



MCHS News

March 2019

Opening Doors to Madison County History

Vol. 7 No. 2

Historical Museum 715 N Main Street Edwardsville, IL 62025 Hours:

The museum is currently closed for renovation.

Archival Library 801 N Main Street Hours:

Wed-Fri 9 am - 4 pm Sunday 1 pm - 4 pm

Phone: 618-656-7569

Web Address: madcohistory.org

E-mail: info@madcohistory.org

About Us:

The MCHS museum complex, consisting of a modern archival library, a museum in the 1836 Weir House and the Helms Collection Center, is owned by the nonprofit Madison County Historical Society and operated jointly with Madison County.

The Madison County Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

GLIK'S: SERVING MADISON COUNTY SINCE 1902

More than a century ago, Joseph Glik, a St. Louis merchant specializing in men's furnishings, looked at the burgeoning economy across the Mississippi River and wisely determined that Madison County would be a good investment. He began buying real estate in 1901 and in 1902 opened a store in the village of Madison. Today, his descendants operate three stores in Madison County and the business is the oldest privately-owned retail chain in the county. The Glik Company has over 60 stores in 10 states, an accomplishment rooted in Madison County.

Born in Russia in 1841, Joseph Glik immigrated to the United States in the mid-1870s. According to Glik family oral history, in the years after his arrival, he was a peddler, taking his wares from town to town in Iowa, Kansas and northwestern Missouri. In 1881, he established a store in St. Paul, Nebraska, about 170 miles west of Omaha. To keep his store stocked with the latest merchandise, he made regular trips to St. Louis to purchase goods. He developed a reputation for having the best selection and great prices so the local newspapers affectionately referred to him as "Cheap John."

In 1882, on one of those trips to St. Louis, he married 26-year-old Sophie Adler, a German immigrant, and brought her home to Nebraska. The store in St. Paul was immensely successful

\$30,000

Worth of Clothing, Boots, Shoes, Rubber goods Dry goods and notions, to be

SOLD TO YOU

At Astonishing low prices lower than you ever bought before. Call and convince yourself of the fact that JOS.

GLIK is bound to give you perfect satisfaction.

Opposite the post-office, new Phonograph Block, in burnt district.

This Oct. 7, 1887, ad for Joseph Glik 's store appeared in the St. Paul, Nebraska Phonograph.



Joseph Glik (Courtesy of Glik family)

allowing Joseph and Sophie to purchase a home and open a second store in nearby Greeley County. Their first child, Morris, was born in 1884 and a second son, Edward, in 1887.

Life was good for the Glik family until a string of catastrophic events caused the business to fail. First, a fire on Feb. 3, 1887, destroyed an entire block of the town, including Glik's store. Some of the merchandise was saved and he was able to reopen just a week later in a smaller space. But then came an economic downturn and an extremely cold winter which kept rural families home on the farm rather than in his shop. The business failed in early 1888 and shortly after Joseph, Sophie and their sons, moved to St. Louis where Sophie had relatives. In St. Louis, their third child, a daughter named Jessie, was born in 1890.

Joseph started over. He first worked for others in the same industry, but by 1897 had again established his own store at 2221 N. Broadway in St. Louis, this time specializing in men's clothing.

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ABOUT US

MCHS BOARD

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Jenn VanBibber Curator

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VOLUNTEERS

There are abundant and varied opportunities for volunteers at either the museum or the archival library. If interested, please call 618-656-7569.

MEMBERSHIPS

Several membership levels are available to those interested in supporting the work of preserving Madison County history through an MCHS membership. Memberships run on the calendar year, Jan 1-Dec 31. Applications are available on our website, or at the Archival Library.

