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Library Location:
2717 SE Indiana
Phone (785) 233-5762
Mailing Address:
PO Box 4048, Topeka, KS
66604-0048
E-mail: president1@tgstopeka.org
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

15 was a great year
with 24 new primary
members joining us.

COMING UP AT TGS

Please note that there are no Program Meetings in November and December due to the holidays.

December 24 and 26 -- Library closed for Christmas holiday
December 31 -- Library closed for New Year’s holiday

January 4, 9:30 am -- DIG (DNA Interest Group) Meeting, TGS Memorial Library
January 5, 9:30 am --- Brick Wall Help, TGS Memorial Library
January 14, 9:30 am --- Family Treemaker/Computer Genealogy Group, TGS Memorial Library
January 14, 1:00 pm --- Family History Writers’ Group, TGS Memorial Library
January 14, 3:00 pm --- TGS Board Meeting, TGS Memorial Library
January 28, 7:00 pm -- Monthly Program Meeting, TSCPL, “Abe & Mary, A Family Portrait”

Herschel and Jacque Stroud will present their program "Abe and Mary: a Family Portrait.”
The Strouds say, "The Lincoln Album was kept by the Lincolns while in the White House. The album was lost, but found again in 1985. Harold Holzer and Mark Neely wrote a book about the album, and this speech is based on their book, and what happened to the Lincoln descendants. We are not Abe and Mary, but Herschel and Jacque, appearing in period clothing, and commenting about Abe and Mary.”

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
Registration required - form and more information here.
February 25, 7:00 pm -- Monthly Program Meeting, TSCPL, “Hazel Hill Chocolates, A Family Legacy”

NEWS FROM THE PREZ

Merry Christmas to all. Just think, in 2 weeks it will be a new year. What is your New Year Resolution? I want to get my paper research under control. I just love paper, but is it all necessary? This is what I will be exploring in my own research.

Just as you are exploring what needs to happen in the new year, so is TGS. The Board of Directors (BOD) have approved the committee chair’s duties for 2016: Library, Research & Records, Finance, Information Technology, Publicity & Public Relations, Membership, and Administration. Just what each committee will do is a working process and hopefully at the end of 2016 TGS will have a working Policy & Procedures Manual. I have asked the following members to lead the committees: Lynn Hutchinson, Brenda Kelly, Nancy Brooks and Lola Warner, Bob Miller, Rich McReynolds, Nancy Appelhanz and I need one more Chair. These folks will
members joining us.
Let's keep it rolling in 2016. Join us today!

Did you know that TGS has hundreds of publications of Shawnee County records, other Kansas records, and records from across the country? Click here to see what we have to offer.

Cooler weather is here - do you need a long-sleeved TGS shirt to wear? Contact Nancy Appelhanz.

A SPECIAL TREAT AT OUR JANUARY MEETING

Herschel and Jacque Stroud were destined to have an interest in mid-19th century history. They met on a blind date, December 5, 1949, at the Eldridge Hotel in Lawrence, Kansas, a place many feel is the most historic corner in all of Kansas.

The first three years of their marriage, they lived within walking distance of the Chicago Historical Society, which was full of Lincoln and Civil War relics.

For the past twenty years, the Strouds have actively studied, experienced, and talked about life during the Civil War. They have lectured on Civil War medicine from coast to coast, touring five years on the associated clubs circuit, and appearing at museums, round tables, medical meetings, schools, and civic organizations. They have slept on the ground in cornfields, eaten hardtack with weevils, shared chiggers and ticks, and shed blood on some of the most famous Civil War battlefields in the nation.

We are privileged to have Herschel and Jacque share their vast knowledge at our January meeting in a program titled, “Abe and Mary: a Family Portrait.” You won’t want to miss this one!

WINDOWS 10 COMING TO TGS

Microsoft is offering free Windows 10 for your home computer if you currently have Windows 7 or 8. This is no different for the TGS computers. We have converted the computers in the office area and are now ready to upgrade the computers in the Library. We plan to have the conversion complete by the end of January. The change will allow us to have the same operating system for all of our computers. With the same system, we will be able to standardize all computer format. We are looking forward to the change and hope you will enjoy working with the new system in 2016.

CHECK OUT THE DIG!

After the interest shown in the initial six introductory DNA classes held during November and December, those attending expressed interest in continuing to meet monthly as a special interest group. Facilitated by Marty Flanagan, the first meeting of the DIG (DNA interest group) will be on Monday, January 4, 2016 from 9:30 to 12:00 at the TGS Library. Future meetings will be on the first Monday each month at 9:30. If you have questions about DNA testing and analysis, this will be the place to find some

hopefully be approved by the TGS BOD in January. The committee Chair will determine how many are needed for their committee. This may take a month or so, but we will report on this next month.

Under each Chair, there are multiple duties that the chair needs help with. Please volunteer, if one of the committees is a good fit for your skills. I have the Administration Committee Chair position available. This position requires coordinating, reporting to the correct person on needs, attending BOD meetings, developing procedures for this group, helping the President as requested and recruiting new volunteers as needed. Most of these duties could be handled from home with a computer and phone.

A Special Committee for our Open House has been appointed. Barb LaClair is the Chair and four members have volunteered. Several committees will be needed for the coming year: Insurance Review on our building (do we have an insurance person and or real estate person in our membership?), painting the inside of the library, and our Annual Picnic in August.

Marty Flanagan
TGS FACEBOOK PAGE A GREAT RESOURCE

Are you a member of the Facebook TGS members only group? If not and you are a Facebook user, consider joining the 37 who are already members and also learn about some very interesting and useful web pages related to a wide variety of genealogy topics. Recent posts have focused on the Family Tree Maker announcement, Irish records, genealogy charting software, DNA and free online access to State of Washington newspapers. You must be a TGS member to join this closed group. To join, search in Facebook for "TGS members only" ask to join and then wait for a reply from the page administrator. Check it out to see what you have been missing.

MEMBER NEEDS HELP IDENTIFYING PHOTOS

Mr Layne Higgs, who is a descendant of the Harry & Sarah Owens family (who resided in the Topeka and Wakarusa, KS area for many years), has a collection of old family photos and is hoping someone can help him identifying the people in them. There was a son by the name of Raymond and most if not all of the photos were taken in and around Topeka and Shawnee Co. Layne can be contacted thru e-mail at higgs.layne@yahoo.com or by phone at 801-540-9003 and would appreciate hearing from anyone with family connections or any information.

Here is how to access the pictures:
Go to familysearch.org
On their home page, click "memories" above the picture
In the drop down list, click "find"
Fill in the box: "Harry Owens" and click the "photo" button, Then click the "find" button
You will see lots of pictures. Some are identified, but need help for those that aren't

MARK YOUR NEW 2016 CALENDAR NOW FOR OUR CONFERENCE

April 15 & 16, 2016 -- Topeka Genealogical Society’s Annual Conference at the Kansas Historical Society Museum. Friday morning - personal research options. Friday afternoon - breakout sessions. Saturday's featured speaker is Lisa Louise Cooke. More details here.