

## 2014 Ste. Genevieve Speakers Bureau Catalog

For information on the availability of one of our presenters, please contact us at:

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Or email: [speakers@historicstegen.org](mailto:speakers@historicstegen.org)

Sponsored by the Foundation for Restoration of Ste. Genevieve, Inc., the Felix Vallé House State Historic Site, and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Camp #326

### Ste. Genevieve Personalities

**“Jacques Guibourd and his Family”** traces the life, family, house, land holdings, and occupations of Jacques Guibourd, a Frenchman, who came to Ste. Genevieve just before the Louisiana Purchase (R. Mueller presenter)

**“Le Petit Anglais: Henry Marie Brackenridge and the Vital Beauvais Family of Ste. Genevieve”** traces the story of Brackenridge’s stay in Ste. Genevieve during the 1790’s as a youth. Themes of colonial settlement, culture, religion, town planning, architecture, and families of influence are highlighted. (D. Rausch presenter)

**“Pelagie Vital: A Free Woman of Color”** uses historic documents to tell the story of Pelagie, a former slave in Ste. Genevieve who became the wife of Benjamin C. Amoureux. Themes of French cultural influences, religion, slavery, and free black populations are discussed and illustrated. (D. Rausch presenter)

**“The Vallé Family of Ste. Genevieve: A French Colonial Legacy”** traces the origins of the Vallé family in Upper Louisiana, revealing the vast financial and social impact of Francois Vallé and his descendants. (D. Rausch presenter)

**“Henri Marie Brackenridge”** The story of the Little English Boy who came to Ste. Genevieve in the 1790’s to learn French (presented for a children’s audience Grades 4 and above). (D.Rausch presenter)

**“Stories in Stone”** discusses stories and oddities related to Ste. Genevieve’s Memorial Cemetery, Missouri’s oldest cemetery, uncovered during a recent restoration project (B. Rucker presenter)

**“The Life and After Life of Dr. Lewis F. Linn”** provides insights into the family, doctoring, political career and unusual events that happened after the burial of Dr. Lewis Linn, a United States Senator (R. Mueller presenter)

**“Whose Signature is that on the Wall?”** The story of Jean Baptiste Bossier, an early 19<sup>th</sup> century Ste. Genevieve merchant who left his signature on the wall of his store located on corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> and Merchant. (D. Rausch presenter)

**“Prodigal Son- The Brief Life of Louis Felix Valle”** The story of Louis Valle, son of Felix and Odile Pratte Valle and grandson of Jean Baptist Valle, who travelled to the gold fields of California and ultimately to an early death in Pennsylvania (D. Rausch presenter)

**“Lawyers and Politicians in the Post Colonial Period”** describes the methods of governance in both the colonial and post colonial periods, how the change to the American system affected the local French people as well as describing the individual local lawyers and politicians before Missouri became a state (R. Mueller presenter)

**“From Missouri to West Point: Native Sons of Upper Louisiana”** tells the story of the young men from Missouri who were among the earliest graduates of West Point, following the Louisiana Purchase (J. Baker presenter)

**“What the Tour Guides Don’t Tell You”** a pictorial and verbal tour of the historic district based on interesting cases and incidents involving some of the colorful residents of Ste. Genevieve in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. (J. Baker presenter)

### **Ste. Genevieve Culture and Traditions**

**“Our French and German Christmas Customs”** highlights Ste. Genevieve Christmas traditions and customs that have come down through the ages from our French and German immigrant ancestors. (Also suitable for Grades 4 and above) (R. Mueller presenter)

**“Tales of Love and Romance in 18th Century Ste. Genevieve”** explains marriage, legalities, related customs as well as various stories of love in early Ste. Genevieve. (R. Mueller presenter)

**“Tales of Love and Romance in 19<sup>th</sup> Century Ste. Genevieve”** highlights how love and marriage changed after the Louisiana Purchase and presents three love stories of Ste. Genevieve men who eventually became U. S. Senators (R. Mueller presenter)

**“Early Ste. Genevieve Gardening and Agriculture”** explores mid-Mississippi horticulture before 1820 based on travelers’ descriptions (Also suitable for Grades 4 and above) (R. Mueller presenter)

**“Tracing your Family in Ste. Genevieve County, MO”** identifies approaches, references, databases, and other resources available to genealogists researching in Ste. Genevieve County,

