GENEALOGY MEETUP
“SHARING & LEARNING”

IN PERSON or ZOOM

July 2 & August 6, 2024
2:00 PM

Preregistration is required at the Normal Public Library website:
(July) https://www.normalpl.org/event/genealogy-meetup-normal-township-hall-30933
(August 4) https://www.normalpl.org/event/genealogy-meetup-normal-township-hall-30934

Participants will share their recent genealogy finds and get help using Ancestry Library Edition and other library resources.

Attend in person at
The Normal Township Hall
304 East Mulberry Street, Normal, IL

Or join us on Zoom

Visit our website for details.
NORMAL - William Peary "Bill" LaBounty, 93, died peacefully in Hospice Care at the McLean County Nursing Home in Normal, IL, on May 25, 2024.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A visitation will be held at Kibler-Brady-Ruestman Memorial Home 1104 N. Main St, Bloomington on Tuesday, June 11, 2024 from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. There will be a private internment at a later date.

He was born on September 15, 1930, at Mennonite Hospital in Bloomington, IL, to Viola Stappenbeck LaBounty and Edward A. LaBounty.

Bill is survived by his two children: son, Larry (Susan) LaBounty, and daughter, Leslie (Lee) Green all of Normal, IL; his three grandchildren: Kyle (Bre) LaBounty of Downs, Sean (Susie) Hadley, Kinzley, Walker, Harper, twins Graham and Lakin, and Collins. Loretta, his wife of 59 years, preceded him in death as did his parents, and his sister, Andrea Johnson.

Bill attended Bloomington Lincoln School (1–4), Houghton Grade School (5–6), Bloomington Jr. High School (7–8) and Bloomington High School (9–12), graduating in the Class of 1948. Bill attended Illinois Wesleyan University, joined Theta Chi Fraternity, and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration in 1952. Bill went on to earn a Master of Arts degree in Industrial Technology from Illinois State University in 1974.

Bill met his wife, Loretta Jean LaCost, at a "mixer dance" between students of IWU and ISU. They were married on July 5, 1953, in Bethany, IL, while Bill was on leave from the United States Air Force.

Bill was inducted in the United States Air Force immediately after graduating from IWU. He entered the USAF as a 2nd Lt., and later promoted to 1st Lt. He served as a photographer/bombardier flying in RB–29’s out of Yakota Airforce Base in Japan. Loretta was also with him in Japan where their son Larry was born.

After retirement, Bill became a certified tax preparer through H&R Block and assisted many people with their taxes. Preferring volunteer work, he then dove headfirst into volunteering with the McLean County Genealogical Society and the McLean County Museum of History. He helped coordinate a great variety and a great many publications at the Museum, but his pride and joy was the Index to the 1866 Map of McLean County. While involved with the museum, he also used his skills from the bookbindery to rebind many books for the museum. Between all these duties he accumulated over 2,000 volunteer hours at the museum, and in 2002 Bill received the Volunteer of the Year award from the Illinois Association of Museums.

Bill loved his family, his work, and the museum. Those who knew him will always remember his gift for being able to keep a conversation up, virtually unending. He is deeply missed by those who knew him, and to quote Bill, "he led an interesting life."

The family would like to thank the staff of McLean County Nursing Home and Transitions Hospice for their support and care of Bill.

Memorial contributions in William's name may be made to the McLean County Museum of History, 200 N. Main St., Bloomington, IL, 61701.

Online condolences and memories of Bill may be shared with his family at kiblerbradyruestman.com.

The Pantagraph, 2 June 2024

President's Message

The MCGS Board of Directors was saddened to learn of the passing of Bill LaBounty, a former long-time Board member and an incredible supporter of the Society and of the McLean County Museum of History. Bill was an extraordinary man.

Do You Have Any Genealogy Needs?
If you have some genealogy needs that are not being met, please let me know. If you read all the way to here, send me an email with some feedback to be entered into a drawing for free 2025 membership.
	tmcgspresident@gmail.com

If you need assistance using ZOOM, please contact me either at https://tmcg.org/events/ or email me.

Rand Veerman
Notes from our Corresponding Secretary

POOR FARM DATABASE CORRECTION!

I have no right to be this excited about an error, but I truly am! Waynette P. who has long researched the Buckley family in McLean County was the first person to request verification of data and/or correction of data since the publication of the Poor Farm database (which is available on tmcgs.org/poor-farm/). I so appreciate her diligence and willingness to share what she had found to be accurate. By working together, we have a better chance of documenting accurately those whose lives and deaths were not well documented during their lifetimes.

My email to Waynette:

"You are correct: John Buckley died at the McLean County Poor Farm on 12 Dec 1867, not 1866 as cited on the database. I will get this corrected on The MCGS database asap.

Waynette P. also asked about two other burials at the Poor Farm. There aren't many detailed records about residents of the Poor Farm, but in Gleanings (Vol. 41, #1, Spring 2007, pg. 11) data from US Census 1880 as well as other sources cited on The MCGS Poor Farm webpage:

Hyat, Mary 26 born Ohio Blind (the records you have access to say, "mute/deaf"
Hyat, Effie 5 born Illinois

I would appreciate your sharing of any information you have about John Buckley. What do you know about his life in Morgan County, Illinois? The Poor Farm records say that he was from Cheney's Grove...do you believe this is accurate?

Thank you so much for your correction!"

Do you see other additions and/or corrections for this database? If so, please let us know at: mcgs.research@gmail.com
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.tmcreds.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.