PUBLICATIONS MCHS NEWS

6 issues annually Cindy Reinhardt, Editor

ARCHIVAL LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT

By Mary Westerhold

EVEN FACEBOOK CAN SPARK INTEREST IN HISTORY

In the collection at the Archival Library are several issues of a magazine that was originally published as *Outdoor Illinois*. As the name implies, it focused on trails and natural features of Illinois. As the magazine evolved into the *Illinois Magazine* in 1978, the articles included historic sites and events that shaped the history of Illinois. The span of issues in the collection begin sporadically in 1966 and become a regular subscription beginning in 1973 and continuing until publication ceased with the November-December issue in 1991.

Recently Pat Rudloff, who has been volunteering and indexing for several years, began working with this magazine creating an index of articles. One article that she found particularly interesting was about the Wood River massacre. As many of our volunteers do, Pat shared the information with her son Dave who frequently posts to Facebook. Dave was also intrigued with the story and decided to visit the various spots relating to the Wood River massacre. He took photos and then included the photos and story on Facebook. His Facebook post intrigued many others who had never heard this story.

The basics of the story, as recorded in the 1882 History of Madison County.

"The most startling and cruel atrocity ever committed by the Indians within the limits of Madison county was the Wood River massacre, on the tenth of July, 1814, by which seven persons, one woman and six children, lost their lives.... The victims were the wife and two children of Reason Reagan, two children of Abel Moore, and two children of William Moore."

The victims had been walking between the homes of Abel Moore and Reason Reagan when they were killed. When their absence was finally realized late in the day, the search began with Mrs. William Moore being one of the searchers. She was the one who discovered the bodies.

This story reminds us that life was not easy for anyone on the frontier. The pioneer men and women worked hard to survive and raise their children. The men were often called away for militia duty or even just to plant fields far distant from the house. When they could not be present to protect the family, that duty fell to the women. Often both the men and women were comfortable with guns. When tragedy struck, every person did what they could to help the survivors continue on as best they could. It was not an easy life, but they persisted.

Note: Museum Superintendent Jon Parkin will present a program on the Wood River Massacre on Aug. 11 as part of the MCHS Speaker's Series.

MUSEUM SPOTLIGHT

By Jenn VanBibber

Visitors to the Madison County
Courthouse and Administration Building will
notice a new exhibit, *Black History of Madison County Before 1900*. MCHS
member (and former Board member)
Charlotte Johnson of Alton, worked with
museum staff, sharing her research and
insight to make this exhibit possible. Like
many museums, there are gaps in the
collections. Individuals like Mrs. Johnson,
who share their research and photographs
with the museum to preserve the histories of
underrepresented populations in the county,
are greatly appreciated.

This exhibit will be at the Madison County Courthouse for a few months. A slightly expanded version will be available to view on the County Museum Department page website (co.madison.il.us) as well as the MCHS site (madcohistory.org) later this spring.

The staff at the Museum and Archival Library congratulate former intern, Ashley Bivin, on her graduation from the Museum Studies program at Western Illinois University. She is the second of past interns to pursue graduate degrees in museum studies, but not the last. Our most recent intern, and current volunteer, is studying museum practices at SIUE.

As can be seen above, work at the museum continues even while the building is under renovations. Staff and volunteers continue to inventory ever expanding collections. With funds provided through the county budget, a new camera and "photography studio in a box" featuring LED lighting was purchased. New inventory entries will have a more unified look with clearer, brighter, more professional photographs.

MCHS NEWS

MEET THE MCHS BOARD

MCHS is fortunate to have highly qualified candidates on their Board of Directors. Board profiles were started with the January issue of this newsletter and continue below with Lynn Engelman of Wood River.