**“All the French Grammar You Need to Know in Five Minutes”** – Not really 5 minutes but in this lecture, you will get the basics of French Grammar and better understand basic French terms (Jim Baker presenter)

### **Ste. Genevieve Architecture and History**

**“Traditional French Colonial Architecture of Ste. Genevieve”** follows the transition of vertical log architecture from Normandy to Quebec to Ste. Genevieve. Using 18th century building contracts, elements of the architectural style are highlighted using examples seen on buildings in Ste. Genevieve’s impressive historic district. (D. Rausch presenter)

**“A Thumbnail Tour of Ste. Genevieve History”** describes events and facts that shaped the history of Ste. Genevieve (R. Mueller presenter)

**“The 1935 Bicentennial Celebration”** describes the events leading up to and the conduct of the Centennial and Bicentennial celebrations that brought the town together to celebrate its history (R. Mueller presenter)

**“The History of Ste. Genevieve’s Memorial Cemetery”** presents a unique insight into the formation, history, and use of Missouri’s oldest formal cemetery where many early pioneers are buried (B. Rucker presenter)

**“The History of Ste. Genevieve County”** is a review of the 200 year old history of Ste. Genevieve County, one of the first five counties in Missouri and includes information on a variety of topics such as architecture, roads, schools, floods, schools, utilities, etc. (R. Mueller presenter)

**“The History of Historic Preservation in Ste. Genevieve”** presents a look at preservation efforts in Missouri’s oldest town over the last 165 years (R. Mueller presenter)

**“Early Lead Mining in the Ste. Genevieve District”** describes the efforts to mine lead in the Ste. Genevieve district. Some of the largest lead deposits in the world are located in this area. (R. Mueller presenter)

**“Ste. Genevieve’s National Historic Landmark District”** discusses early settlement and history, colonial architecture, early Americanization, and historic preservation issues associated with the site and the community in general. (J. Baker presenter)

**“Ste. Genevieve’s Architectural Roots: Highlights from the Pays d’Auge”**, a region of Normandy, France, conveys ideas regarding the origins of the French Colonial architectural styles found in Ste. Genevieve. (J. Baker presenter)

**“The Ste. Genevieve Diorama: Recreating the Village in 1832”** chronicles the planning, development, and construction of the Ste. Genevieve Diorama, installed in the Bauvais-Amoureux House in 2000. Themes of town planning, Americanization, architecture, and families of influence are included. (Also suitable for Grades 4 and above) (J. Baker presenter)

**“We are now all Americans – Jean-Baptiste Vallé and 19th century Ste. Genevieve”** describes the transition that occurred in Ste. Genevieve with the Louisiana Purchase and the coming of the Americans (J. Baker presenter)

## **Civil War**

**“66 Miles in 39 Hours”** This presentation covers the retreat from Fort Davidson to Leasburg Missouri. (G. Scheel presenter)

**“Rain, Mud & Swamps”** Describes the history of the 31st Missouri Infantry Regiment during the Civil War. They left Missouri (via Ste. Genevieve) in December 1862 and did not return as a unit until July 1865 (G. Scheel presenter)

**“Equipment and Arms of the Soldier”** This presentation describes the uses and equipment of the common soldier during the war (suitable for 4th grade and above) (G. Scheel presenter)

**“Governor Thomas C. Fletcher”** This presentation discusses the military career and subsequent life of Thomas C. Fletcher, Missouri’s first native born Governor. He wrote Missouri’s Emancipation Proclamation in January 1865 and established Missouri’s Superintendent of Schools (G. Scheel presenter)

**“The Civil War in Ste. Genevieve County”** Our area was divided during the Civil War with ardent supporters and participants on both sides of the conflict and this presentation discusses how this national conflict affected our local area (T. Greminger presenter)

**Major General John A. Logan, a Hero of the Civil War”** A presentation on the life and experiences of General John A. Logan. Gen. Logan was from southern Illinois and is credited with keeping that are pro Northern. He served as Colonel of the 31<sup>st</sup> Illinois Infantry and later as Commander of the 15<sup>th</sup> Army Corp. He was a founder of the Grand Army of the Republic and is responsible for founding what we now know as Memorial Day (G. Scheel presenter)