

NEWSLETTER

McLean County Genealogical Society

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FROM MCLEAN TO MOBILE The story of the 94th Illinois Infantry from McLean County

Jointly sponsored by The McLean County Museum of History, Bloomington Public Library, and MCGS

**Presented by William Iseminger
Tuesday, November 29, 2022, 6:30 p.m.**



Mr. Iseminger began researching the 94th Illinois Infantry many years ago while transcribing the letters and diaries of two of his great-grandfathers who served in that regiment, Tubal Wile Iseminger of Heyworth, and Harrison H. Clark of Randolph Station. Over the years, he located eight more diaries and 257 letters from 22 additional soldiers in the 94th, as well as two oral histories by soldiers and other sources.

Mr. Iseminger's book, *From McLean to Mobile: A History of the 94th Illinois Infantry Regiment Volunteers, 1862-1865*, "The McLean Regiment" is available in the Museum store and on Amazon.

Join us for this live presentation at the
McLean County Museum of History, 2nd Floor Courtroom
or via livestream on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/mchistorymuseum>



President's Message

GET READY! In the blink of an eye, 2022 will be gone. So much is going on in the last two months of the year that time seems to accelerate. As Halloween decorations and candy go on sale, Christmas decorations pop up like dandelions in the spring. Skipping over the midterm elections, let's focus on the 11th of November – Veterans Day.

If you are reading this and served, please accept my thanks and those of The McLean County Genealogical Society. No matter what your post or duty, you sacrificed then and perhaps have lingering problems. My nephew was injured and has ill effects to this day from his tours in Iraq.

What can we do as genealogists to celebrate our Veterans? As you may have suspected, there are many graves of veterans that give no acknowledgement of their service. I have been photographing some of the records in the Evergreen Cemetery office. A little black book created and maintained by [Harry Martin Waite](#) (1878-1960) is a treasure of Veteran information. For many years Harry would place flags on the graves of Veterans of the Spanish American War that were buried in McLean County. His book outlines the name, unit, date of death, and the location of interment in various cemeteries throughout the county. It is written so a person can walk grave to grave to install flags.

Good news for you! I converted my photos to a [digital copy of the book](#) and it is now available to everyone on our website: tmcgs.org under RESOURCES—FREE. I tried to locate each person on Find a Grave. About half of the memorials did not acknowledge a person's service. For those who had no military monument, I created a photograph giving notice of their service, which war, which unit, and uploaded the photo to their FindaGrave memorial. On FindaGrave you can leave flowers, but those can be overwritten by others. Photographs will hopefully remain in the memorial as long as FindaGrave is in business.



Photo typical of what was uploaded to FindaGrave for veterans of the Spanish American War buried with no military stone in McLean



The grave of Charles "Carl" Jarke located in Evergreen Cemetery, Bloomington, Illinois.

For several of the veterans, there was no Find a Grave entry. Thanks to Harry's book and the interment records at Evergreen Cemetery (thanks to Misty for doing a great job), I was able to locate the stone for Charles F. "Carl" [Jarke](#) (1878-1900). It amazes me that Harry and Carl were both born in the same year, but Carl died at the age of 22 – 60 years before Harry. Both served in the Spanish American War. Please check out the memorial I added for Charles "Carl" Jarke and the photos of his almost unreadable stone.

Rand Veerman
MCGS President

Looking Ahead . . .

November 15, 2022	6:30 pm Public Annual Meeting & Installation of Officers and Directors MCMH 2 nd Floor Courtroom
November 29, 2022	6:30 p.m. "From McLean to Mobile" The story of the 94 th Illinois Infantry from McLean (details on page 1).
December 2022	MCGS Winter Break

Let's have a conversation....



