COMING UP AT TGS
Jan. 19, 2:00 PM - Computer Genealogy (PAF) SIG Group, contact Eileen Davis at 785-235-5845 for more info.

Thursday, January 23 - (Monthly Program) topic- "Civilian Conservation Corps", presented by Tod Bevitt
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM, at Topeka Shawnee County Public Library
The Civilian Conservation Corps was arguably one of Roosevelt's most successful New Deal programs. The C.C.C. was a program of conservation and construction that changed the lives of over three million men and their families. For the past 10 years, Tod Bevitt has been studying the C.C.C. in Kansas, researching the men, their camps and the projects they completed. In 2018, he and his wife contracted with the Kansas Historical Society to document what remains of the C.C.C. camps in Kansas. His presentation will give an overview of the impacts of the Kansas C.C.C. Tod Bevitt is the owner and principal investigator for Buried Past Consulting, LLC, performing cultural resource investigations throughout the state of Kansas and the Great Plains.

Program is free, and open to the Public. No registration required.

Feb. 10, 1:00 PM - Brick Wall SIG, topic- "Germans to Pennsylvania", at TGS Lib.
Feb. 13, 1:00 PM - TGS Board Meeting, at TGS Lib.
Feb. 27, 7:00 PM - (Monthly Program) "Seaman HS history class research project documenting every Civil War veteran in Rochester Cemetery-their methods & findings", at TSCPL

NEWS FROM THE PREZ
Changing of the Guard
It’s a new year, and the beginning of a new decade. With the new year come lots of changes at TGS. Marty Flanagan has retired as President, and I am beginning my tenure in that position. Cindy Cruz has retired as Recording Secretary, and Janice Ashby is taking on that role. Julie Bernhardt is joining the Board as the new Director at Large. Laura Richardson is assuming the role of Chair of the Education Committee, and Vicki Lignitz has agreed to Chair our Finance Committee. Mary Ann Weimer will be serving as Chair of our Admin Committee. We are still looking for someone willing to fill remainder of
the vacated Vice President’s term (1 year)— if you are interested, please contact me. I want to take this opportunity to say Thank You to everyone who has served TGS in a Board or other leadership role over the past year, and welcome those who are new in their positions. I am really looking forward to working with the leadership team, and all TGS volunteers and members over the upcoming year.

If you haven’t done so yet, it is time to renew your TGS membership. We appreciate your support as members, and we count on those membership dues to help pay the costs of operating our organization.

As we work our way into 2020, we are facing some big challenges. We have a list of “must-do” repairs to our building, and currently have several maintenance projects in the pipeline. Thankfully, our members have been very generous with year-end donations, and have helped to build up our bank balance in preparation for these costly repairs. We still need to complete our research and data-gathering in order to be able to make an informed and responsible decision about long-range plans for a TGS building. Stay tuned—when the Board has had sufficient time to thoroughly evaluate all options and clearly outline the pros and cons for each, we will bring that information to the membership to gather your input prior to a final decision.

On a more positive note, we are very excited about the changes coming with our 2020 Heartland Family History Conference. If you have not yet looked at the Conference information on the TGS website, you should! Registration is open, and we know that you won’t want to miss it!

These are the big things that are on the immediate horizon, but you can expect to see lots of other new ideas and programs over the next year, also. We hope you find your membership in TGS of value—we’re working hard to make sure that you do!

All My Best,
Barb LaClair

ASK GEN-I
(Part 3 of the question on citing sources in your family history research)
Q. If the information is on a public tree, do I still have to cite the source?
A. As a general rule always cite your sources. From last month’s question, there are many reasons why you cite sources to benefit you and your family even if you never publish your research anywhere. Beyond how it benefits you, there are some other compelling reasons for citing your sources.

Honesty and Ethical Integrity
Taking advantage of other people’s work, whether it is their research, their creative expression or their family’s unique body of knowledge, is dishonest. Even if you only plan to copy the information for your own personal usage, it is still dishonest and considered plagiarism. 1

If others ever find out you have stolen other’s work, your reputation in the genealogical community will be tarnished. Saying “I’ll never publish this information” as a justification for not citing sources is like saying “No one will ever know”, and its just an excuse for stealing. Don’t risk your reputation or the reputation of a family member by doing that! In the words of C. S. Lewis, “Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is watching.” 2
Potential Copyright Infringement

Many genealogical presentations, speeches, articles and tools are copyrighted, which means they are protected from use by anyone other than the author except by explicit permission. Small bits of a copyrighted work can be used if properly sourced and attribution is given to the author, but if you find yourself wanting to use more than a couple sentences of someone else’s work, get permission. You are better to err on the side of caution.

Copyright law is complicated and has changed considerably in recent years. A good discussion of copyright law as it applies to genealogical issues is on the website of Judy Russell, "The Legal Genealogist". With a law degree as well as genealogical certification, she takes the issues and breaks them down in a way a lay person can understand. Copyright violation has serious legal consequences. If you are in doubt, do some research to get clarification.

1- Plagiarism is the "wrongful appropriation" and "stealing and publication" of another author’s "language, thoughts, ideas, or expressions" and the representation of them as one's own original work. Plagiarism is considered academic dishonesty and a breach of journalistic ethics. Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plagiarism accessed 12/14/2019.

