

## SAVE THESE DATES!

Saturday, May 2

Sunday, May 3

HISTORIC PEORIA

11:00 am - 5 pm

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Thursday, May 14

Girl in White Dresses

6:00 pm

Peoria Public Library  
North Branch

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Wednesday, May 20

*Prairie Roots* Deadline

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Thursday, June 11

America at 250!  
*Researching Your  
Revolutionary Ancestors*  
6:00 pm

Peoria Public Library  
North Branch

*Jan Powers presents*

## Girls in White Dresses

*Stories gathered and tales spun from the fabrics of our lives*

Have you collected photographs, documents, and detailed memories about your ancestors and wonder how you can share these findings with others? Jan Powers has combined her love of writing and painting to create a visual anthology. At the heart of all the stories are the lives of her ancestors and the families who inhabited her home a century ago. She will expand on these personal histories through essays that bridge the gap between historical fact and the symbolic power of the white dresses these women wore.



An author, lecturer, illustrator, designer and gardener, Jan's life and business have grown and evolved. Her life and business have grown and evolved. Pursuits presently include lectures and programs, free-lance writing, illustrating, and garden design consulting. Jan is a member of the Peoria Herb Guild, the Herb Society of America, the Royal Horticultural Society, The Beatrix Potter Society, and the Garden Writers Association.

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Register for the May 14 Meeting via Zoom

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/  
wA2aoFWXRmacG-cu6-CVmw](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/wA2aoFWXRmacG-cu6-CVmw)

## Meet the Candidates

The following members are on the ballot for positions that will extend through June of 2028. We are still looking to fill positions of Publicity Director and Recruitment Director. Because of delays in delivery, we will be extending our deadline to June 11.

### OFFICERS

#### VICE PRESIDENT: JENNIFER EARLEYWINE

Jennifer was born and raised in Peoria and has lived most of her life in the area. She has been researching her family names off and on since she first got into genealogy in the 1990s. She has traced a few family lines back to the 1700s and 1800s, but she also has lines that she hopes to investigate further back. During road trips Jenn and her husband Jeff have included visiting out of town cemeteries in cities where she has traced family.

Jennifer is the mother of one and has worked 31 years for the Illinois Department of Transportation. She has been actively involved in several non-profits through the years.

#### TREASURER: RANDY COURI

Randy is a native Peorian known for his expertise in Lebanese American history, genealogy, and immigration research which he shares with audiences throughout the area. He joined PCGS after speaking at a monthly meeting. Soon, he was nominated and elected PCGS President. After serving two terms in that position, he willingly took on the role of PCGS Treasurer.

Randy sits on the Itoo Society's Board of Directors. A retired electrician, he serves as the genealogist and historian of the Itoo. Randy and his late wife, Mary, are the parents of two and grandparents of one granddaughter.

### DIRECTORS

#### MEMBERSHIP: KATHY MOLETTI

Born and raised in Peoria, Kathy has always been interested in her family history but has only been researching it seriously in the past 15 years. She enjoys the thrill of the hunt and the rewards of finding an unknown ancestor. Case in point - William Shakespeare is in her husband Steve's family tree!

After a long career as a sales manager, Kathy is now enjoying retirement. She is an avid reader, enjoys gardening, the beach, antiques, old houses, and especially overnights with her grandchildren. She and her husband have three grown children and eight grandchildren.

#### PROJECTS: JENNIFER SCOTT-DEWAR

Jennifer's love of history began at childhood meals when her grandmother would share family stories, including tales of ancestors coming to America to homestead the prairieland - and later making their way as jazz musicians in downtown Peoria. Like her grandparents, most of Jennifer's family members became musicians. Singing through college, Jennifer earned her bachelor's degree in social justice and master's degree in child, family, and community service. She worked for the Center for Prevention of Abuse for nine years and the Travis County (Texas) Sheriff's Office for sixteen years.

## Prairie Roots Needs You

“Should’ve, could’ve, would’ve, . . .” Does that thought sound familiar after you’ve read what others contributed to a recent *Prairie Roots*? We are always looking for your stories. Why not pick a topic and surprise yourself?

### Family Vacation(s) or Summer Activities

My, How Things Have Changed!

School Days

Your Research Finds

Oral Histories

### Deadline - May 20th

[pcgsprairieroots@gmail.com](mailto:pcgsprairieroots@gmail.com)

[pcgsoralhistory@gmail.com](mailto:pcgsoralhistory@gmail.com)



**MAY 2 & 3**

**11:00 am - 5:00 pm**

Converse Marketing

Murray Place

Creve Coeur Club

\* Peoria City Hall

\* Distillery Labs

Pop-A-Shot

416 Main

Roszell Sealtest Bldg.

GAR Hall

Sacred Heart Church

Janssen Law Center

\* University of Illinois

The Mill

College of Medicine

\* Open Saturday only

**Order tickets for this two-day event at  
[309tix.com](http://309tix.com)**

## *Your 2025 - 2026 PCGS Board*

President: Angie Sneeringer

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Vice President: Jenn Earleywine

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