



# ◆ THE GENIE'S VIEW ◆

The LaSalle County Genealogy Guild - 115 W. Glover St.—Ottawa, IL 61350—Tel. (815) 433-5261

January/February 2014

## GUILD HOURS

Mondays & Saturdays  
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Meetings—3rd Saturday of Month  
At 1:00 p.m.

115 W. Glover St., Ottawa  
(815) 433-5261

## INTERNET CORNER

The LSCGG's Home Page address is:

Lscgg.org

LSCGG's e-mail address:

lscgg@sbcglobal.net

## OFFICERS

President: Jenan Jobst  
(815) 433-2919

Vice President: Margaret Clemens  
(815) 434-6342

Co-Secretaries: Barb Halsey &  
Sandy Vahl

MAY YOU  
HAVE A  
BLESSED  
AND  
HAPPY 2014

## JANUARY MEETING

**Saturday, January 18, 2014**

Our speaker will be **JANICE A. FRITSCH, PLCGS**. Janice is a graduate of the National Institute of Genealogical Studies, with a Professional Learning Certificate in Genealogical Studies. She is the Past President of the Illinois State Genealogical Society and a Director of the Federation of Genealogical Societies Board. She has almost twenty years of research experience as a genealogical researcher and lecturer.

She will give a presentation about Civil War Military Records which can yield information about ancestors that cannot be found elsewhere. Through the case study of Civil War soldier Bennett Sapp and his widow, Rebecca Lake Sapp Rhodes Hamilton, Civil War service records and the widow's pension are used as examples to show the many details of their life that is revealed within.

## FEBRUARY MEETING

**Saturday, February 15, 2014**

**BRIAN NOLAN**, our speaker, will be showing a video about the Rock Island and LaSalle Railroad. In 1847 the Rock Island & LaSalle Railroad was chartered to build a railroad between Rock Island on the Mississippi River and the town of LaSalle in LaSalle county to connect with the west end on the I & M canal. Construction began in the rail line in 1851. The first steam engine to ride the route, a 4-4-0 was called the "rocket,". It was resurrected in color and put back on the rails for this video.

Pat Rooney, a valley videographer, and Brian Nolan, a local historian and artist, will take you on a trip though the upper Illinois River valley, following the Rock Island route and its spur railroads from New Lenox in Will county thru Grundy, LaSalle, Bureau and a little bit of Henry county to Annawan. The DVD concentrates on the Depots of each community concentration on the town founders and the business and commerce that made each town grow and become what you see today.

Most of the old wooden 19th century depots are no longer there. We breathed new life into them from old black and white photographs and put them back on the rails. This is just a small step back into history.

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

I can't believe another year has gone by so quickly., Tim seems to fly faster as you get older. We've been quiet here at the Guild lately. Not many visitors have stopped by. The weather has not been to good either. It has been in the teens and yesterday we got about 2 inches of snow. It's pretty but I don't like driving in it.

Remember to renew your membership as we need all of our members. Have a great new year and have many new genealogy discoveries this year.

President Jenan Jobst

**OCTOBER MEETING**

Saturday, October 19, 2013

The meeting was opened by President Jenan Jobst. Minutes from the last meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was read and approved. There were 15 in attendance.

A few items shared:

Illinois State Genealogical Society Conference is October 25 & 26. A few of our members are assisting with this conference.

Tuesdays are the work days at the Guild—volunteers are needed.

Our Guest Speaker was **John Lynn** and his topic was the **Erie Canal Trip**.

The Erie Canal was built from 1817-1825. It was built in three phases. Horses and mules did most of the original work. In 1825 many businesses settled along the canal. Barges and Packet boats used the canal. The construction was mostly paid for by tolls in less than 10 years.

Railroads were the biggest threat to the canals and eventually took most of the canal traffic.

This was a very interesting presentation. Thank you for sharing it with us today.

**Sandy Vahl, Co-Secretary**

We had our Ethnic Potluck Lunch for the November meeting. The attendance was small but we had a great variety of delicious dishes. A nice meal and conversation enjoyed by all.

**CONDOLENCES**

With many members living outside of LaSalle County we are not always aware of the passing of a member or a loved one, so we need to extend out sympathy to the family of Gilda Kinzer, a life long member and to Joan Rohs who lost her husband, Carl, in February of 2013. May they rest in peace.

