kathy Hoffmann



A retired mathematics teacher, Hoffmann spent the majority of her career at Springfield High School, retiring in 2001 as department chair. She holds degrees in mathematics from Nebraska Wesleyan University and Sangamon State University. She served on the Board (2011-2014) and was appointed to fill a vacancy in 2017. She has served on several community boards including Lincoln Memorial Garden, The Hoogland Center for the Arts, and Goodwill Industries. Hoffmann is also a past chair of the Docent Program at the First Presbyterian Church. She is a World Affairs Council of Central Illinois board member.

## FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM ON THE BOARD

### Roger Whitaker



Whitaker, a native of Virginia, Illinois, and a past president of the Society (2012-2014), holds a bachelor of science degree from the University of Missouri. An electronics engineer with Kone Elevator & Escalator, he is a member of several history-related organizations including the Illinois State Historical Society and the Cass County Historical Society. He is also serves on the Springfield Historic Sites Commission. A licensed amateur radio operator for 60 years, he is a past president and current vice-president of the Sangamon Valley Radio Club. He has also worked as a commercial radio engineer and photographer and served as a radio operator aboard Project Hope's hospital ship in Tunis, Tunisia.

## FOR ONE-YEAR TERM ON THE BOARD

### Larry Stone



Born in Springfield, Stone graduated from St. Louis University in 1973 with a degree in finance, management and accounting. He attended graduate School at St. Louis University and University of Illinois studying Finance and Accounting. He was an Internal Auditor for 36 years most recently as Chief Auditor with State Retirement Systems for nearly 10 years and Information Systems Audit Manager at Central Management Services. He was Adjunct Professor in Accounting at University of Illinois, Springfield and Millikin University for 16 years. Stone is a member of the Springfield Bicycle Club and a volunteer at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum.

**HISTORIAN Andrew Call** responds to an after-talk question from **Kim Effrid** (left) following his May 15 detailed powerpoint presentation to the Society that provided new insight into the legacy of the Bunn family's historic and business connections between Chicago and Springfield. The program, filled with rarely seen historic photos, was held at the City of Springfield Lincoln Library, providing a pre-publication preview of Call's latest book, *Chicago: A Civic, Industrial, and Familial History* that focuses on the lost and forgotten history of Chicago and the metropolitan region. Call, whose book is available on Amazon.com., is the maternal great-great-great grandson of Jacob Bunn. He has spent 17-years researching his family history.



**JUST DAYS APART**, both Oak Ridge Cemetery and the nearby Springfield and Central Illinois African American History Museum made history in May. Oak Ridge unveiled the restored Lincoln Interment Book May 4 in a special ceremony (above, left) that included remarks from Oak Ridge Board member **Kate Spindell** (left) who emceed the program, and Oak Ridge Executive Director **Michael Lelys** (right). At right, Museum attendees get a closer look at a new exhibit on the area's early African American settlers following formal opening ceremonies. *See story, below.* Kathy Dehen photos

Two historically significant proposals that won Sangamon County Historical Society's Special Projects Grants last June, made their debut in ceremonies late last month.

The Society support was publicly acknowledged in both instances.

The highly anticipated return of the restored Lincoln Interment Book 1 to Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield was marked on May 4 with a formal program beneath the cemetery bell tower. The second most visited cemetery in the nation, Oak Ridge is the final resting

place of President, Abraham Lincoln. The book, which takes note of his death by assassination, was dismantled by the state for digitization several years ago, returned in pieces and forgotten until discovered by a cemetery volunteer.

"It cost close to \$40,000 to restore this national treasure," noted Special Projects Grant chair Elaine Hoff, who was present at the ceremony. "The Society played a small role, but we are proud we were able to be part of the effort."

The Interment Book was restored by Chicago-based

Graphic Conservation, whose president, Russ Maki, was among a handful of speakers underscoring its importance to Oak Ridge. Katie Spindell, a member of the Oak Ridge Cemetery Board of Managers, served as emcee for the afternoon program.

The Springfield and Central Illinois African American History Museum formally debuted its new exhibit, "*Early African American Pioneers of Springfield and Central Illinois*" on May 6.

Based on research funded by the Society and conducted by

Patricia Davis and Elizabeth Alexander, the exhibit provides a photo/text journey exploring lives of some of the earliest African American settlers in Sangamon County and the important role they played in the community. The exhibit focused on families who settled here in the 1800s and still have descendants in Springfield.

"The turnout was wonderful," noted Society board member Sue Massie who also sits on the Museum board. "The program and display gave everyone greater insight into the lives of these early pioneers."



# SCHS Annual Dinner Registration Form



The annual meeting/dinner will be held at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Springfield on Tuesday, June 19 starting at 5:30 p.m. **Members: \$29 per person, Non-member guests \$31.** Mail this form with your check to the Sangamon County Historical Society, Box 9744, Springfield, IL 62791-9744 or sign up online at [sangamonhistory.org](http://sangamonhistory.org). Payment must be received by June 9.

\*Name of Member(s) attending \_\_\_\_\_

\*Full Name(s) of Non-Member Guests: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

\* for name tags.

Total Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

## Calendar of History Events

### SPECIAL EVENTS

◆ **Tuesday, June 19: Sangamon County Historical Society Annual Dinner and Election.** 5:30 p.m. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 533 South Walnut Street, Springfield. The Society will be honoring historian G. Cullom Davis with its first Lifetime Achievement Award and will be announcing winners of its annual Special Projects Grants. Reservations are required. Members \$29 per person, guests \$31. Payment must be received by June 9. Registration form is above, or register and pay on line at the Society's website, [sangamonhistory.org](http://sangamonhistory.org).

◆ **Saturday, June 23: Clayville's Summer Fun Day,** Clayville Historic Site



operated by the Pleasant Plains Historical Society, Route 125, Pleasant Plains. Cruise in Car Show (11 a.m. to 4 p.m.), Folk and Bluegrass Music Festival (Noon to 9 p.m.), Art Fair (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.), Blacksmithing Hammer-In, Kids Fun Village (10 a.m. to 6 p.m.). Admission is \$3 (ages 13 and up), \$1, (six through 12), free for children (5 and under). Food concessions, beer tent. For

information, go to [clayville.org](http://clayville.org).

◆ **Sunday, October 14: Sangamon County Historical Society Annual Echoes of Yesteryear** walking tour of Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield. Rain date: October 21.

### EXHIBITS

◆ **Ongoing: Early African American Pioneers of Central Illinois.** Springfield and Central Illinois African American History Museum, 1440 Monument Avenue, Springfield. This new exhibit explores and illuminates African American families who moved to Central Illinois in the 1800s and who still have descendants in Springfield. No charge but donations are welcome. For hours and information, call 391-6323.

### Corrections

In an article last month on the seasonal openings of area museums and historic places, *Historico* repeated what Sarah Adams, Curator of Collections and Interpretation at Historic Edwards Place, pointed out was "a very commonly mixed up description" of the relationship of Mary Todd to Elizabeth Edwards, which was detailed in the article. Unlike what was stated, Elizabeth was the wife of Benjamin Edward's older brother, Ninian Wirt Edwards. Elvira was the wife of Governor Ninian Edwards. Mary and Elizabeth were contemporaries of Benjamin and his wife, Helen.

Also, the hours of the Grand Army of the Republic Museum at 629 Seventh Street, Springfield were incorrect. The Museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday through Saturday, not Thursday through Sunday.

**Sangamon County Historical Society**

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

Non-profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 777  
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