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Come Join TGS or Renew

TGS Location:
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Website: http://www.tgstopeka.org
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membership@tgstopeka.org

Monthly Program Meetings are
held on the 4th Thursday of the
month at the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library
at 1515 SW 10th Street.

COMING UP AT TGS

July 21, 2:00 PM - Computer SIG (formerly PAF), contact Eileen Davis at 785.235.5845
for more info.

Thursday, July 25
Fun Facts and Important Information about Kansas Counties  (Monthly Programs)
7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library
Wendi Bevitt, from Buried Past Consulting, will provide information about the 105 Kansas Counties
that may help with researching your ancestors.
Program is free, and open to the Public. No registration required

register here before July 22nd

Aug. 3 - TGS Library CLOSED

Aug. 3, 11:00-3:00- TGS Annual Member Meeting & Picnic, Brookwood Covenant
Church, 3601 SW 33rd

Aug. 4, 12:00 PM - (Class) "The Ins & Outs of Using AncestryDNA", at TGS Lib.
register here before July 22nd

Aug. 8, 9:30 AM - Computer Gen. & Software SIG, topic- "Geni.com website", at TGS Library
Aug. 8, 1:00 PM - TGS Board Meeting, at TGS Library

Aug. 12, *9:00 AM - Combined DNA & Brick Wall Groups, all day field trip to Midwest
Genealogy Center, Independence, MO; *meet at 9:00 AM, at TGS Lib. to carpool; *bring sack lunch, laptop, your info. to research, flashdrive & coins (dimes) to make copies; contact Marty for info or any questions -tgstopeka.president@gmail.com

Aug. 17, 1:00 PM - (FREE Workshop) "Genealogy Estate Planning: How to Ensure that
Your Work is Preserved", at TGS Lib., register HERE
Aug. 22, 7:00 PM - (Monthly Program) "Researching Your WWI Ancestors", at TSCPL

Sept. 7, 9:00-3:30 - (Class/Workshop) "The DNA Companies to Answer
Questions About Your Brick Walls", at TGS Library,
register HERE before Aug. 26th (*also select your lunch option)
**NEWS FROM THE PREZ**

This year is flying by. I would just love to say "WHOA" slow down I have things to do. I just got back from a week of genealogy research and another week of learning new skills and tools about DNA from Blaine Bittenger. I visited three cemeteries in Ohio visiting my 2 and 3 X great Grandparents. I researched in 4 libraries looking for clues, “Who are the parents of Susana (Holtzmann) Mick?” The research did not result in the information I needed, but I will keep looking.

I’m ready to start another round of classes to help you learn how to use DNA in your family history story. My first class is the 4 “W’s” of DNA, WHO should test, WHY should you test, WHERE should you Test, and WHEN should you test. The second class is on the new tools on Ancestry.com. The company has been very busy giving the consumer a variety of ways to see their DNA results. Sign up for the class to learn the skills. The third class is all day. We will learn about new tools at Family Tree DNA, My Heritage, and Living DNA. The plan is to have a working lunch with sandwiches brought in from Hy-Vee. Sign up for this special event to enjoy other students with fun, food, and learning all about DNA. A reminder when you sign up for a class and are a member of TGS, you must log on as a member to receive the $5.00 discount. A reminder the system does not allow for refunds but the class registration can be applied to a future class. If you need help in logging on contact Nancy Appelhanz. Remember if TGS do not have at least 3 folks enrolled the class will be cancelled. The all-day class must have 5 enrolled in that class. The enrollment must happen at least one week before the class.

I hope you are all coming to our Annual Picnic. Come and hear about what has been going on at TGS behind the scenes and what is planned for the future. In August you are invited to a trip to Midwest Genealogy Center on August 12. We will leave at 9:00 AM and will return to Topeka by 5:30 PM. Please take a sack lunch as there are no facilities to purchase a meal on site. If you are planning on going, please email me at tgstopeka.president@gmail.com. Watch for information in the August Newsletter about our first ever Lineage Workshop in October. TGS events are open to the public. Please invite a friend, neighbor or family member to come with you.

- Marty Flanagan, President

**UPDATE - TOPEKA DAY OF GIVING 2019**

We would like to say Thank You to those who stopped by to see us, or otherwise submitted donations to TGS for the Topeka Day of Giving on June 12. We would also like to extend our appreciation to the Topeka Performing Arts Center for organizing and hosting the event. Donor turnout was significantly lighter than at previous Topeka Gives events, but we enjoyed visiting with everyone who stopped by our table. Eight individuals contributed a total of $426 in recognition of the event.