**MEMBERSHIPS**

New Members

**Information Privatized  
For Members Only**

**MEMBERSHIPS CONTINUED****Change of Address****Information Privatized  
For Members Only****Additional Surnames****Information Privatized  
For Members Only****MEMBERSHIP****RENEWALS****DUE IN JANUARY****PLACES TO STAY**

Listed below are places to stay while in Ottawa. Additional information on the facilities can be obtained at the Ottawa Visitors Center, at 100 W. Lafayette Street in the Old Reddick Mansion.

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**Ottawa Motel Properties and B & Bs**

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**Marcia's Bed & Breakfast:** 3003 N. Route 71, phone (815) 434-5217

**COMPUTER SITES**

[WorldVitalRecords.com](http://WorldVitalRecords.com)

WorldVitalRecords is a real up-and-coming player in the world of online genealogy. Even in its short lifetime, the site has attained a number of awards for excellence in the genealogy industry (notably from Genealogy magazine, Alexa and 101 Best Family Websites). With unlimited access to billions of record entries, names, images and more, we're sure you can fulfil most research needs using this site.

WorldVitalRecords provides access to some of the best online genealogy records including immigration lists, census records, vital records, parish and land records. These records are regularly updated, and we were particularly excited by the number of innovative and unusual new listing that appeared during the course of our research. Rare collections, such as passenger lists from immigrant vessels, yearbooks from US high schools and universities, manuscripts and major new census documents are amongst the best of the new collections. With such a focus on high quality materials and constant updating, this site is ideal for the serious genealogist as well as the beginner. The excellent search facility allows users to search by country, region or US state and to cross reference the results against a number of international records.

FRANK AND ERNEST

By Bob Thaves



### CHURCHES OF FREEDOM AND SERENA TOWNSHIPS, LASALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Back in the 1980s Reverend Vandoske suggested a historical record be made of the fourteen churches in Freedom and Serena Townships. He was the pastor of two of these churches for 4 years. With the help of many others, my mother, Evelyn (Pool) Goetsch, researched and compiled a summary of these churches. The following information is from the book she compiled.

In the early years of the settlement of the townships, the circuit riders conducted worship services in the homes of the pioneers, but as more people arrived, the congregations became too large to be accommodated. Churches were soon erected throughout the townships.

Name of Church	Class or Organization	Property Purchased
Harding M.E. United Methodist	1835	1856
Freedom Lutheran	1836	1855
Indian Creek Baptist	1840	1840
1st M.E. of W. Serena 'Bend'	1845	1877
Presbyterian Church of Prairie Home (Gouldtown)	1849	1849
1st Methodist Church Of Prairie Home (Gouldtown)	1851	1851
Prairie Center Union Methodist	1853	1865
Seventh Day Adventist Church built 1873/74	1870	1888
French Evangelical Presbyterian	1872	1876
Reorganized church built	1874	
German M.E. before United Brethren	1873	1873
	August	1878

Indian Precinct (Freedom Township) was one of the first areas in LaSalle County to be settled, around 1830. The Davis, Hall, Henderson and Pettigrew families started building their cabins along the wooded banks of Indian Creek. In 1832, during the Blackhawk War, sixteen adults and children from these families were slain in the Indian Creek massacre. After this terrible incident, migration to this area slowed for a short time, but by 1835 a class of about 50 Methodists was formed, meeting in their homes to worship at services delivered by the circuit riding ministers. The first of whom was probably Jesse Walker, who had established Salem Mission, the first Methodist appointment in the bonds of the Rock River Conference. The location was on Sec. 15, Twp. 35, Range 5, now in the town of Mission, in LaSalle County. Walker was followed in 1831 by S.R. Beggs until 1833, then William Royal until 1835, who was succeeded by Rufus Lummary who was in charge in 1836.

In 1833, Samuel R. Beggs consolidated Walker's efforts, and organized the first Methodist Class or Church Society in Ottawa. His circuit was a four-weeks journey and consisted of sixteen charges. John Sinclair was appointed pastor in 1837 and was followed by Wesley Batcheller in 1839. The sixteen charges in this circuit included Ottawa, Dayton, two appointments on Indian Creek, PawPaw, Mulligan's Grove, three appointments in Bureau and old Indian-town, three appointments at Peru, one at Judge Strongs', five miles below Ottawa, and one at Troy Grove.