Lynn Engelman - Wood River

Lynn Engelman recently retired to Illinois after a 20year career with the Air Force as a Community and Environmental Planner. During that time, Lynn served as the Cultural Resource Manager/Historic Preservation Officer. In that capacity she was responsible for ensuring compliance with historic preservation and cultural resource laws and regulations for historic buildings/structures and archeological resources on Air Force installations and training ranges. Lynn has a Bachelor of Science in Geography from SIUE and a Masters of Urban Planning from the University of Illinois.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

MCHS is working with a committee of prominent local residents to begin fundraising for the new museum. We are grateful to the following for their encouragement and participation:

Donna Bardon John Celuch **Brent Copple** Barbara Crowder John Cunningham SJ Morrison Robert Daiber

William Haine Joseph Helms Edward Hightower William Krause Gary Neibur

Carol Peterson Paul Pitts Lawrence Taliana John Small William Tucker Kay Werner

2019 MCHS SPEAKERS SERIES

On Sunday, April 7, MCHS will present a program by Paul Shetley, 5,000 Miles through History: The Ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment in the Civil War. The program will begin at 2:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall of Immanuel United Methodist Church at 800 N. Main St. in Edwardsville.

The presentation chronicles the Ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment from April 1861 through July 1865. Mr. Shetley will use maps, photographs, videos, and reproductions of Civil War period weapons and equipment to provide a window into the life of these Illinois soldiers.

In the early years of the war, men of the Illinois Ninth were primarily German immigrants from Madison, Montgomery and St. Clair counties. Shetley will follow the men of the Ninth as they were recruited in their home towns, mustered into the army,



Paul Shetley at a reenactment of the Battle of Gettysburg. (Shetley)

and through life as they campaigned with Generals Grant and Sherman. The Ninth was a gallant regiment that fought in the important battles at Ft. Donelson, Shiloh and Corinth where they suffered appalling casualties. In March 1863 they became Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry, subsequently continued page 7

2019 NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

Dec .19-Feb. 15 ◆ Thank you for supporting MCHS!

\$250 Benefactor

Stephen and Julia Hansen

\$100 Patron Tom & Donna Bardon

Susan Buckley Doug & Maxine Callies Tallin & Jessica Curran W. Scott & Marcia Delicate Ted & Jean Elik Chris & Pamela Farrar William & Anna Haine Charlotte E. Johnson Mary Ruth Kettenbach Mad. County Regional Education JoAnn Nabe Joan & Tom O'Saben Glenn & Mary Pizzini Lawrence Taliana & Barbara Crowder David & Kay Werner

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Judith Leo

OPPORTUNITY IN MADISON COUNTY (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

At his store in St. Louis, Joseph Glik heard about the demand for goods in Madison. In 1902, he opened a second store there with his wife's cousin, Max Adler, as manager. He called it the Boston Shoe and Clothing Store. By the following year, his oldest son, 19-year-old Morris Glik, would be the manager, commuting every day from St. Louis to Madison. The Gliks, to this day, have kept their residences in St. Louis or St. Louis County. They were Jewish, and there was no synagogue in the town of Madison until 1933, and it was short-lived.

The Village of Madison was incorporated in 1891, only about a decade prior to Joseph's arrival. The area on the east side of the Mississippi River was primed for industrialization when the Merchants Bridge, connecting St. Louis and Illinois near the future site of Madison, was completed in 1889. What followed was a construction boom that brought numerous factories and foundries, the largest of these being the Missouri Car and Foundry Company. It lat-



These photos, taken in Madison, Illinois, during the 1903 flood show the extent of flooding after the levee broke. The top photo was taken at the corner of Third and Madison near where the Glik Store was located. The photo below was taken at Fourth and State Streets in Madison. (MCHS)



er became the American Car and Foundry Company, but was known by most as simply, "the car works."

The village incorporated with 765 inhabitants in 1891, and, by 1895, there were 2,500 men employed in Madison. Due to a housing shortage, most of them lived in St. Louis and commuted daily on the train over Merchants Bridge. Growth continued, but not always in a positive way. Madison soon became known for gambling, prostitution and other vices and was called the most "wide-open town in the country." However, at the same time it was establishing churches, schools, and homes as the population of the village grew.

When Joseph arrived, it was still a lawless town where the streets weren't paved, services were limited and gunplay in the streets was not uncommon. But Joseph had opened a store in the "Wild West" two decades earlier, where he likely encountered some of the same conditions. Madison's short-comings weren't a challenge Glik couldn't overcome and, in fact, he was probably uniquely qualified to operate a store at that time and in that place.

