IN THIS ISSUE:
Calendar of Events
President’s Column
February Program
Library Closing
TGS Conference
New Committee
Research Fee Ends

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Website:
http://www.tgstopeka.org
Blog:
http://tgstopeka.blogspot.com
Email Address Changes:
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.

TGS Library Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

CALL FIRST IN BAD WEATHER – CHECK FOR HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

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Topeka Genealogical Society
Founded in 1965

NEWS & VIEWS

Volume 24 Number 2 
February 2016

COMING UP AT TGS

Don't miss our Program Meeting this Thursday, January 28, when we will enjoy Herschel and Jacque Stroud presenting, “Abe and Mary; a Family Portrait.” It’s at 7:00 at TSCPL.

February 1, 9:30 am -- DIG (DNA Interest Group) Meeting, TGS Memorial Library
February 2, 9:30 am --- Brick Wall Help, TGS Memorial Library
February 6, 9:30 am -- Native American Genealogy Interest Group, TGS Memorial Library
February 11, 9:30 am --- Family Treemaker/Computer Genealogy Group, TGS Mem. Library
February 11, 1:00 pm --- Family History Writers’ Group, TGS Memorial Library
February 11, 3:00 pm --- TGS Board Meeting, TGS Memorial Library
February 20, 9:30 pm -- Basics of Family History Research Class, TGS Memorial Library

RESCHEDULED TO SATURDAY, MARCH 5
February 25, 7:00 pm -- Monthly Program Meeting, TSCPL, "Hazel Hill Chocolates, A Family Legacy"

March 1, 9:30 am -- Brick Wall Help, TGS Memorial Library
March 5, 9:30 pm -- Basics of Family History Research Class, TGS Memorial Library
March 7, 9:30 am -- DIG (DNA Interest Group) Meeting, TGS Memorial Library
March 10, 9:30 am --- Family Treemaker/Computer Genealogy Group, TGS Mem. Library
March 10, 1:00 pm --- Family History Writers’ Group, TGS Memorial Library
March 10, 3:00 pm --- TGS Board Meeting, TGS Memorial Library
March 20, 2:00 -- Computer User Group (formerly PAF users), TGS Memorial Library
March 24, 7:00 pm -- Monthly Program Meeting, TSCPL, "Harvest Homes - the Settlement of NE Kansas"

NEWS FROM THE PREZ

My, how this month has flown by. We had 8 to 10 members attend the SIGs on DNA (DIG) and the Brick Wall. The DNA class will be an ongoing learning process as we look for ways to prove our paper trail. In the Brick wall class, we are exploring different web sites and techniques to help us break these down. The Brick Wall class is considering meeting outside of TGS several months to learn research techniques. Possible places for consideration are: TPSCL, Kansas Historical Society, Midwest Genealogy Center, and NARA. Remember the first Monday and the first Tuesday of each month we hold the SIGs for DNA and Brick Wall. We had a large group (36) attending the Family Tree Maker SIG. Lyn did a wonderful job in explaining her vision for the library. We also discussed a few tips in getting records from Ancestry to Family Tree Maker. The new Ancestry on line has changed their software and in a year the unlinking of Family Tree Maker to Ancestry will be a popular topic for the coming year. We will study alternatives to get us ready for the change.

I need feedback on what classes you would like for us to put together. These would be paid classes and usually on Saturday. Would you come on a Tuesday or Wednesday evening during the Summer or Fall? Here are some suggestions for classes in 2016: Beginning Genealogy, Intermediate Genealogy,
Facebook for Genealogy, Evernote for Genealogy, DNA for Beginners, Gravestone Rubbings, Native American Genealogy, Find A Grave, and Scanning Photos. Please, please, send me an email if you like the classes listed. If you do not like an offering or we have done it too many times, let us know. Please suggest other classes you would like to see. My email is marty.flanagan@outlook.com

During the coming months, each Chairperson will ask for help on their committee. Please tell them you are interested in helping before they ask. The Chairs will explain in the Newsletter what their Committee is all about. This will help you decide what talents you would like to share. Brenda Kelley has agreed to chair Research and Records Preservation, Lyn Hutchinson, of course, will chair the Library Committee, Bob Miller will chair IT, Nancy Brooks is head of Finance, but we are looking for someone to Chair this committee, Education is Barb LaClair, Publicity & Public Relations is Rich McReynolds, Membership is Nancy Appelhanz, and Administration is Linda Davis.