Sinclair was appointed to take charge of the Chicago District (which included the Ottawa area) in 1833, after Walker was returned to Chicago. He and his wife lived along the Fox river about six miles north of Ottawa. He was made presiding elder at the organization of the Rock River Conference in 1840, and dedicated the first Methodist Church built in the conference, at Galena....John Sinclair died on January 26, 1861 at Evanston, Illinois. He had entered traveling in 1825 in Kentucky. He is buried in the Hebon cemetery at Sinclair Station, northeast of Jacksonville, Illinois.

Rev. Batcheller was pastor in the Harding or Indian Creek area for many years. He lived at the north edge of the village of Harding and his residence was a stop in the Underground Railway to aid slaves in their escape from the southern plantations to Canada and freedom.... He died at Freedom on March 16, 1891 and had entered traveling in 1831.

In the coming issues I will provide some of the history of each of the fourteen churches of Freedom and Serena townships.

### OTTAWA TENT COLONY

The Ottawa Tent Colony, founded in 1904, by Dr. J.W. Pettit, who is still at the head of the institution, was opened for business in a very small way. Today it may be considered one of the most important institutions in Ottawa. Patients suffering from tuberculosis are treated here, and they come from all sections of the country. It has a capacity of 72 patients.

When Dr. Pettit first advocated the theory that tuberculosis could be cured in the Illinois valley or any other climate he met with hundreds of skeptics. His theory was that climate had nothing to do with the cure of the disease, and in proof of the claim cited persons interested in the cure of tuberculosis to the fact that the disease was being cured in all climates. Persons living in New York were being sent to the Adirondack mountains for treatment of consumption. There they encountered hot summers and most severe winters. Farther west consumptives were going to South Carolina, down along the sea coast, where the air was heavy and temperature moderate in winter and very hot in summer. Others were going to Texas, and still others to Arizona, Colorado and California. In all these various climates people suffering from tuberculosis were being cured, according to the claim, because of the climatic conditions. Dr. Pettit started out to show the inconsistency of such a claim. It was an uphill fight. To show the fallacy of the claim that it was climate and not treatment that cured tuberculosis at once became an educational problem. Physicians, when it was once called to their attention, readily grasped the situation, but the general public was not so easily convinced.

July 1, 1904, Dr. Pettit opened his sanitarium in a small way. His idea was to have the state take hold of the proposition, making it a state institution. A bill passed the state Senate in 1905 appropriating \$100,000 for the building of such a sanitarium. The House cut the appropriation to \$25,000. At the request of the state organization backing Dr. Pettit, Governor Charles S. Deneen vetoed the bill, the organization knowing that \$25,000 was not sufficient to provide for such a sanitarium.

It then remained for Dr. Pettit to formulate new plans, and instead of the institution becoming the property of the state, it was made a private sanitarium. With the support of the physicians of the state, the Ottawa Tent Colony has grown and prospered, until from a small beginning with only a small sum invested it now represents an investment of \$100,000.

Since the opening of the colony 1,500 patients have been treated there, coming from all over the United States. The sanitarium and the success of the treatment given are ample proof that Dr. Pettit's theory was correct and works in actual practice as well as in theory.

The Ottawa Tent Colony is constructed along the

most modern sanitary lines in order that the health of the patients may be best conserved. Every attention is given the patients by skilled physicians, trained nurses and numerous attendants.

Dr. J.W. Pettit, who was honored in 1909 by the election to the office of president of the Illinois State Medical society, is medical director; Dr. W.H. Jamison, resident physician; Dr. R.T. Pettit, bacteriologist and pathologist, and Miss Helen Hartley, superintendent of nurses. Harley V. Pettit is the general superintendent and business director.

### WILLIAM HAYNE

William Hayne, Sr., was a stone cutter, and came to Ottawa in 1841. He was employed in the construction of the locks of the Illinois and Michigan canal. His last work of any kind was done on lock number eleven. He died a short time later.

William Hayne, Sr., was born in 1802 in Germany. He came to this country when quite a young man and settled in New Orleans. Later he resided in St. Louis, where he married removing to LaSalle, where William Jr., was born, June 1, 1839. Later the family removed to a place on the Chicago road, six miles north of Ottawa, coming to Ottawa in 1848.