He first opened a small store near the intersection of Third and Madison Avenues. The year after he opened, in 1903, the levee near Merchants Bridge broke, flooding the entire village. It can be seen in photographs here that there is no possibility that his store escaped flooding. News accounts at the time said that most of the village was under 12 feet of water that took ten days to recede. Due to flooding of Madison's City Hall, there are no city records for Madison prior to the flood of 1903.

It is unknown how long it took for the store to reopen, but since no family stories exist about the flood, it was likely only a short time before they were open for business. Joseph had other property in Madison that likely also flooded. He had a number of small cottages that were leased to workers anxious to find housing closer to their jobs in Madison's industrial businesses. Joseph also invested in other Madison County properties located in nearby Granite City, established in 1896 and Venice, established in 1873.

In 1910, 54-year-old Sophie Glik, died of cancer. Soon afterward, Joseph retired and the store on North Broadway in St. Louis closed. Their son, Edward, who, like his brother Morris, had been a clerk in his father's store, left the men's furnishings business to work in real estate. Morris Glik continued to manage the Madison, Illinois, store. The family remained close though. Despite moving to several different home addresses over the years, the adult children, Edward, Morris, and their sister Jessie, who was a teacher, remained together in the same household for many years, even after Joseph's death in 1913 at the age of 72.

What finally split the Glik siblings was a war. Edward left for service in WW I on August 7, 1917, and served in the Air Corp until his discharge on April 29, 1919. His service began just a few weeks after the marriage of his brother, Morris Glik, to Elsie Helen Strauss on July 10, 1917. By 1920, all three siblings, and Morris's wife Elsie, were back living in the same household. Soon after Edward would marry Ruth Esserman, Jessie married Dr. Max Jacobs and the three couples established their own homes.

SURVIVING THE GREAT DEPRESSION & WORLD WAR II

In the early 1920s the Glik siblings reestablished a clothing store in St. Louis, this time on Easton Avenue, which Edward managed. They later added a third store on Manchester Road under the name Glik Stores Corporation. This arrangement continued until the mid-1920s when the stores were divided with Morris keeping the Madison store.

The St. Louis stores were under ownership of Jessie and Edward, but closed in the late 1920s, possibly as a result of the Great Depression. Edward kept the storefront on Easton Avenue and reestablished his real estate business.

Morris was now the sole owner of the Madison store. He commuted to the store every day from his home in University City, often walking 7-8 miles a day to the train station, a life-long habit. Morris and his wife, Elsie, had three children during

the 1920s, Shirley (1922), Joseph "Joe" (1926) and Marilyn Joy (1929). Their oldest, Shirley, died of childhood leukemia in 1927. From that time on, Morris was very generous with children's charities. One of his many charitable projects was the establishment and funding of a visiting nurse organization in Madison to provide expert health services to families who could not otherwise afford care for their children.

Oral history from the Glik family relates that Morris Glik had investments that he cashed in just before the stock market crash of 1929. Because of this, he was able to survive the Depression despite having three years in a row where the company suffered losses and many lean years until the steel mills reopened in 1941 (see chart below). During those hard years, Morris reached out to the community by offering credit to regular customers that created a loyalty to his store that would not soon be forgotten.

Morris was a good businessman, building connections throughout the Madison community where he was generous with donations of time and money to local organizations. His obituary in the *Granite City Press Record* said "he built up a thriving business and with it a reputation for honest, consid-



Morris Glik, circa 1920. (Glik family)

erate dealing. A firm believer in habits, he frequently remarked that "honesty is a habit that should be cultivated early and steadfastly. Following this basic creed, his store weathered the depression, which put nine out of ten Madison families on relief or WPA, and emerged as an institution."

