



HISTORICO

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Sangamon County Historical Society Newsletter
P.O. Box 9744 Springfield, IL 62791-9744 | 217-525-1961 | schsoffice@gmail.com
www.sancohis.org | www.sangamoncountyhistory.org

2026 Annual Meeting

June 16 - 5:30PM

Pasfield House - 525 S Pasfield St, Springfield

The 2026 Annual Meeting and Grants Recognition event is on **Tuesday, June 16 from 5:30 - 7:30PM at Pasfield House**. While registrations for this event are due on **June 2**, you still have a chance to vote by mail for our board candidates before the event. Have your slip (on page 4) in the mail to us by **June 10** to make sure your vote is counted at the Annual Meeting. There are 4 officers on which to vote, as well as a one-term Board of Director position. The candidates are listed on this page with a brief bio and photo.



**For President:
Linda Schneider**

Linda is up for a 2nd year as President. She has served on the Cemetery Walk committee for many years. She has served on the SCHS Board since 2022.



For Secretary: Sarah Adams

Sarah has served on the SCHS Board since 2020 and is the Chair of the Social Media Committee and designs the *Historico*.



For Treasurer: Sam Sgro

Sam has served on the SCHS Board since 2024 and is on the Finance Committee.



**For Vice President:
Scott Pillsbury**

Scott is up for a second year as Vice President. He has served on the SCHS Board since 2023 and is the Grants Committee Chair.



For Director '26-'27: Ruth Slottag

Ruth has been a Public Relations and Communications Professional for over 40 years, and has served many terms on the SCHS Board over the years.

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If you have had a recent move, please remember to log into the website to update your address in the system, so you can stay up to date on *Historico*!

From the President's Desk



LINDA SCHNEIDER

Our 2025-2026 membership year is coming to an end and will be capped off with our Annual Meeting and Grants Recognition on Tuesday, June 16 at 5:30 p.m. at the Pasfield House. At our Annual Meeting we will approve the slate of 2026-2027 Board Members and Officers, and will honor our 2026 Grant Recipients. The cost for the buffet dinner is \$35 for members and non-members and registrations are due June 2. If you missed the deadline and would like to attend, please reach out to me via email - schsoffice@gmail.com - about availability.

As I reflect over the past year, the weather cooperated and we were able to provide monthly programs in September, November, January, February, March, April and May in addition to our annual Oak Ridge Cemetery Walk in October. Our monthly programs, held in Lincoln Library's Carnegie Room, were well-attended and there were approximately 500 participants at the Cemetery Walk. We also enjoyed a Holiday Party on a snowy evening in December at the historic Pasfield House. Our Program Committee is already planning monthly programs for 2026-2027 - the first to be held on Tuesday, September 15. Topics and locations will be announced later in the summer on our website - www.sancohis.org - and in our September issue of Historico.

My heartfelt thanks to our hard-working Board who all volunteer many hours of time and energy to the work of the Sangamon County Historical Society. Also thank you to the membership for your financial support in furthering the preservation of Sangamon County history. Hope to see you at the Annual Meeting!

Linda



2025-2026 Officers

President - Linda Schneider

Vice President - Scott Pillsbury

Past President - Cinda Klickna

Treasurer - Sam Sgro

Secretary - Sarah Adams

Directors

Term ending 2026

Ruth Slottag

Term ending 2027

Brian Barstead

Mary Alice Davis

Susan Helm

Kathy Hoffman

Stephanie Martin

Term ending 2028

Lee-Ann Burgener

Dawn Phillips

Ashley Yoggerst



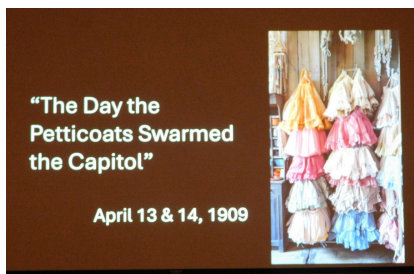
Historico, published 9 times a year is the official bulletin for members of the Sangamon County Historical Society. Springfield, Illinois.

Winner, Certificate of Excellence, Illinois State Historical Society

You can download back issues of Historico in PDF format by going to our website: www.sancohis.org.

Send event announcements to: schshistorico@gmail.com

May Program: “April 15, 1909: The Day the Petticoats Stormed the Capitol” with Cinda Klickna



by Dawn Phillips



Before she ever stepped to the podium, most in attendance already knew Cinda Klickna as one of Springfield’s most respected and recognizable voices in local history. A retired District 186 teacher, former teachers’ union president, past president of the SCHS, accomplished author, and current freelance writer for the Illinois Times, Cinda has devoted decades to preserving the stories, people, and moments that shaped central Illinois.

During her program, Cinda transported listeners back to April 1909, when thousands of women descended upon Springfield and demanded a voice in their government. With historical accounts, one being from the Illinois State Register, which described the gathering as “the largest lobby day in the history of the state legislature,” Cinda reconstructed the events that brought hundreds of women by train from Chicago to Springfield. Stopping in Joliet, Bloomington, Lincoln, and Atlanta along the way, women rallied support for equal suffrage. The newspapers described them as “pattern-hatted, aggressive, confident, smiling representatives of the fair sex,” whose army of petticoats came asking votes for women.