The elder Hayne purchased an acre and a half or ground where the Hayne homestead now is, and William Hayne, Jr., has lived there ever since. The property is now known as 821 Illinois avenue. William Sr., died the following February, leaving a widow without support, except for the vegetables raised on the small lot which he purchased for \$150. The widow was thrifty, however, and in a few years had saved \$350, which, on the advice of some of the prominent men of Ottawa, she loaned to the Ottawa Starch company, taking the note of the company for it. A few years later the starch company failed, and Mrs. Hayne lost her savings, which in those days represented quite a fortune. She died in 1863, leaving William Hayne and a younger brother, Edward, who died in Jackson, Michigan in 1873.

As William Hayne grew to manhood he engaged in the harness-making business, and has been identified with that business ever since, now owning one of the oldest harness shops in the city. In 1864 he married Rosa Rock, a native of Malone, New York, and they went to the old Hayne homestead to live. William Hayne has lived on that tract of land continuously for sixty-five years. They have six children living. They are Mrs. J.J. Wafer, Denver; Mrs. J.F. Ellison, Toledo, Ohio; Mrs. William Martin, Elgin; Mrs. Bert Anderson, Edward Hayne and W.E. Hayne, of Ottawa.

Taken from: **Ottawa Old and New, pg. 109 & 111**

## RANSOM

This is the name of a new village recently located on the line of the new extension of the Pekin & Southwestern railroad from Streator to Joliet, named after the brave Ransom, formerly of this county. It has many advantages to make a good-sized town; it is in the center of a rich and populous farming country; the nearest town is Streator, 11 miles away, and already Mr. John Stout has erected a large warehouse and begun buying grain, and a railroad depot has been built by the farmers in the vicinity. The people have wisely saved their school lands, in the midst of which the town is laid out, and now by the sale (advertised in another column for Wednesday, Feb. 16th) a large fund will be provided for the education of the people's children—great advantage over most newly organized villages. The town has no bad debts in the shape of railroad bonds, etc., but starts with books clear of all indebtedness of any kind. With such favorable advantages, and with so careful a policy of management, the town must rapidly develop into a thriving young city.

The Chicago, Pekin & Southwestern railroad company will run a special train from Streator to Ransom, leaving the former place at 9 o'clock a.m., and, returning, will leave Ransom at 5 o'clock p.m. on day of sale, to accommodate those wishing to attend the sale, which begins at 10 o'clock a.m.

## LaSALLE COUNTY

Donation of a cow led to the naming of LaSalle County, according to a history book published in 1914, which contains the following statement credited to George M. Hollenbeck, whose father settled in this county in 1830.

"The organization of a new county had become pretty generally known, and a meeting was called somewhere in the neighborhood of what is now Peru, in 1831, for the purpose of suggesting a name for the new county. If any accord of this meeting was kept, it was perished in the lapse of years, but that such a meeting was held is really a fact, although two names only of those present have come down to us.

"David Letts, reputed to have made the first suggestion of a name, arose and said, 'I will give \$25 to have the new county named Louisa.' Lewis Bailey, after whom Bailey's Falls was named, arose and said, 'I have no \$25, nor indeed any other sum of money to give, but I will give a 'Keow; (Yankee for cow) to have the county called LaSalle.' Mr. Bailey bided better than he knew, for the meeting thereupon voted that the new county should be called 'LaSalle,' and it has been ever since."

*Taken from a newspaper article given to me.*

*No name or date*

## DONATIONS

We are very grateful to the members that have generously made donations recently.

### Information Privatized For Members Only

Please accept my apology if I missed you. Notify the Guild and we will acknowledge you in the next newsletter.

Again, a special thank you to all.

## PHILIP SCHOCH

Philip Schoch, for many years Ottawa's most prominent harness maker, was born in Gerstheim, Alsace, July 26, 1832. In 1855 he was married to Caroline Sulzberger, who was born in Obenheim, Alsace, May 6, 1835. In 1852 they came to this country and located in Ottawa. Mr. Schoch had learned the trade of making light and heavy harness in the old country, and when he came to this city he opened a harness shop on Columbus street, which he operated for over half a century. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Schoch; Philip, who married Minnie Flick; Albert, who married Mina Wolf, and George, Emil and Lena, deceased. Sketches of Philip and Albert Schoch will appear in the historical sketch of the National City Bank to be published later in this work. Philip Schoch, the father, died May 14, 1908; his wife June 1, 1885.

*Ottawa Old and New A complete History of  
Ottawa, Illinois 1823-1914, pg. 37*

## BLIND MAN LED TRAGIC, SIMPLE LIFE

George Keith had what some may call a tragic life but the old blind man did not let his lack of sight bother him.