We have an Open House Committee and they are busy planning two open houses. We have a dates so please watch News and Views for information on what is planned. We have a date for our Third Annual Picnic, so please hold the date. It is August 6, 2016 from 12:00 PM to? We had so much fun last year. I hope you come this year and check it out. I promise good food, fun fellowship, and a few gifts thrown in.

WANTED: Have you sold insurance or been a real estate salesperson? Do you have bookkeeping or accounting background? Have you worked in business or areas that did reviews or forecast budgets, revenues, or have banking experience? Please contact me at marty.flanagan@outlook.com.

Here is your invitation to attend our monthly program January 28, 2016 at 7:00 PM. Come visit and enjoy the talented guests who will be performing for you.

Marty Flanagan

SWEET TREAT FOR OUR FEBRUARY MEETING

Nick and Terry Xidis, owners of Hazel Hill Chocolates in downtown Topeka, invest their hearts and hands in fine chocolate and confectionery. Hazel Hill, Terry’s grandmother, is a symbol of their dedication to a family tradition of “the best in everything they do.”

Nick is a third generation chocolatier and in keeping with traditions, they use only the finest ingredients, chocolate, fresh cream and butter, to produce handmade treats that explode with flavor. Hazel Hill’s heritage thrives through every delicious morsel of handmade candy. Nick and Terry will tell us more about this family legacy.

LIBRARY TO CLOSE FOR RENOVATIONS

The Topeka Genealogical Society Library will be closed from Wednesday, February 3 through Wednesday, February 24th for some renovation work.

We will be working on cleaning and painting the interior of the Library. We will be doing this work ourselves, and would welcome volunteers to assist. If you are willing and able to help with this effort, please email webmaster@tgstopeka.org with a note about what you would like to help with (painting, taping, edging, cleanup, etc), and what days/ times would be best for you. We will contact you to schedule specific worktime assignments.

We thank you in advance for any help that you are able to offer, and we all look forward to a fresh, bright and cheerful library when we re-open.

REGISTER NOW FOR OUR ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Registration is now open for Topeka Genealogical Society's Annual Conference at the Kansas Historical Society Museum April 15 & 16, 2016. Friday morning - personal research options. Friday afternoon - breakout sessions. Saturday’s featured speaker is Lisa Louise Cooke.

A new feature we encourage you to use is the ability to register your attendance online. Online registration will enable your Friday breakout choices to be received immediately. As a reminder, seating in each breakout session is limited so register early to receive your first choice. Registrations received before March 24th receive a discount. Online registration is with Eventbrite and the following link will take you there: https://tgsconference.eventbrite.com

More details and a registration form to download if you prefer to sign up that way are available here.

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**RESEARCH AND RECORDS PRESERVATION**

The Research and Records Preservation Committee is a new committee that has just been formed. Brenda Kelley is the chairperson of the committee and is looking for volunteers to help with the important responsibilities of the committee. The duties of the RRPC are:

- To oversee research services & conduct research on behalf of the Society
- To perform records preservation projects (such as: marriage license applications, Columbian Title indexing, divorces, early births, etc.)
- To create and maintain TGS publications offered for sale

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**VISITOR RESEARCH FEE DISCONTINUED**

At the January Board meeting of TGS, it was voted to cease asking non-members using the library to pay a $3.00 research fee. Instead, a jar for voluntary donations will be placed on the desk.