Before the Capitol proceedings began, many gathered at the home of Susan Lawrence Dana, where 115 women assembled alongside yellow suffrage decorations and tulips arranged in a show of unity. Among those highlighted by Cinda were Bessie Bradwell Helmer, daughter of

attorney and legal reformer Myra Bradwell, social reformer and settlement house leader Jane Addams, labor activist and International Glove Workers Union leader Agnes Nestor, Women’s Trade Union League president Margaret Robins, Decatur suffrage advocate Eugenia Bacon, and attorney and women’s rights advocate Catherine McCulloch.

Inside the Capitol, women flooded galleries, aisles, and legislative floors. Jane Addams reportedly “deeply impressed all with her logical remarks,” while Agnes Nestor spoke on “the handicap of the working girl.” Cinda also detailed the opposition suffragists faced. After Addams spoke, anti-suffrage activist Caroline Fairfield Corbin warned that “a vote for women’s suffrage is a vote for a socialist regime.”



As the day concluded, a reception originally planned for the Governor’s Mansion was moved to Logan Place after Governor Deneen’s wife became ill. Hosted at the home of Springfield civic leader Mary Morrison, the evening gathered many of the movement’s leaders together.

Cinda ended by explaining that though Senate Bill 119 stalled in 1909, Illinois women ultimately secured the right in 1913 to vote for presidential electors and certain local offices – years before the ratification of the 19th Amendment. Cinda’s program stood as a tribute to the generations of women who refuse to accept silence as their place in society, ensuring that their enduring fight for equality continued to resonate more than a century later.

All photographs by Ernie Slottag

2026-2027 VOTING SLATE for SCHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS & DIRECTOR

Please mail this form **by June 10** to the Sangamon County Historical Society, P.O. Box 9744, Springfield, IL 62791-9744. Please Print.

Vote for candidates:

FOR PRESIDENT

Linda Schneider

FOR SECRETARY

Sarah Adams

FOR DIRECTOR, 1-YEAR TERM 2026-2027

Ruth Slottag

FOR VICE PRESIDENT

Scott Pillsbury

FOR TREASURER

Sam Sgro

Upcoming SCHS Fall Programs

The SCHS Program and Special Events Committee has been hard at work preparing a stellar lineup of programs and events for the second half of 2026! Thanks to the committee consisting of Linda Schneider, Cinda Klickna, Susan Helm, Ashley Nippert-Yoggerst, and Dawn Phillips, there will be plenty of interesting historical topics to entice you this fall. Some details are still in the works, so check out our website, future *Historico* newsletters, and our Facebook page to get the most up-to-date information. Most programs take place at the Lincoln Library, unless otherwise noted.

SEPTEMBER:

Bell Miller - The Inn at 835 - Details TBA

- This presentation will take place at 835 2nd Street in Springfield

OCTOBER:

Sunday, October 4 - Oak Ridge Cemetery Walk

- Oak Ridge Cemetery



NOVEMBER

Tuesday, November 17, 5:30PM - Betsy Dollar on Christmas at Marshall Fields

DECEMBER

Holiday Party - Details TBA

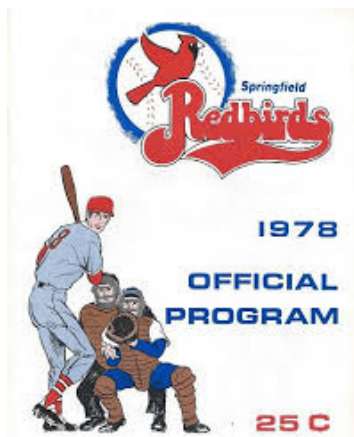
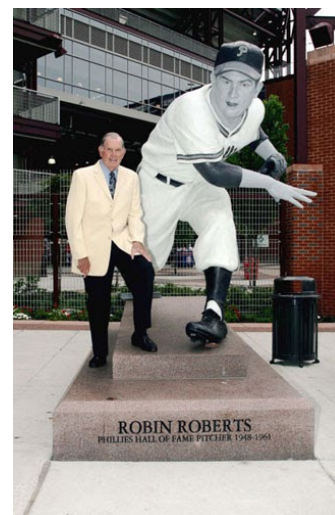
SangamonLink Stories: Robin Roberts Stadium



Robin Roberts Stadium, then named Reservoir Park, opened on May 12, 1925. About 12,000 people watched a Three-I League baseball game between the Springfield Senators and the Terre Haute Hottentots. (The Senators lost, 6-4.)

The Senators remained a Three-I team until 1949, then switched for a single season to the Mississippi Valley League. The Senators went out of business in 1951, and the city had no professional baseball until the 1970s.