If you missed us at the Topeka Day of Giving but would like to support us, donations in any amount are always appreciated. Donations may be made by mailing a check to us, or online through our website. Online donations offer the option of setting up recurrent monthly donations – a nice way to make a series of small donations that add up to a larger total amount. [click HERE to DONATE](#)

**SHAWNEE COUNTY CEMETERY LISTS**

During the past month, representatives of Mount Hope Cemetery in Topeka gave TGS a printed listing of all burials there, through May of 2019. With the addition of this information, TGS now has burial information in either printed or electronic database formats for all cemeteries located in Shawnee County! Thanks to Fred Holroyd and the staff at Mount Hope Cemetery for this generous donation!
SLATE OF CANDIDATES FOR TGS OFFICERS 2020-2022

The Nominating Committee is presenting the following slate of candidates for the positions open in 2020.
President, Barbara LaClair
Recording Secretary, Janice Ashby
Director at Large, Julie Bernhardt.

There will be the opportunity at the Annual Meeting on August 3 for members to submit a name for consideration for a position. If you will not be at the annual meeting, please contact me to have your name submitted. You can email me at janiceashby3131@yahoo.com.

After the annual meeting the ballot will be sent to members by a blast email or mailed. Further instructions will be provided with the final ballot. The process will be completed by the September meeting on September 26th, 2019.

TGS ANNUAL MEETING & PICNIC

August 3, 2019
Brookwood Covenant Church
3601 SW 33rd Street
11:30 AM

Directions: 29th Street to Arnold Street, south on Arnold to 33rd, right on 33rd to Church.
Enter the Church on the north side.
Pulled pork, buns, drink and table service will be furnished.
Bring your favorite vegetable, salad or dessert to share.
We will enjoy lunch starting at 11:45 AM.
A short business meeting will follow lunch and the program will follow.
**PROGRAM** “Little Russia” presented by Paul Metzenthin.
Come learn the story about the neighborhood in northeast Topeka called “Little Russia” and its German heritage population.

RSVP: appreciated but not mandatory
janiceashby3131@yahoo.com

The TGS Library will be closed August 3, 2019.

Please mark your calendars and join us!
TGS ANNOUNCES NEW CONFERENCE NAME

Beginning in 2020 the TGS annual conference will be called “Heartland Family History Conference” Hosted by Topeka Genealogical Society. Many thanks to those who contributed suggestions for a new name.

The new name reflects our intention to make the conference more regional in scope, multi-generational in content and more inclusive of the many racial and ethnic groups that make up this great part of the nation. More information coming soon about the new and exciting programs planned for the next decade.

Our contest winner is Jeannine Wyatt whose suggestion comprises the theme for the 2020 conference: "Passport to the Past: Discovering Our Diverse Ancestries to Build Our Unique Futures". Congratulations Jeannine! She receives a full set of the eBooks “Zap the Grandma Gap” for her contribution.

Put the dates on your calendar now so you won’t miss next year’s conference.
April 3 - 4, 2020 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel and Conference Center, 1717 SW Topeka Blvd, Topeka, KS 66612.

NEW PUBLICATIONS RELEASE- KS PIONEERS VOLUMES II & III

We are very excited to announce the release of two new publications, Kansas Pioneers Volumes II and III. These books are a continuation of the popular Kansas Pioneers Volume I that TGS published in 1976. The new volumes include an additional 261 stories of early Kansas pioneers and settlers. In addition to genealogical information, the stories provide fascinating glimpses of life in early Kansas. Much of the information included in these books is unique, not published or available elsewhere. Stories represent locations throughout the state of Kansas. Each volume is fully indexed, and includes more than 2,000 names.

These books have been made possible through the contributions of numerous individuals and volunteers who wrote and submitted their family stories and helped to organize, type, index and format the submissions to produce a finished publication. We want to thank and express our sincere appreciation to everyone who had a hand in this work.

Copies of the books may be purchased for $34.95 each. Online orders may be placed through our marketplace at Lulu.com (http://www.lulu.com/spotlight/TGSTopeka), or copies may be purchased at the TGS Library (2717 SE Indiana) during operating hours. Every name indexes of the books are viewable on the publications page of the TGS website, or in the book preview feature on the Lulu marketplace site. We also have a few remaining copies of Kansas Pioneers Volume I, available for purchase at the TGS library.