The last references to the Boston Shoe and Clothing Store that can be found was in the late 1920s when the store in Madison was referred to as "Glik's Boston Store" in a news article. After that time, it became known to most area residents as Glik's Department Store, or simply "Glik's." From 1902 when it was founded until a new store was built in the 1920s, Glik's store in Madison had at least four locations, all of them on or near Madison Avenue in Madison. In the 1920s, the stores changed from special-

izing in men's furnishings to department stores carrying clothing and shoes for the entire family as well as furniture, radios, home furnishings, and small appliances.

Like Morris and Edward, the next generation of Glik children, as well as Morris's wife, helped out in the store on holidays and especially busy times. When World War II came along, the children were just teenagers, but by 1944, Joe was old enough to serve in the military. When Morris died suddenly from a heart ailment on May 11, 1945, Joe was in the Navy. Elsie took over the store until Joe could return to help. Then, according to family, mother and son worked out rotating shifts so that Joe could attend Washington University's School of Retailing during the day and work at night.

Through the late 1940s and early 1950s, Elsie was listed as president of the company and Joe, the third generation of Gliks in the business, was vice-president. Although Elsie continued to work in the stores until her retirement in 1953, Joe took charge of operations after graduation in 1951. Joe's sister, Marilyn Joy, sold her shares in the business to her brother after her marriage in 1952.

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The chart at right shows Glik annual sales
and profits for a 20-year period from 1923
through 1943. In the Tri-Cities area the Great
Depression (1929-1940) stunted business
growth until the steel mills reopened in 1941.
With America's entry into World War II, prod-
ucts from the mills were needed for the war
effort. Income levels before 1928 may or may
not include the St. Louis stores. The red num-
bers 1931-1933 show a loss followed by a
slow climb out of the Depression. Many peo-
ple developed a loyalty to the Glik Stores be-
cause Glik's sold on credit so long as custom-
ers made at least a small payment every two
weeks. Eighty percent of their business dur-
ing the Depression was on credit.
•

		Gross		All Income		All Expense		Net Profi	t
Year	Sales	Profit	%	excent	%	dxoent	%	before	%
				Recoveries		Charge-offs		Bad Debts	
1923	226,386.91	78,580.92	34.7	84,027.53	37.1	52,865.83	23.3	31,161.70	13.8
1924	204,169.30	72,572.15	35.5	77,171 05	37.8	51,108.78	25.00	26,062.27	12.8
1925	207.540.56	74,548.01	35.9	79,142.53	38.1	53,662.18	25.8	25,480.35	12.3
1926	208,651.59	83,148.66	39.8	87,647.40	42.0	56,394.94	27.0	31,252.46	15.0
1927	186,934.05	70,008.79	37.4	73,956.66	39.5	54.008.86	28.9	19,947.80	10.6
1928	219,910.96	77,635.67	35.3	81,623.26	37.1	55,307.94	25.2	26,315.32	11.9
1929	71,216.50	25,929.30	36.4	27,541.95	28.7	21,937.14	30.8	5,604.81	7.9
1930	2 235,789.88-	-88,785.09	37.7	92,812.33	39.4	60,860.70	25.8	31,951.63	13.6
1931	127,676.81	44,687.64	35.0	47,084.17	36.9	48,538.49	38.0	1.454.32	1.1
1932	69,187.55	20,832.91	30.1	22,240.46	32.1	28,869.80	41.7	6,629,34	9.6
1933	31,289.55	92290007	29.7	9,838.16	31.6	14,849.14	47.6	5,011.98	16.0
1934	56,201.98	20,642.44	36.7	21,520.54	38.3	17,784.03	31.6	3,736.51	6.7
1936	91,610.21	31,198.66	34.1	33,009.65	36.0	31,382.65	34.43		1.87
1935	-68,287.02	24,603.72	36.0	25,522.86	37.4	21,825.43	32.0	3.697.43	5.4
1937		72,402 61	37.3	76,724.43	39.5	61,302.56	31.6	15,421.87	8.0
1938	145,341.60	53,101.60	36.5	55,744.58	38.3	51,494.62	35.4	4,249.96	2.9
1939	82,426.67	30,917.41	37.5	32,545.90	39.5	31,417.77	38.1	1,128.13	1.4
1940	112,747.46	41,139.06	36.5	44,848.54	39.8	35,859.90	31.8	8,988.64	8.0
1941	149,490.46	58,261.28	39.0	61,543.69	41.2	49,965.65	33.4	11,578.04	7.8
1942	205,690.04	81,732.77	39.7	87,123.44	. 42.3	68,331.47	33.2	18,791.97	9.1

