EVENTS & VIEWS

Volume 24 Number 7                                                                  July 2016

COMING UP AT TGS

Don't miss our Monthly Program, "Freedom's Struggle: Order 11," given by Tom Rafiner. The meeting is this Thursday, June 23, at the Topeka Shawnee County Public Library at 7:00 - hope to see you there!

June 23, 7:00 pm - Monthly Program, "Freedom's Struggle: Order 11," by Tom Rafiner, TSCPL
June 28, 9:00-4:00 -- Basics of Family History Research Class, TGS Memorial Library, pre-registration required; download brochure here.
July 5, 9:30 am -- Brick Wall Special Interest Group, TGS Memorial Library
July 11, 9:30 am -- DNA Special Interest Group, TGS Memorial Library
July 14, 9:30 am --- Family Treemaker/Computer Genealogy Group, TGS Mem. Library
July 14, 1:00 pm --- Family History Writers' Group, TGS Memorial Library
July 14, 3:00 pm --- TGS Board Meeting, TGS Memorial Library
July 17, 2:00 pm -- Computer Users Group (was PAF Group), TGS Memorial Library
July 22, 9:00-noon -- Beginning DNA Class, TGS Memorial Library, pre-registration required, download brochure here.
July 22, 1:00-4:00 -- Intermediate DNA Class, TGS Memorial Library, pre-registration required
July 28, 7:00 pm -- Monthly Program, "First Territorial Capital of Kansas," by Paul Bahnmeier, TSCPL
August 1, 9:30 am --- DNA Special Interest Group, TGS Memorial Library
August 2, 9:30 am -- Brick Wall Special Interest Group, TGS Memorial Library
August 6, 11:00 am --- TGS Members Picnic (see article below for details)
August 11, 9:30 am --- Family Treemaker/Computer Genealogy Group, TGS Mem. Library
August 11, 1:00 pm --- Family History Writers' Group, TGS Memorial Library
August 11, 3:00 pm --- TGS Board Meeting, TGS Memorial Library
August 25, 7:00 pm --- Monthly Program, "The History of Schools," by Jerry & Helen Miller, TSCPL

NEWS FROM THE PREZ

"It is summer time and the living is easy." Do you know where this saying came from? Vacations, grandchildren activities, weekend trips, and family reunions really can make summer extremely busy. Genealogy can take a back seat. My suggestion is to take a small project - work on it a couple of times a week and the brick wall will crumble. I'm very optimistic on brick walls. I just got back from a research trip to Salt Lake City and had an ah! moment. I think I broke through my Scotland brick wall, but will need to do more to verify. I can tell you all - I'm so ready to go back. It was totally amazing. I'm planning a trip to Salt Lake City next year, so if you would like to be included let me know. The cost for 1 week all-inclusive will be under $1000.

Thank you to the volunteers who made Topeka Gives a successful event. Our check was for $1816.06. Member volunteers manned the booth and many gave their cash. A huge thank you to Sandi Kassebaum for leading the event. Thank you so very much - this is what makes TGS GREAT!

We had a roof leak in the last 4 weeks. Our sump pump died and we replaced it with a new one. We made a decision to put a dehumidifier in the basement. We want to keep the moisture out of the library to protect those precious books and it has been a challenging problem this year.

Library Location:
2717 SE Indiana
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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

Our library is a treasure!
Join us today!
Click here
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.

Your President was invited to Coffey County Public Library at Burlington, KS to lead a class on DNA. I want to thank the Coffey County Genealogical Society for their warm reception, quality facilities and wonderful snacks. TGS is reaching out to other societies in Northeast Kansas in the hopes of developing a speaker bureau of talented Kansans who have new ideas and learning experiences to share. I’m headed to Riley County next month.

Linda Davis led a librarian training class last week at TGS. I attended the training and learn many new things. We signed up 3 new volunteers for the library, but we have 2 more who are stepping down. Please consider volunteering just 1 afternoon a month. If you are interested, we can put another class together. Let Linda Davis know you are interested.

Several volunteer activities are in need of volunteers. Several indexing projects are ongoing (check with Brenda Kelly), and we need a Corresponding Secretary (about 1-2 hours a week) and a Research and Publication Chair (Brenda is stepping down to take the job of Editor for our Quarterly). She has everything ready to go and will train. We need folks who will serve on the nominating committee. We have 3 positions up for election. Our Education committee (contact Terry Stahl) could use volunteers to help plan programs, classes and conference for next year. It is a very good way to learn from members who have been on the job and know what to do.

I would love to have you give me ideas on what you would like to learn. Do you want more social events to get acquainted? Are there books you would like for us to purchase? Is there a membership to a genealogy site you want us to join? Let me know.