VOLUNTEER OPP. - RECORDS PRESERV. PROJECTS AVAILABLE

We are working hard to gather up our resources pertaining to Shawnee County and get them ready to be made accessible on our website. As we work toward that goal, we have several new projects where we could use the help of volunteers. Available projects are described briefly below:
Re-typing from an existing printed list or document (we need to do this to get the information into electronic format):

- Index to the 1873 Shawnee County Atlas (index published by TGS)*
- Topekans Whose Marriage Licenses were Issued in Jefferson County *
- Records of Burials at Topeka State Hospital *
- Index cards to TGS Member-submitted pedigree charts *

Indexing (creating new indexes to documents or materials)

- 1921 Farmers’ Mail and Breeze Atlas (printed copies of atlas are available)*
- Topeka City Clerks’ Birth, Death and Infectious Disease Registers (9 volumes, digitized)*
- Early Shawnee County adoption proceedings (from the original courthouse books)

Scanning or Digitization of Materials (using the TGS Hovercam, at the TGS Library)

- 1921 Farmers’ Mail and Breeze Atlas (re-scan to pick up color in pages)
- 1905 Blue Book of Topeka
- Shawnee County Marriage License Applications (original documents)
- TGS member-submitted pedigree charts

* Projects denoted with an asterisk are ones that could be worked on remotely.

If you are interested in helping with any of these projects, please contact Barb LaClair at research@tgstopeka.org.

**ASK GEN-I**

Q: I have heard about State Census records that were taken in the years in between the US Census records. Where can I find them?

A: State Census records can be a wonderful supplement to the US Census records which were taken only every 10 years starting in 1790. State census records were typically taken in the years ending in ‘5’. In many cases they ask different questions than the US Census so are a source of unique information. Some states never did a census: Connecticut, Idaho, Kentucky, Montana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and West Virginia. The other states varied in the years with census records, with the last state census conducted in 1945.

Typically, the State Archives or the State Library is where you will find the state censuses but also the paid online genealogy sites (Ancestry, MyHeritage, FindMyPast, etc) and, FamilySearch and the Family History Library. Use the internet to search for the location of State Census records. Consult that State’s Archive or Library for how to access the records.

For Kansas, State Censuses were taken in 1855, 1865, 1875, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915, and 1925. They are available on microfilm at the Kansas Historical Society, 6425 SW 6th Avenue, Topeka KS 66615-1099; Phone 785-272-8681, ext. 117. You can read about the content of the census for the different years on their website. Some microfilm is available via interlibrary loan.

Topeka Genealogical Society (TGS) Library has a number of Kansas county census records as well as for some other states. Visit the online catalog or drop by the library at 2717 SE. Indiana Ave., Topeka, Kansas TELEPHONE: (785) 233-5762 HOURS: 1-4pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday; 10am - 3pm Saturday

ATTENTION ALL TGS VOLUNTEERS!

We are implementing a new system, effective immediately, to record the many hours contributed by our wonderful volunteers, and we need your help. We are doing this for two reasons:

First, we know that the contributions made by TGS volunteers are huge, but we have not had a good way to know exactly how many people are volunteering on our behalf, what kinds of work they are doing, or how much time they are contributing. We want to be able to do a much better job of recognizing and celebrating your volunteer contributions, and collecting this information will help us to do that. It will also help us as managers to have a better understanding of how our volunteer resources are being used.

The second reason is a financial one. Many grants require that the receiving organization demonstrate that they are providing some type of “matching” resources toward the work that is being funded, and volunteer hours can often be counted as an “in-kind” matching resource. (Did you know that your volunteer time is currently valued at $25 per hour?). Having this data readily available will help us to demonstrate to potential funders the level of support that we receive from our member volunteers.

We have tried to design a system that will be simple for everyone to use. There will be three ways to record your volunteer activity – just pick the one that works best for you:

1) Sign in and record your work hours on the register at the TGS Library desk when you come to the library to work,
2) Download and print an activity log from the volunteer page on our TGS website. Fill it in as you work throughout the month, and then turn it in to the TGS library by the end of each month, OR,
3) Use the link on our volunteer page to access the online volunteer activity tracking system and enter your time there. (https://tinyurl.com/tgsvolunteers)

Please record any time that you spend doing any type of work on behalf of TGS. Don’t include times when you are attending classes, programs or SIGS as a participant unless you helped to develop the content or are presenting the program - we’ll ask you to sign in on a separate register for that.

We thank everyone in advance for supporting this effort, and look forward to being able to share with everyone the total contributions made by our amazing volunteers!

Thanks, Barb LaClair