GLIK'S: OVER 70 YEARS IN MADISON, ILLINOIS



The undated photographs above show Morris and Elsie Glik inside the store on Madison Avenue in Madison, Illinois. (Glik family)

Joe was a brilliant businessman who loved retailing. He recognized early that strip malls were going to be the "new downtown" of merchandising. He opened his first mall location in 1954 with a store in the new Bellemore Village Shopping Center in Granite City. This second Madison County storefront was followed quickly by strip mall stores in East Alton and Alton and a fifth store in Edwardsville's new Montclaire Shopping Center in 1959. The business later expanded to Godfrey and Highland.

Another component of the Glik success was the practice of leasing rather than purchasing storefronts. This gave them the flexibility to experiment with different locations, move on when things weren't going well and even to experiment with various kinds of retail stores. An exception was made for their Highland, Illinois store. In 1973, the town had no strip malls, so Glik's built Highland's North Town Shopping Mall.

Under Joe and Elsie's leadership the stores moved to primarily clothing, dropping furniture and household goods

from the inventory in the late 1940s. In the 1980s they expanded to larger malls when they could get a good price for the lease. In the past forty years, Glik's regular stores were joined by specialty stores that include \$10 or Less, Glik's for Guys, Glik Sports and others. As fads come and go, these were eventually closed or changed to stores that appeal to the modern consumer. Today the regular Glik's stores carry clothing and shoes for men, women and children, Glik Boutiques carry women's clothing only and Glik's Men's stores obviously cover the male side of retailing. At Glik's, price point is still important, as it was in founder Joseph Glik's store, but there is also a focus on the name-brand clothing requested by their customers.

Most Glik stores are still primarily in strip malls, but there are a few in larger malls and in resort community locations Glik's stores can be found downtown.

In 1952, Joe Glik married University City native, Gussie Kapp. The couple had four children, Robert, Jeffrey, James (Jim) and Judith, who would all participate continued page 7



Glik's Madison Avenue Department Store circa 1940s. (Glik Family)

GLIK'S: CONTINUED GROWTH



Joe Glik and his children, Robert, Jeff, Judy and Jim circa 1990. (Glik family)

in the business. Robert and Judith moved on to other endeavors, but Jeff and Jim, after college and gaining experience by working at some of the country's retail giants, came home to Glik's where they have been integral parts of the organization since the early 1980s.

Family is very important to the Gliks who suffered great losses in the late 1980s with the death of Joe's wife Gussie in 1986 and his mother Elsie in 1987. Elsie, who saved the store for future generations of her family when her husband died, was 92 when she died.

Joe, affectionately called "Mister" by associates in the stores, stepped down as president of the company in 1995 but remained active in the stores, visiting daily until his death in 2018. Jeff Glik is now president of the company and the head buyer for women's clothing. His brother Jim is vice-president and the head buyer of men's clothing.

The Glik family business continues to grow with smart buying, good investments and careful expansion. The family has also passed on to current generations the philan-

thropic spirit of Morris Glik. They are supportive of the communities where they established stores, serving on nonprofit boards and making donations to worthy causes. Recent gifts to Madison County residents have been the donation of property for parks in both Highland and Edwardsville, a lasting legacy that will be enjoyed for decades to come.

The newest Glik store is in St. Joseph, Michigan, in a state that now has 18 Glik Stores. Across the Midwest, the company employs over 500 people and interviews with past and present employees revealed that none of them have anything but good things to say about Glik management, a truly remarkable accomplishment.