**MCGS NEEDS A FEW PEOPLE
TO PITCH IN SHORT-TERM OR
WITH MORE EXTENDED PROJECTS.**

**And maybe you need to be
more engaged!**

**What are your talents?
Finance / Publicity / Creative Writing /
Editing / Digitizing / Other**

**Email us your willingness to contribute
some time—lots or a little—
and tell us what you like to do.
We'll have some ideas for you.**

IT'S YOUR CALL—HOW CAN YOU HELP?

mcgs.directors@gmail.com

The McLean County Genealogical Society

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MCGS WEBSITE NEWS – tmcgs.org



Our digital publication store allows immediate downloading so you can get busy right away. **Prices have been cut across the board!**

BARGAIN ALERT!! New and Renew memberships received before the end of 2022 will receive a special coupon to purchase 10 of our publications at 75% off. That's right 75% off. Like to shop bargains, this is for you. This deal may not come around again. Anyone who joins now will have membership through

2023. Join and make donations easily on our [website](#) with PayPal. Use the form on page 7 of this newsletter, or the [fill-in form](#) on our website.

Celebrating Our Veterans! Submit a short bio of a veteran to mcts.webmaster@gmail.com including any photo (jpeg), and we will create and add it to our website in a new column, "Remembering Veterans." Your veteran does not have to be from McLean County. One will be posted soon – look for it under RESOURCES--REMEMBERING VETERANS.

[Harry Waite's book](#) of Spanish American Veterans interred in McLean County is now available under RESOURCES, FREE.

Visit for announcements about future programs along with weather related or emergency closures. Our website highlights McLean County cemeteries, research aids, and other items of genealogical interest.

Benefits for members include access to past webinars:

- "Illinois Digital resources" by Tina Beaird
- "Becoming a Census Sensei" by Tina Beaird
- "Unusual Sources" by Susan Kaufman
- "New Databases at Bloomington Public Library" by Mimi Davis

Members can also enjoy 176 PDF issues of our journal, *Gleanings*.

Members and non-members have access to [Gleanings indexes](#).

Regular feature on tmcgs.org—Peak into the past with Jack Keefe as he presents ["Back in the Day"](#)—a daily history of events from the past.

GLEANINGS Needs Your Family History!

You Need to Share It!



GLEANINGS

FROM THE HEART OF THE CORNBELT

The McLean County Genealogical Society
Bloomington, Illinois

For the Love of a Cemetery



♦Honoring one of our own
♦Cemeteries ♦Restoration
♦Sleuthing, and more



Volume 54 Number 1

Winter 2021

Did you know that MCGS' *Gleanings* is distributed throughout the United States and Canada and is available to anyone at many genealogical societies and public libraries? Please consider contributing your family history for possible inclusion in *Gleanings*.

Information you hold in your personal collections could be a treasure trove for other genealogists and might help you make connections as well!

Email submissions or questions to

mcgs.journal@gmail.com or

mcgs.directors@gmail.com

with attachments or mail to:

MCGS, Attention: Journal Editor

PO Box 488

Normal, IL 61761-0488.

Please consider a donation to MCGS. We are grateful for whatever we receive that can help us continue preserving and sharing items of genealogical and historical importance. You can give easily through our [website](#) using PayPal and the [fill-in form](#), or print and fill in the form on page 7 of this newsletter and mail it to MCGS.



Memorial



ALBERT HENDERSON CREASY
Jan. 31, 1936 – Sept. 24, 2022

COLUMBUS, North Carolina - Albert Henderson Creasy, age 86, died unexpectedly from natural causes on September 24, 2022 at Tryon Estates in Columbus, NC. He left as he lived, quietly and without bothering or being a burden to anyone. He was born in Wilmington, NC on January 31, 1936 to the late William Bullock Creasy, Sr. and Mary Elizabeth (Kelly) Creasy.

His full obituary can be viewed at www.calvertmemorial.com or in [The Pantagraph](#), 2 October 2022.

Albert was a member of MCGS, from 1978 to 1995. He served as Cemetery Director at one time and researched many of the people listed in the MCGS cemetery books. He also offered his services photographing old pictures. MCGS is grateful for his contributions.

MCGS accepts memorial donations. They may be sent to: MCGS, PO Box 488, Normal, IL 61761-0488



Our Research Volunteers Are Happy to Assist You!