In 1976, the park was renamed in honor of baseball Hall of Fame pitcher Robin Roberts, a graduate of Lanphier High School, and in 1978, the AAA-level Springfield Redbirds began play in Springfield. After the Redbirds moved to Louisville, Ky., following the 1981 season, the Class A Springfield Cardinals became the city's home team through 1993. The Springfield Sultans played two seasons in the park, followed by the Frontier League Capitals for six years.



No professional baseball was played in the city for the next six seasons, until the Springfield Sliders were formed in 2008. The Sliders were sold and renamed the Springfield Lucky Horseshoes in 2022.

The future of Robin Roberts Stadium was in doubt as the park approached its centennial in 2025, partly because of its age and location, and partly because a major sports complex south of Springfield was close to opening.



In 2026, Robin Roberts Stadium will play host to the Women's Pro Baseball League.

SangamonLink was created to put the rich history of Sangamon County – home of Abraham Lincoln and the capital of Illinois – at people's fingertips. This online research hub is edited by Mike Kienzler.



SCHS OUT & ABOUT IN THE COMMUNITY

ISHS AWARDS

On Saturday, April 25, the Illinois State Historical Society held its 127th Annual Meeting and Luncheon at the Inn at 835. The Sangamon County Historical Society received two Best of Illinois History Awards - a Certificate of Merit for the Ongoing Periodical, "Historico," and an Award of Superior Achievement for SCHS's annual Oak Ridge Cemetery Walk, "Echoes of Yesteryear." Those in attendance accepting the awards were SCHS Board members Cinda Klickna, Ruth Slottag, Lee-Ann Burgener and Linda Schneider.



New Exhibit!

On Tuesday, May 12, an opening reception was held for the new exhibit at the Sangamon County Building, "Sangamon County / 1875-1975 - 100 Years of Women's Baseball & Softball." Remarks were given by Sangamon Valley Collection curator and Sangamon County Historical Society Board member, Stephanie Martin, and Rod Buffington, Springfield Art Association, an artist whose art depicting the baseball theme is also on display. The exhibit is located on the 2nd floor of the Sangamon County Building and is open for viewing to the public.



Sangamon County Historical Society 2025-2026 MEMBERSHIP/MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL Form

Mail this form with your check to the Sangamon County Historical Society, P.O. Box 9744, Springfield, IL 62791-9744. Our membership year runs from June 1 to May 31. All memberships cover adults and children 16 and over living at the same address. Be sure to list their full names. Please Print.

Your Full Name _____

Spouse/Significant Other First Name _____

Spouse's maiden name where applicable _____

Your e-mail _____

Your address _____

City, State , Zip _____ Phone _____

Choose Your Level of Membership: Regular (\$30) Pioneer (\$100) Settler (\$250)

Trailblazer (\$500) Lifetime (\$700 one-time fee) College/University Student (individual) (\$20)

This is a GIFT (Name of recipient, mailing and e-mail address):

I am adding a donation to the Society in addition to my membership in the amount of \$ _____

Calendar

A Heads Up Guide to Area History Events

Save the Date!



Send announcements, information, photos and illustrations to schshistorico@gmail.com.



June 6: Centennial Route 66 5K

Registration required.
<https://runsignup.com/Race/IL/Springfield/CentennialRoute5K> @ Illinois State Fairgrounds



June 13: WWII Event

FREE - Donations Appreciated.
217-761-3910
Illinois State Military Museum

June 9: History Belongs to All of Us Lecture

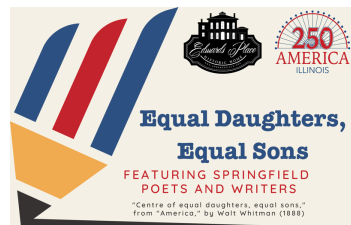
Brian Mitchell - "Migration and Immigration." Free, but Registration required.
Illinois State Historical Society



ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

July 1-5: HCFTA presents "1776"
Tickets required.

217-523-2787
Hoogland Center for the Arts



Wednesday, June 10, 6PM
Edwards Place
Free and Open to the Public

For more information:
Visit www.edwardsplace.org
Call (217)523-2631

All ages welcome with the expectation that sensitive topics may be included in the readings

June 10: "Equal Daughters, Equal Sons"

FREE public event,
Springfield Poets and Writers present on
America 250
217-523-2631
Historic Edwards Place



August 14-16: Outraged

Drama set against the
1908 Race Riot.
Tickets \$20-22
217-523-2787
Hoogland Center for the Arts

June 12: Tequila Tasting

Registration required,
ticket price is \$45.
217-523-2631
Historic Edwards Place



August 13-23: IL State Fair

Admission
Free-\$10/day
217-782-6661
IL State Fairgrounds



Sangamon County Historical Society
P.O. Box 9744,
Springfield, IL 62791-9744
Return Service Requested

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ANNUAL MEETING

JUNE 16 - 5:30PM PASFIELD HOUSE
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

FALL
PROGRAMS
START IN
SEPTEMBER

Want to get involved?



Consider joining a committee. It's a great way to give back while preserving and promoting Sangamon County history.

Committees:

Programs/Special Events
Membership
Grants
Cemetery Walk
Finance