Registration
2020 Heartland Family History Conference
Hosted by the Topeka (Kansas) Genealogical Society

Passports to the Past: Discover Your Family Stories
Friday - Saturday, April 3-4, 2020
Topeka, Kansas

The Topeka Genealogical Society is very excited to present our first annual Heartland Family History Conference! Although we have been hosting annual conferences for nearly 50 years, 2020 will be a landmark year with a newly-expanded regional event featuring two full days packed with programming, exhibitors, and networking opportunities.

Featured Speaker: John P. Colletta, PhD

John Philip Colletta is one of America’s most popular genealogical lecturers. Knowledgeable, experienced and entertaining, he resides in Washington, D.C. For twenty years, while laying the foundation for his career in genealogy, he worked half-time at the Library of Congress and taught workshops at the National Archives.

Today Dr. Colletta lectures nationally, teaches at local schools, and conducts programs for the Smithsonian Institution’s Resident Associate Program. He is a faculty member of the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (University of Georgia, Athens) and the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy. He has also taught for Boston University’s Certificate in Family History program and three genealogy institutes where he created courses: the National Institute on Genealogical Research (Washington, DC), the Genealogical Institute of Texas (Dallas), and the Genealogical Institute of Mid-America (Springfield, Ill.).


CONFERENCE LOCATION: Maner Conference Center & Capitol Plaza Hotel
1717 SW Topeka Blvd.
Topeka, Kansas 66612

This event is sponsored in part by Humanities Kansas. We thank them for their generous support.
# FRIDAY SCHEDULE

*(Tentative - Schedule Subject to Change as Conference Details Are Finalized)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 – 9:00 am</td>
<td><strong>Registration</strong>&lt;br&gt;Visit Exhibitors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 – 10:00 am</td>
<td><strong>Keynote Presentation- John Colletta</strong>&lt;br&gt;Discovering the REAL Stories of Your Immigrant Ancestors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00-10:30 am</td>
<td><strong>Break, Browse Exhibitors</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 -11:30 am</td>
<td><strong>Breakout Sessions - Choose one</strong>&lt;br&gt;1) Elizabeth Burnes - Immigrant Records, Navigating the National Archives&lt;br&gt;2) Elizabeth Saadi - Genealogists’ Access to Vital Records&lt;br&gt;3) Gary Clark - Digitize Vintage Photos &amp; Documents Now!&lt;br&gt;4) Kevin Cassidy - Female Connections are the Best Road to Success&lt;br&gt;5) Shannon Lewis - Googling Your Genealogy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30am – 1:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Luncheon</strong>&lt;br&gt;Presentation – <em>Why Family History Matters</em> (led by Leo Oliva)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00-2:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Breakout Sessions - Choose one</strong>&lt;br&gt;1) Susan Schlichting - DNA for Genealogy- There’s No Easy Button, YET!&lt;br&gt;2) Patty Ann Taylor - Discover the Technological Path for Digging Up Your Roots&lt;br&gt;3) Kevin Cassidy - Follow Your Family Through Chain Migration&lt;br&gt;4) Danni Altman-Newell - Before Rosie: The Women of the Great War&lt;br&gt;5) Janis Minor Forté - Seven Proven Strategies for Identifying Slave Ownership and Reconstructing Families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 – 2:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>Break, Browse Exhibitors</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 – 3:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>Breakout Sessions - Choose one</strong>&lt;br&gt;1) Leo Oliva - Women Writers on the Santa Fe Trail&lt;br&gt;2) Stephen Egbert - Uncovering Little-Known Native American Records in the National Archives&lt;br&gt;3) Shaunese Luthy - Who is in Your Ancestor’s F.A.N. Club?&lt;br&gt;4) Glenn York - Using Tree Information Provided by DNA Testing Companies&lt;br&gt;5) Del Kahre - How Geocoding Transformed My Genealogy Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 – 4:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Break, Browse Exhibitors</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 – 5:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Keynote Presentation – John Colletta</strong>&lt;br&gt;Assembling and Writing a Narrative Family History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 – 6:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>Reception, Mix &amp; Mingle. Light refreshments and cash bar.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Admission to all breakout sessions will be on a first-come, first-seated basis. Doors to sessions will be closed when meeting rooms fill to capacity. Plan to arrive early for sessions you especially want to hear.*