Many of you have ancestry.com or newspapers.com accounts which help you locate information about your McLean County ancestors. For those of you who don't have those accounts and for those of you who aren't able to come to McLean County to do research, our researchers are happy to assist you. Local resources could, and many times do, include materials not available on ancestry.com or newspapers.com.

Email requests should go to: mcs.research@gmail.com. Emailed requests should be followed with a \$10 check for the first two surnames and, if needed, a \$5 check for each additional surname. Please send your check, along with a copy of your request to MCGS, Attn: Corresponding Secretary, P. O. Box 488, Normal, IL 61761-0488.

Please submit a family group sheet, or at least as much information as you have about an individual or family, so that research isn't duplicated and that a foundation for research is provided.

REMINDER: The MCGS holdings are located in the Stevenson-Ives Library on the 2nd floor of the McLean County Museum of History (address on the last page of this Newsletter). The building is handicapped accessible and has an elevator. Admission is FREE for MCGS members. The library has extended hours on Tuesdays until 8:00 pm.



The McLean County Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 488, Normal, IL 61761-0488

Email: mcgs.directors@gmail.com

WEBSITE: tmcgs.org

January 1 through December 31

Membership YEAR -

Please complete this form. Mail with your check to: MCGS at the above address.

Please inform us if you change your Mailing Address or Email Address at the above Email address. Newsletters and Journals are sent electronically via Email Addresses.

PLEASE ENCLOSE A SASE if membership card is needed. MCGS memberships allow FREE entry to the McLean County Museum of History where our library is housed.

NOTE: NEW MEMBERSHIP CLASSES: INDIVIDUAL - \$20 OR FAMILY - \$25

☐ Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Mr & Mrs ☐ Ms ☐ Miss ☐ Dr Current Memb No. _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip + 4 _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Spouse/Other Names _____

We welcome new MCGS Board members. If you have a desire to participate and share your ideas and knowledge, please contact us at: mcgs.directors@gmail.com

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!!

Ask what you can do to help.

Data entry / typist are always needed

You could write an article for the Journal sharing your Genealogy and how it relates to McLean County

Suggestions for programs for the public meetings are needed.

Become a Board Member or Committee Member

☐ Send Newsletters & Journals via USPS (additional \$15.00 required for printing & postage enclosed)

DONATIONS TO MCGS		Please enter \$ amounts enclosed:	
Undesignated donations will be applied to our Endowment Fund.			
We appreciate your tax-deductible donations towards:			
Acquisitions	\$ _____	Individual membership @ \$20	\$ _____
Endowment	\$ _____	Family membership @ \$25	\$ _____
Equipment	\$ _____	USPS mailing = \$15	\$ _____
Website	\$ _____	Total Donations	\$ _____
		TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$ _____

Mailing charges are based on members living in the 48 contiguous states. If you live in Alaska, Hawaii, Canada, or another country, please feel free to contact MCGS at mcgs.directors@gmail.com for printing and postage fee requirement.

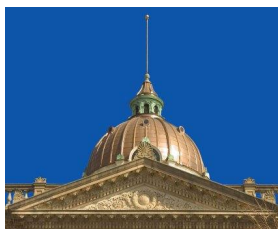
Family membership consists of up to 5 additional people in the same household. They can be a spouse and/or children under the age of 21.

Revision Date: October 30, 2022



McLean County Museum of History

Photos by
William P. LaBounty



On the Courthouse Square, Bloomington, Illinois

Contact: P.O. Box 488, Normal, IL 61761-0488
Library: 309-827-0428, ext. 28
<mailto:mcgs.directors@gmail.com>

Visit: McLean County Museum of History
Stevenson-Ives Library
200 North Main Street, 2nd Floor
Downtown Bloomington

Online: <https://www.tmcgs.org>

Library/Archives: Appointments recommended.

Museum: Open to the public.
Handicapped accessible. For details visit:
<https://www.mchistory.org/visit/>
FREE admission for MCGS members.

During their shifts, volunteers in the Stevenson-Ives Library are available to help visitors with their research.