In Madison County today there are three Glik stores, in Granite City (also corporate headquarters) at Bellemore Village Shopping Center, in Edwardsville at the corner of East Vandalia and South Buchanan Streets, and at Highland's North Town Shopping Mall. Over the past 117 years, the Glik stores of Madison County have provided jobs and opportunities for hundreds of area residents and contributed significantly to the economy of all the mu-

nicipalities where they have established stores.

There has been no announcement of a fifth generation of Gliks at the Glik Company, but with their record of service to the communities where they reside, area residents can only hope for another generation of Gliks doing business in Madison County.



From left, Jim and Jeff Glik (Glik family)

MCHS NEWS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

riding vanguard for General Sherman's Army through Georgia and the Carolinas. They also participated in the Grand Review in Washington, D.C. as part of Sherman's Army of the Tennessee. The men of the Ninth returned home in July 1865 after an epic journey, mostly through hostile territory, of more than 5,000 miles.

Paul Shetley is the retired Director of the Environmental Resources Training Center in the School of Engineering at SIUE. He has over 35 years of experience as a water quality professional. He is a resident of Bethalto and is currently the Chair of the Foster Township Historical Museum Committee. His interest in the American Civil War began when, as a very young boy, he visited the Shiloh Battlefield with his parents. He has been active in a reenactment group representing the Ninth for over twenty years and has been researching the regiment for the past decade.

Programs in the MCHS Speakers Series are free and open to the public. Follow MCHS on Facebook for regular notices regarding programs or check the calendar on the MCHS web site.

FORMER PRESIDENT GARY DENUE RESIGNS

Former President Gary Denue has resigned after serving eight years on the MCHS Board due to personal obligations. His presence will be greatly missed. He served as president of the Society for five years and vice-president for a year. In addition he worked on the Building and Fundraising Committees. During his tenure, the Society made great strides towards improvements and modernization. At the beginning of his tenure, he called for a strategic planning session to plot out the future course for the organization and led the effort to hire an architectural firm specializing in historic buildings to complete a feasibility study on the museum building.

Address Service Requested



801 N. Main Street Edwardsville, IL 62025 PRSRT STD Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Permit #9 Edwardsville, IL 62025

MCHS CALENDAR

SUNDAY, APRIL 7
2 P.M.

Ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War Presenter: Paul Shetley

SUNDAY, JUNE 9
2 P.M.

Eastern European Costumes and Immigration to Madison County Presenter: Marvin Moehle

SUNDAY, JUNE 30 2 P.M.

Founding of New Philadelphia Presenters: Gerald McWorter & Katie Williams-McWorter

SPEAKER'S SERIES LOCATION: IMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 800 N. MAIN STREET, EDWARDSVILLE, (LOWER LEVEL; ENTRANCE ON SOUTH SIDE)

MARY'S RESEARCH TIP

National Genealogical Society Conference in St. Charles, Mo.

The National Genealogical Society's Family History Conference will return to the St. Charles Convention Center, St. Charles, Mo, May 8-11, 2019. The St. Louis Genealogical Society is the local host society and if this conference is anything like it was five years ago, local genealogists will not want to miss it.

Participants can register for all four days or just one day. In addition, if you cannot attend the conference,

the Exhibit Hall with the latest genealogy products, is free to visit. Products often are priced with a conference discount. Readers lucky enough to live in the St. Louis area should consider attending at least one day, even if it is just the Exhibit Hall. For more information or to register, stop in at the Archival Library to pick up a brochure or visit

https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/.

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

Stories and notices about upcoming events related to Madison County history are posted regularly on the Society's Facebook page.

Some of the events are hosted by MCHS, but others are from regional libraries and museums that promote history-related programs, exhibits, workshops or other events throughout Madison County. Other Facebook users often comment, giving their family's experience with a particular event in the past. These personal stories are always of interest.

Please take a look. Members and others are invited to "like" the page and when possible to share posts often as it helps the Society build Facebook friends. The page is listed under "Madison County Historical Society."