---

**RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES IN TOPEKA OR NEARBY**


- **The Kansas Historical Society Center for Historical Research**, 6425 SW 6th Street. Hours 9am-4:30 pm, Tuesday-Saturday. Resources include state and local Kansas government records, newspaper collection, state censuses, county histories and biographies, historic photographs and maps. 785-272-8681, ext 117, [www.kshs.org](http://www.kshs.org)

- **Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library**, 1515 SW 10th Street. Hours: Monday-Friday 9 am-9 pm, Saturday 9 am-6 pm, and Sunday 12 noon-9 pm. Genealogy and local history collection, located in Topeka Room on 2nd floor. 785-580-4400, [www.tscpl.org](http://www.tscpl.org)

- **Midwest Genealogy Center** - One of the top 10 Genealogy Research Centers in the U.S! 3440 S Lee’s Summit Rd, Independence, MO. Open Mon-Sat 10am-8pm, Sun 1-8pm. (816) 252-7228. [https://www.mymcpl.org/geenalogy](https://www.mymcpl.org/geenalogy)
**SATURDAY SCHEDULE**  
*(Tentative - Schedule Subject to Change as Conference Details Are Finalized)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 8:00 – 9:00 am | Registration  
Visit Exhibitors                                                                                       |
| 9:00 – 10:00 am | **Keynote Presentation – John Colletta**  
Passenger Arrival Records, Colonial Times to Mid-20\textsuperscript{th} Century |
| 10:00-10:30 am | **Break, Browse Exhibitors**                                                                                           |
| 10:30 -11:30 am | **Breakout Sessions**  - Choose one  
1) Jan Kimbrell - After the Shackles Were Gone  
2) Glenn York - 19\textsuperscript{th} Century Quakers in Kansas  
3) Gary Clark - Restore Damaged Photos & Documents  
4) Don Daniels - The Separatist Way  
5) KelLee Parr - Kansas City: Adoption Hub of America |
| 11:30am – 1:00 pm | **Luncheon**  
Presentation – Historic Fashion Show |
| 1:00-2:00 pm | **Breakout Sessions**  - Choose one  
1) Kim Stanley - Family History Writing Workshop (2 ½ hrs, covers 2 sessions)  
2) Julia Langel - Your Genealogy Shot List: Photos to Leave for the Future  
3) Del Kahre - Passing on Your Research to the Next Generation  
4) Kevin Cassidy - Getting Ready for Irish Research  
5) Shannon Lewis - Using Burial Records to Dig Your Family Tree |
| 2:00 – 2:30 pm | **Break, Browse Exhibitors**                                                                                           |
| 2:30 – 3:30 pm | **Breakout Sessions**  - Choose one  
1) Kim Stanley - Family History Writing Workshop (continues from previous session)  
2) Glenn York - Finding the Birth Mother - A DNA Case Study  
3) Shaunese Luthy - Keeping Track of Your Research Using Research Logs  
4) Danni Altman-Newell - Show Me the Records: Researching you Missouri Ancestor  
5) Janis Minor Forté - Researching the Digital Library on American Slavery |
| 3:30 – 4:00 pm | **Break, Browse Exhibitors**                                                                                           |
| 4:00 – 5:00 pm | **Keynote Presentation- John Colletta**  
How to Prepare for Successful Research in European Records |

*Note: Admission to all breakout sessions will be on a first-come, first-seated basis. Doors to sessions will be closed when meeting rooms fill to capacity.*

For more detail on speakers and presentation descriptions, please see our website,  

**HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:**

Enjoy the convenience and networking opportunities of staying on-site at the Conference Hotel! A limited number of rooms have been reserved at a special Conference Rate at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, which adjoins the Maner Conference Center. Rooms rates will be $94/night for single or double, $104/night for triple, and $114/night for quad rates (plus applicable taxes). To reserve rooms, call the hotel at (855) 335-7486 and provide the code “HFHC20” or “Heartland Family History Conference” to obtain the special rates. To make a reservation online, go to [https://tinyurl.com/hfhcrooms](https://tinyurl.com/hfhcrooms).
Things to Do While in Topeka – Stay and Play!