Relatives still living in the area say the former Harding may was a skilled craftsman and inventor, who felt in some ways his blindness improved his creativity.

Keith spent many of his years inventing farming implements and making combination locks with a pedal-powered wheel next to the shack that was his home on the west side of Illinois 23, just north of Indian Creek and at the base of a steep rise.

Aging photographs of Keith show a man with a narrow sunken face and downturned mouth. Relatives say as an old man Keith was resigned to his sightless fate—disappointed possibly, but not bitter.

“He wasn’t one to feel sorry for himself,” said Keith’s grandson, Archie Keith of Wedron. “He didn’t let his blindness get him down.”

Relatives say Keith felt he made up for his loss of sight with his other senses.

One relative by marriage, the late Minnie Hathorn of Morris, got to know Keith well. Hathorn used to live in a house just down the lane from Keith’s. Minnie reminisced about Keith one day before her death in a car accident in October two years ago.

“People would fuss about his being blind,” Minnie said. “And he’d say, ‘Oh, I can hear the birds sing.’”

In a story of his life printed in the 1934 edition of the “The Prairie Farmer,” Keith said his blindness made him a better craftsman.

“It’s funny when you stop to think of it. I can go out to my workshop at midnight in pitch darkness and do my work just as well as I could in the middle of the day. I believe I make less mistakes now than I did when I had my sight,” he said.

Throughout his life, Keith obtained patents on several of his inventions, but by no means on all of them.

Although he never saw a car, having been blinded at a young age, Keith invented a tire pump and jack to change a tire.

The pump fit on the hub of the wheel, and, if the tire was losing air, it would automatically pump it up as the car moved forward. The jack worked from inside the car and raised all four wheels at a time.

Keith also invented numerous farming devices including side delivery rotary hay rake—the first one ever made and similar to the ones in use today.

Keith’s great niece Vietta Larkins, formerly of Harding, said the old man especially wished to patent a corn sheller, but someone beat him to it.

Keith’s great nephew Chuck Billings, who grew up in Earlville, recalled several patent models of Keith’s inventions.

These were tremendously detailed and precise models,” recalled Billings, who now lives in Bellbrook, Ohio. He added Keith was a well-known and indeed popular fellow in the area. “He was a kind of novelty and had a lot of visitors,” Billings said. “My mother told me he always felt he could take one of his inventions and put it into production. His goal was to be a manufacturer.”

But Keith was perhaps best-known in the area for his combination locks constructed on a lathe that could be seen from the road outside his workshop in warm weather.

Because he couldn’t see when joining the parts of his locks, Keith used “screw type” measuring instruments. During his later years, he was quoted as saying such methods also made his locks more precise.

“So many turns means so much distance, and I know every thread of those screws,” Keith said in *The Prairie Farmer*.

Keith made the locks nearly impossible to break into—most having thousands and one having 26,000 possible combinations.

Some were made of brass and some were large, steel objects that Keith would install under door knobs.

George Keith grew up in Harding—very near the little shack he eventually built and died in.

He lost his sight when he was 21 from an infection, relatives said.

Eventually, Keith moved to New York and began to farm 40 acres. While there he married a woman named Belle.

No one knows exactly when, but one day Keith was walking down a hill and was hit by a team of runaway horses. Keith fell and weed stubble pierced his good eye, blinding him completely, relatives said.

Soon after, Keith returned home to Harding without Belle, who apparently stayed behind.

Keith built his own house, a tar paper machine shop and privy, by himself. He lived a short distance from his nephew Mervin Hathorn and his wife, Minnie, who owned a filling station at the top of the hill.

Keith’s cabin was whitewashed and sparsely furnished. It had two rooms—one used as a kitchen with a cook stove in one corner and the other as a sleeping room. Keith also used an oil burner to heat his home. A rocking chair was in the bedroom, and graniteware pots hung on the kitchen walls.

Wires from Keith’s house were hung across to his outhouse, machine shop, mailbox and well, so Keith could grasp them and make his way where he needed to go.

As a prank, children who lived on nearby farms (continued on page 8)

(con't from page 7) used to switch the wires around and tie them to trees just to confuse the old man.

Keith earned a meager living selling his locks, while he also sharpened knives, blades and scythes for farmers.

He also was on the pension rolls for the blind, receiving \$1 a day from the state and county.

Relatives say Keith's blindness made him thrifty in his movements.