2- C. S. Lewis, author, quoted by Flavia Medrut, March 26, 2018 in “15 C. S. Lewis Quotes that will Stand the Test of Time”, https://www.goalcast.com/2018/03/26/15-c-s-lewis-quotes/

BENEFITS OF JOINING TGS

Membership is open to anyone who has an interest in family history. Our membership year runs on a calendar year basis from January 1 to December 31.

* Subscription to the electronic version of the TGS Quarterly, our magazine containing genealogical information covering Shawnee County and northeast Kansas.
* Free use of the TGS library, with checkout privileges for circulating materials.
* Discounted registration fees for TGS classes, workshops and Annual Conference.
* Members-only discount opportunities on purchases of computers, software, and more.
* Participation in TGS Special Interest Groups.
* Monthly programs on genealogical and historical topics.
* Opportunities for networking with other genealogists and family historians.
* Opportunities to learn new skills, or get involved with record preservation through volunteering with TGS.
* Access to members-to-members forum, and TGS databases in the members-only section of our website.
* Voting privileges in TGS electronics and decisions that require a vote of the membership.

IT’S THAT TIME AGAIN - MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL & JOIN TGS

Renewals are coming in steady which is wonderful! Thank you for your early attention to renewing. If you haven’t renewed yet, below are 3 options to do so:

1. To renew online - Remember: You must login to your TGS account. If you have forgotten your login and/or password please let me know.
2. If you prefer, you can print a membership form from the website by clicking on "Membership - Join Us", scroll to the bottom of the page and choose "Personal Membership Form" and print.
If you are a society or institution you may print a membership form from the website although you must choose the "Institutional/Organizational Membership Form".

3. You also have the option of stopping by the TGS Library for a printed form.
That's it....easy-peasy!

IF YOU ARE NOT A TGS MEMBER -- We invite you to JOIN and also INVITE OTHER FAMILY, FRIENDS, & NEIGHBORS. The more the merrier! click here to join

Membership dues deadline is December 31 each year. We look forward to another great year! Thank you for your membership in TGS!

-Nancy Appelhanz, Membership Chair / membership@tgstopeka.org

REMEMBERING THE PAST
Starting in January 2020, the Topeka Genealogical Society (TGS) would like to have a different subject for each Quarterly. To make this happen, we need submissions from you!

We know there are many of you out there with memories of your school years. Now is your chance to share them! The subject for the January Quarterly is School Memories. Submissions could include class membership lists, one-room schoolhouse memories, grade schools, middle schools, high schools, colleges, class stories, class clowns, recess, school awards, teachers, principals, janitors, etc. The ideas are endless and we want you to share them.

Remember, as genealogists, we like names and dates so include as much of that information as you can in your submission.

Photos add lots of interest to an article so be sure to include photos from your collection or from newspapers.

If you have old newspaper articles that you think would be of interest to our members, feel free to submit those also. Let's have fun with this new idea!

Submit as much information as you would like. It’s always better to have more than less.

All submissions will be considered with the target area being Northeast Kansas. Future subjects will be: April - Sports; July - Holidays; October - No subject for the Oct. Quarterly due to yearly index & limited space.

Send your articles and photos to tgseditor@tgstopeka.org. If you have questions, send them to the above email address. If we have questions about your submission, we will contact you.
MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND GET YOUR REGISTRATIONS SUBMITTED! WITH LESS THAN THREE MONTHS TO GO UNTIL THE CONFERENCE, THE CLOCK IS TICKING AND THE EXCITEMENT IS BUILDING. THERE IS A TERRIFIC BUZZ GOING ON ABOUT OUR CONFERENCE AND PEOPLE ARE CONTACTING US FROM A NUMBER OF REGIONAL LOCATIONS. AT PRESENT, WE HAVE SPEAKERS COMING FROM A SIX-STATE AREA, AND ATTENDEES FROM AS MANY.

THE TGS WEBSITE HAS DESCRIPTIONS OF EACH KEYNOTE LECTURE AND BREAKOUT SESSION FOR YOUR BROWSING PLEASURE. OUR SLATE OF TOPICS AND SPEAKERS HAS SOMETHING FOR EVERY LEVEL OF EXPERTISE AND COVERS THE TOPICS THAT WERE ON THE TOP OF OUR CONFERENCE INTEREST SURVEY RESPONSES LAST SUMMER:

- Sharing Family Stories
- Preserving photographs and artifacts
- Using internet research tools,
- DNA results
- Ethnic/Religious/Racial diversity in the Heartland
- Hard to locate records
- Immigration and migration records

THE EXHIBITOR/VENDOR HALL IS GOING TO BE BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER! SEVERAL NEW LARGE VENDORS ARE COMING AS WELL AS OUR FAVORITE RETURNING VENDORS AND EXHIBITORS. WE HAVE VENDORS FROM AS FAR AWAY AS TEXAS, MICHIGAN AND WASHINGTON DC COMING THIS YEAR.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE FAVORABLE RATES AT THE CAPITOL PLAZA HOTEL AND BOOK AN OVERNIGHT STAY! IT MAKES A WONDERFUL GETAWAY WEEKEND IN A BEAUTIFUL VENUE. DISCOUNTED ROOM RATES ARE AVAILABLE FROM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1 - SUNDAY, APRIL 5.


A LIMITED NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE. IF YOU WANT TO APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP, PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL TO tgstopeka.conference@gmail.com to the attention of Conference Chair.

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with “Unsubscribe” in the subject line or simply click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#)