Places of Historic Interest

Kansas State Capitol – 8th Avenue between Harrison & Van Buren Streets. Open 8am-5pm M-F, 10am – 4pm Sat. [https://www.kshs.org/p/kansas-state-capitol-plan-your-visit/18649](https://www.kshs.org/p/kansas-state-capitol-plan-your-visit/18649)

Kansas Museum of History – 6425 SW 6th Street. Open 9am – 5pm Tues-Sat, 1pm-5pm Sun. [https://www.kshs.org/p/plan-your-visit/15465](https://www.kshs.org/p/plan-your-visit/15465)

Historic John & Mary Ritchie House – 1116 SE Madison St. (Early territorial Kansas settlers, abolitionist, house was a station on the Underground Railroad and is considered to be Topeka’s oldest home) Tours Tue, Wed, Thur 9am – 1pm. (785) 234-6097 [https://historicritchiehouse.wixsite.com/historicritchiehouse](https://historicritchiehouse.wixsite.com/historicritchiehouse)


Old Prairie Town and Botanical Gardens at Ward-Meade Park - A 5.5-acre open-air museum, park and historic site. 124 NW Fillmore St. Open 8am – Dusk; closed Mondays. (785) 251-2989 [http://parks.snco.us/Facilities/Facility/Details/28](http://parks.snco.us/Facilities/Facility/Details/28)

Great Overland Station – A beautifully restored historic Train Depot. 701 N. Kansas Ave. Open Tue-Sat 10am-4pm.

Museum of the Kansas National Guard –The museum has a wide variety of print, document and multimedia sources for doing research on the Kansas National Guard, including unit rosters, soldier records, photographs, movies and personal accounts. 1255 SE Airport Drive. Open Mon-Sat, 10am – 4pm. (785) 862-1020. [http://www.kansasguardmuseum.org/](http://www.kansasguardmuseum.org/)

Combat Air Museum – View displays of historic combat aircraft and artifacts. 1255 SE Airport Drive. Open Mon-Sat 10am – 4:30pm, Sun Noon-4:30pm. (785) 862-3303. [http://www.combatairmuseum.org/](http://www.combatairmuseum.org/)

Other Area Attractions

First Friday Art Walk (First Friday Art Walk, Friday Evening April 3) - First Friday of every month, many galleries and businesses stay open in the evening to showcase and celebrate area artists. To see what locations are participating in the current month, see [https://www.artsconnecttopeka.org/](https://www.artsconnecttopeka.org/)

NOTO Arts & Entertainment District (participates in First Friday Art Walk) Arts, antiques, restaurants & bars. Historic District occupies several city blocks on Kansas Avenue, north of the Kansas River. [https://explorenoto.org/](https://explorenoto.org/)


Tulip Time Festival - (Spring of 2020 – usually in April, peak dates vary dependent upon weather conditions) Enjoy a colorful display of thousands of tulips in bloom at the Ted Ensley Gardens at Lake Shawnee and at Old Prairie Town and Ward-Meade Park.
A **separate form is needed for each conference registrant**; feel free to make additional copies.

All conference registrations include plated lunches with luncheon programming, choice of 30 breakout sessions, admission to exhibitor area, attendance at Friday evening reception, printed program booklet (schedule & logistics) and access to downloadable digital syllabus (includes all handouts). Printed copies of the conference syllabus may be pre-purchased for an additional fee (advance orders only).

**NOTE:** Conference Registration fees are non-refundable

---

**REGISTRATION PAYMENT**

| Name (as you want it to appear on your badge) |
| Address |
| City State Zip |
| Phone ( ) |
| E-Mail |

### One person per registration form, please

**REGISTRATION PAYMENT**

| Amount |
| Full Conference – Both Days |
| TGS Member = $85 | Non-member = $100 |
| Friday Only |
| TGS Member = $50 | Non-member = $60 |
| Saturday Only |
| TGS Member = $50 | Non-member = $60 |

If postmarked after February 15th – Add $20

| Printed Syllabus = $25.00 |
| (Optional) |

Not a member? Join today and register for the Conference at member rates.

Name(s) of joining member(s)

1. __________________________

2. __________________________

**Contribute the Conference Scholarship Fund** (optional). Funds will be used to assist individuals who would like to attend, but are unable to pay the registration costs.

**Membership**

| Amount |
| Individual membership = $30 |
| Joint membership = $40 |
| Student membership = $10 |

| Scholarship Donation Amount |
| (optional) |

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE**

**DIETARY RESTRICTIONS?** Please note here:

Advance registration closes on March 23rd. All mailed registrations must be received by that date. If space permits, walk-in registrations will be accepted at the event.

Mail printed registration form and payment to:
Heartland Family History Conference
c/o Topeka Genealogical Society
PO Box 4392
Topeka, KS 66604-4392

Conference registrations are non-refundable.
2020 Heartland Family History Conference
Hosted by the Topeka Genealogical Society

Friday - Saturday, April 3-4, 2020
Topeka, Kansas