As a school girl, Larkins, who lived in Baker, a small grain town just north of Harding, would fix meals for her great-uncle and remembers him as more particular than most.

I'd go down and cook for him, and he'd tell me, "Vie, you put the salt back in the wrong place.' (He could tell) by sound," she said. "He knew the sugar was to the left by six inches. He'd always hear sounds."

Merle Hathorn of Lisbon, Keith's great nephew, said the old man used to make his own coffee, using field corn, which he'd roast, then grind into a powder and steep.

It wasn't sweet, but rich tasting, said Merle, who added he became addicted to the slightly bitter drink.

"Once you got started on it, you couldn't stop," Merle said.

Keith also ate potato soup and corn meal mush, sardines, salmon, bread and milk.

"He didn't eat the best," Larkins said. "People brought him vegetables, Everyone looked after him."

Merle was very fond of Keith and often visited with him just to bring him company.

"There were many times I went down, and we didn't have anything to talk about, and he just knew someone was there," Merle said. "I loved the old man."

Archie Keith said his family often used to pile into the Model T and visit the old man.

"We'd sneak into his peanut butter jars as kids," Keith said. "He knew and he'd just grin. He had two clocks. One that would strike the half-hour and one the hour."

Archie Keith added his grandfather was proud of the models of his inventions and kept them lined up on a shelf on his wall.

As a child, Jerry Johnson lived near Keith and used to help him get rid of his garbage by throwing it off the bridge into Indian Creek—a typical way of disposing of refuse in those days.

He says Keith always struck him as the stern type.

"He wasn't grumpy (but) I can't remember if he ever laughed," said Howard Hatland, another youth who used to visit Keith.

Hatland appreciated Keith's inventiveness even as a boy, noting he built a little pump house over a spring near his cabin.

Keith also fashioned a type of primitive drinking fountain with a spout that tapped a nearby spring.

"You wouldn't find that in the schools," Hatland said. "A wooden crock had to be filled from a pump outside. There was no running water in the school house."

For the times, Keith lived an unusually long life, dying of old age in 1935 at 84.

He was buried in Harding Cemetery only a few spaces away from his father.

*The Daily Times, 5 February 1990*

*Next issue—how Keith moved his house because the new route 23 was going to run right through it.*

### NO CENSUS, NO FEELINGS WITH THE THREE STOOGES

Census enumerators (census takers) have a difficult job at best. Can you imagine Larry, Curly or Moe interviewing local residents?

In a 1940 movie, the Three Stooges obtained jobs as census enumerators and were to be paid four cents per name recorded. I watched the movie today and now I understand some of the census records I have looked at in the past! I think this is the same group that visited my great-great-grandparents' house.

You can watch The Three stooges at their best, or worst, in *No Census, No Feeling* at <http://dai.ly/xglsm6>. You can also watch it in the video player below. Here is a bit of trivia:

The football sequences in *No Census, No Feeling* were filmed at USC in the autumn of 1940. Some of the crowd scenes apparently were filmed during a real game.

At one point, Moe says "Wait a minute, flathead! We just got a job. We're working for the census." Curly then replies, "You mean Will Hays?" The reference to Will Hays will escape most of today's viewers. William Hays was the creator of the Hays Code for censorship of American film. Every actor, producer, and director would have been very familiar with Will Hays and the Hays Code in 1940 and most everyone in Hollywood disliked Hays. Curly's remark confuses census with censorship.

One comment in the middle of the film probably made perfect sense to audiences in 1940 but not today. According to Wikipedia.org at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/No\\_Census,\\_No\\_Feeling](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/No_Census,_No_Feeling), "In one scene, Curly believes that it is Independence Day in October, claiming that you never can tell; look what they did to Thanksgiving!" This is a reference to an event in 1939 when Franklin Roosevelt moved Thanksgiving to an earlier Thursday in November to lengthen the Christmas shopping season. This act angered many Republicans and, after some time, the holiday ended up moving to the last Thursday of November."

*Printed with permission from Eastman's On Line Genealogy Newsletter by Dick Eastman,*

*December 12, 2013 <http://www.eogn.com>.*

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(Limit of 10 LaSalle County Surnames Please)

The Surname Index is now on the Internet. If someone is interested in your

Surname can the Guild give out your name and address? YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

LASALLE COUNTY GENEALOGY GUILD, 115 W. Glover St., Ottawa, IL 61350 Tel. (815) 433-5261

I would love to volunteer

# THE GENIES VIEW

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