Don't miss our Program Meeting this Thursday, February 25, when we will enjoy hearing about "Hazel Hill Chocolates, A Family Legacy." Hope to see you at 7:00 at TSCPL.

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"

April 2, 10:00-4:00 - Spring Open House, TGS Memorial Library
April 4, 9:30 am --- Brick Wall Help, TGS Memorial Library
April 5, 9:30 am -- DIG (DNA Interest Group) Meeting, TGS Memorial Library
April 14, 9:30 am --- Family Treemaker/Computer Genealogy Group, TGS Mem. Library
April 14, 1,00 pm --- Family History Writers' Group, TGS Memorial Library
April 14, 3:00 pm --- TGS Board Meeting, TGS Memorial Library
April 15-16 -- TGS Annual Conference (no program meeting in April)

NEWS FROM THE PREZ

I cannot believe it is spring, or should I say summer. Keep good thoughts that this weather holds.

Your Board of Directors (BOD) has been busy during February. The BOD had our final Strategic Planning meeting and has set goals for this year. You will hear more during the year about the goals.

The refresh and painting is complete at the library and it looks awesome. Thanks to all the volunteers who made it happen.

Your BOD is meeting with a planning session this week to move our goals out through the committees. During the next few months, our Committee Chairs will be asking for volunteers. Please say yes.

TGS participated in the Black History Program at the Library on February 20, 2016 from 2-5PM. FYI: We have many African American records at the library. If you are not sure where they are, be sure to ask Lyn.

On March 1 at 6:30 PM to 10:00 PM a group of nine TGS members will be out at KTWU participating in a fund raiser. One program they support is Finding Your Roots - watch this show at 7:00 PM on March 1, 2016 and show your pride with TGS and KTWU. Please check us out and consider a donation to KTWU.

March will be in full swing soon. Brick Wall SIG (a SIG is a Special Interest Group) will meet on March 1 at 9:30 AM and our DIG (DNA Interest Group) will meet on March 7 at 9:30 AM.
Be sure to sign up for our Annual Conference in April. I look forward to learning from Lisa Louise Cook. How about you? Our open house is scheduled on April 2, 2016, so save this day. See you at our monthly meeting, Thursday, February 25, 2016 at 7:00 PM at TSCPL. Did I hear chocolates?

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**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.

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**REGISTER NOW FOR OUR ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Our 44th Annual Conference is quickly approaching and we don’t want you to miss out on this great weekend. The early bird sign up ends on March 24th and after that an additional $10 is required.

The Friday breakout sessions have limited seating and are quickly filling. Lisa Louise Cooke is our featured speaker on Saturday.

If you have already mailed in your reservation, we thank you. If you have not yet renewed your yearly TGS membership, this would be a wonderful opportunity to save some money on the conference.

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](#).

Hope to see you Friday, April 15 & Saturday, April 16.

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**BLACK HISTORY EVENT THIS WEEK**

**Saturday, February 27, 11:00 a.m.** To celebrate Black History Month, the Midwest Genealogy Center and the Midwest Afro-American Genealogical Interest Coalition (M.A.G.I.C.), are partnering to present a special event on researching your African American Ancestry during the Civil War period. Join us for two special presentations by internationally known genealogist Kathleen Brandt: Claim It! - Civil War Treasures and Southern Claims Commission Records/Slave Claims Commission Records. M.A.G.I.C. genealogists will be available to assist participants with research in the library at the completion of the sessions. For more information, please click [here](#).

Midwest Genealogy Center
3440 S. Lee’s Summit Road
Independence, MO 64055
816.252.7228
LOOKING AHEAD TO MARCH

For our March program meeting, Kansas author and historian Roy D. Bird will speak on homesteading in eastern Kansas in a program titled “Harvest Homes - The Settlement of Northeast Kansas.” This presentation is part of the Kansas Humanities Council Speakers’ Bureau. The Kansas Humanities Council conducts and supports community-based programs, serves as a financial resource through an active grant-making program, and encourages Kansans to engage in the civic and cultural life of their communities. Visit them online at www.kansashumanities.org. You won’t want to miss this one!

JANUARY’S PROGRAM WAS SPECIAL

A large crowd enjoyed Herschel and Jacquie Stroud’s presentation on Abraham and Mary Lincoln in January. (Thanks to Cindy Cruz for these photos.)

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Our Membership Chairperson, Nancy Appelhanz, reports that we have 7 new primary members who have joined since January 1, making a total of 242 primary members to date. For those of you that have renewed we thank you and welcome you also. If you’ve not renewed yet it is not too late - click here.
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