

St. Louis Genealogical Society

St. Louis City/County Biographies

As we approach the two-hundredth year of Missouri's statehood, St. Louis Genealogical Society would like to recognize as many of the people who lived and worked in the St. Louis area as possible. These are the people who helped make St. Louis City and County into the thriving metropolitan area it is today. We invite everyone to add biographies of St. Louis ancestors to an online database of residents of St. Louis City and County. The biographies and their accompanying photos are available on the StLGS website at <https://stlgs.org/research-2/community/st-louis-biographies>.

If you would like to include your ancestors in the biographies collection on the StLGS website, please do the following:

- Send us essays of **no more than 500** words each on anyone who lived or worked in St. Louis City or County at any time since St. Louis was founded.
- Submit your essay as a Microsoft Word or Pages for the Mac document or you may type it directly into an email.
- A digital image of your ancestor is welcome to accompany your essay. Send it in JPG format along with your text. Photos should not be any larger than 1 MG in size. (*For guidance on how to send an image, please see the last page of this booklet.*)
- Include your name, phone number, and email address with each submission.
- We cannot accept typed paper essays or actual photographs. However, if you have a story to tell or a photo to share but no way to get your material sent electronically, please contact us for further assistance.

Because these biographies will reside on our website, we ask that you please:

- **Do not write about or include data on any living people.**
- Do not send any written work that is not original or any photos that are copyrighted to someone else. (Anything taken from the Internet, including photos of tombstones, is a violation of copyright unless it is your own writing or photo.)
- Understand that by submitting your material, you also give StLGS the right to edit your essay and your photo for publication. Once StLGS has accepted your essay, we will send you a release form granting permission for us to use your essay and your ancestor's photo. This form needs to be returned before your material can go online.

Your contact information will NOT be posted online but will be kept in our office. See the next page for more details.

The StLGS City/County Biographies Project is endorsed by Missouri 2021, an initiative of The State Historical Society of Missouri and its Center for Missouri Studies.



#4 Sunnen Drive, Suite 140 • St. Louis, MO 63143 • 314-647-8547 • office@stlgs.org • www.stlgs.org



We encourage you to write an essay for as many ancestors as you like. Please send each essay to us separately. Your name will be attached to your essay(s) but your personal information will not be made public. Anyone who wants to contact you may do so via StLGS, and we will then contact you. No one else will call or email you directly.

Bios@stlgs.org is the address for all correspondence.

Include as much of the following as you can in your essay:

- Complete name of your ancestor, including maiden name for women
- Date and location (city/town, county, country) of your ancestor's birth
- Names of your ancestor's parents, including maiden name for mother, if known.
- Arrival date and location in the U.S. for your ancestor, if not native-born
- Name(s) of your ancestor's spouse(s)
- Names of the parents of each of your ancestor's spouses
- Date and location of each of your ancestor's marriages
- Names of the children of each marriage
- Date of arrival of your ancestor into St. Louis (if not born in the city/county)
- Places in St. Louis where your ancestor lived and approximate dates
- Occupation(s) of your ancestor
- Military service of your ancestor including branch of service and dates
- Organizations to which your ancestor may have belonged
- Church or synagogue of which your ancestor was a member
- Death date and location of your ancestor and cemetery, if known
- Death date and location of each of your ancestor's spouses and cemeteries, if known
- Important achievements of your ancestor during his or her lifetime
- Any other important information about your ancestor

Here is an example of a 387-word essay:

Charles Wakefield **MURRAY** was born 18 August 1878 in Christian County, Illinois. He was the son of James William Murray and Julia Ann Neece. Charles grew up in Dekalb County and Linn County, Missouri, and Scott County, Illinois. On 15 July 1897 he married Elizabeth Alice Patterson of Morgan County, Illinois. She was the daughter of James and Emily (Lawson) Patterson. From this marriage came the following children: Orval Lee, Mildred Odessa, June Estella, and Elizabeth Alice. In 1903 Charles came to St. Louis from Illinois and became the head gardener for the British Pavilion during the St. Louis World's Fair. He considered the World's Fair as the biggest event in his life.

After the World's Fair he was head gardener for Washington University. During his time at the university, he planted the row of oak trees from the quadrangle to the chapel. After leaving Washington University he became a carpenter. From 1909 to 1911 he helped build the Famous Farm Clubhouse, owned by Famous Barr Company, overlooking the Meramec River in St. Louis County.

He moved into University City in 1916 and remained a resident of University City until his death on 23 February 1964. While in University City he lived on Cabanne, Chamberlain, Bartmer, Etzel, and Crest Avenues. As a carpenter he helped build hangars for the Robinsons at what became Lambert Air Field in St. Louis County and at Scott Air Field in Illinois. While working at Lambert Field he became a friend of "Slim" Lindbergh. He worked on railroad bridges along the White River in Arkansas during the 1920s/1930s. He also helped with the building of excursion boats for the Streckfus Boat Company between 1917 and the 1930s. Between 1935 and 1953 he worked for R. E. Funsten Pecan Company.

His first wife died 20 January 1931. On 6 July 1934 he married Lorene Kennedy of Kentucky. She was the daughter of Benjamin Franklin Kennedy and Burbon "Birdie" Hickerson. From this marriage the following children were born: Charles Edwin and Allen Franklin.

Charles Sr. was a member of Carpenters Union 185 for more than fifty years and for many of those years he was recording secretary of the union. For most of his adult life he was a member of the Delmar Baptist Church at Skinker and Washington Avenues in St. Louis City.

Essay written by C. Edwin Murray
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[Sources for the above essay include the U.S. census, marriage licenses, family interviews, death certificates, employment and religious records.]

Submitting a Photo with your Essay

Photos that are going online do not have to be very large but they do need to be clear. You can either photograph or scan your photo to get a digital image.

Using a Smart Phone

Lay your photo out in a location that is bright but not in full sunlight. If your photo is behind glass, leave it there but watch out for glare.

Photograph your photo with your smart phone's camera. Get close enough for the image to fill the screen. Then use the phone to email the photo. **Bios@stlgs.org** is the address to which you should send your picture. Be sure to use **From: (your name)** in the subject line and send us a note to explain whose photo it is. (If you don't know how to send a photo from your phone, Google your brand and "Send photos." Lots of help is available online, including YouTube tutorial videos.)

Using a Digital Camera

Photograph your photo in bright light but without glare and then save it to your computer. Once you have it there, you can send it as a JPG attachment in your email. Use **From: (your name)** as your subject and then, in the body of the email, let us know whose essay the photo belongs to.

Using a Scanner

Scan your photo at a resolution of 300 dots per inch for best clarity. If you don't have a scanner, most libraries have them for public use and they do not charge a fee. Once your photo has been scanned, save it as a JPG image, attach it to your email, and send it to us. If you know how to scale the size down, choose 3"x5"; if not, just send your scan and we will resize it for you. Again, be sure to identify yourself in the subject line and include the name of the person in the photo in the email.

Need more help than this? You can bring your photo into our office and we will scan it for you or call or send an email for more specific assistance on any part of the essay/photo process.

Thanks for participating in this exciting project!