Here is the short list of activities coming up:

- Our program meeting on Thursday at the Topeka Shawnee County Public Library at 7:00 PM is on a notorious Civil War event.
- Basic Genealogy Class on June 28 is led by Jill Frese (all day).
- July 5th at TGS Brick Wall. We explored alternatives for research at different locations in Topeka and now we are partnering up and working in pairs to find the crack to get the walls to crumble.
- July 11 is the DNA DIG.

Be sure to put August 6 from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM and come and celebrate our 3rd annual picnic. Invite a friend to come with you. Our Picnic committee has a very special surprise. You will not be disappointed.

Have a safe July 4th and celebrate what is great about our country. See you at the library.

Marty Flanagan

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ORDER #11?

Order No. 11 was issued four days after the August 21, 1863, Lawrence Massacre, a retaliatory killing of men and boys led by Confederate bushwhacker leader William Quantrill. The Union Army believed Quantrill’s guerrillas drew their support from the rural population of four Missouri counties on the Kansas border, south of the Missouri River. These were: Bates, Cass, Jackson, and part of Vernon. Following the slaughter in Lawrence, Federal forces were determined to end such raiding and insurgency by any means necessary—no matter what the cost might be to innocent civilians.

Learn more this Thursday night, June 23, at the Topeka Shawnee County Public Library as Tom Rafiner helps us understand the order and what it meant to our ancestors living along the Missouri-Kansas border.

GOOD NEWS FROM TOPEKA GIVES!

Thanks to all who supported the Topeka Genealogical Society in last week’s Topeka Gives event. With the matching funds from the Topeka Community Foundation, our Society received $1816.06!!! In the left photo, Nancy Appelhanz talks about TGS with a visitor to our booth last week. Right, Marty Flanagan and Cindy Cruz were present at the awards ceremony this morning to receive our check and posed with the large check representing the total raised for all organizations at Topeka Gives - $496,288.92!
DON'T MISS OUR ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC!

The Annual Topeka Genealogical Society Picnic will be held on Saturday, August 6th, at the Brookwood Covenant Church, 3601 SW 33rd Street, in Topeka. The planning committee has arranged for a potluck dinner to be served at noon, followed by a special program entitled, “On the Road with Sarah Jane” to be presented by siblings Jill Frese and Joel Meyer.

Members are asked to provide a side dish for the dinner. The main dish options will be discussed and voted upon at the June 23rd TGS meeting at the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library. Further details will be distributed in the next newsletter. Drinks and table service will be provided by TGS.

Jill and Joel are experienced genealogists and authors who have presented numerous programs concerning genealogy in Kansas. Their picnic presentation is subtitled, How to Bring Your Ancestor Alive Using Accumulated Documents and Stories. This delightful tale will be delivered in period costume, as the story of Sarah Jane’s journey to Oklahoma Territory by covered wagon is retold.

Please mark your calendar and make plans to attend this special event! It will be a great opportunity to become better acquainted with other TGS members who share your zeal for recording family history. How can you possibly pass up delicious food, delightful fellowship and a captivating program? We hope to see you there!

TGS IS FAMOUS!

Our Conference speaker, Lisa Louise Cooke, gave our society a nice mention in her weekly “Genealogy Gems” podcast in May — “Local organizations in many towns and counties also offer genealogical classes and programs. Try checking out their websites and social media or going in person to your local public library, historical society, genealogical society, or Family History Center and find out about their offerings. For instance, in Jefferson County Kansas, the Jefferson County Genealogical Society holds meetings on the fourth Monday of the month, while the public libraries in Valley Falls and Oskaloosa offer historical programming. Nearby, the Topeka Public Library offers computerized genealogy classes on a regular basis, while the Topeka Genealogical Society offers monthly brick wall help sessions, computer classes, and a monthly program. This month’s program, on June 23, is titled, “Freedom’s Struggle: Order 11.”

LOOKING AHEAD

BEATRICE, NEBRASKA -- A symposium on land records and genealogy is scheduled for July 15-16 at the Southeast Community College campus in Beatrice. The cost for one day is $79 or both days for $109. There also will be a dinner on the evening of July 15 at the Homestead National Monument. It will cost $22 per person. The registration deadline is July 6. People may register by going online to http://www.southeast.edu/continuing and clicking on the Register Now button. Type Genealogy in the keyword search box.
TGS MEMBERS PICNIC - August 6th, 11:00-3:00

TASTE OF KANSAS - September 16-17. The Kansas Historical Foundation is sponsoring this bus trip following the footsteps of John Brown. More information here.

OCTOBER 22 - If you missed seeing Lisa Louise Cooke at our conference, you can catch her next October at the Johnson County Genealogical Society's annual seminar in Overland Park. More information here.

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