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http://www.tgstopeka.org
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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 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. &
Saturday 9:00 - 4:00 p.m.

CALL FIRST IN BAD WEATHER — CHECK FOR HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

NEWS FROM THE PREZ

Spring has sprung and a couple of days felt like summer. It has been an enjoyable month of blooms. Our TGS Annual Conference bloomed this year. I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did. Our committee did a smashing job on making 2017 a 100% success. Our speaker, Josh Taylor, was an outstanding educator and wonderful to work with. Our society was blessed to have Josh as our speaker. I look forward to the changes I will incorporate into my research.

I’m still working on those darn BRICK WALLS in my family tree. Come join us on the first Tuesday of each month at 9:30 AM to work on yours with us.

April is coming to an end. April is a renewing time which brings new things into our life in May. Several classes are scheduled, a free skill builder, and several SIGS. Are you bringing new ancestors into your tree? Come visit with us at TGS and we might have a few suggestions. See you soon.
OUR CONFERENCE WAS WONDERFUL!

A large crowd of family history enthusiasts enjoyed two days of presentations, shopping and fellowship on April 7 & 8.

The crowd listening to Josh Taylor (left) and Terry Stahl telling about the Writers’ Group Orphan Train Project (right)

Rich McReynolds and Betty Wollenberg at the SAR and DAR information table (above) and the line up of door prizes and drawing items which were won by lucky attendees.

HELP TGS PURCHASE AN OVERHEAD SCANNER

TGS has been wishing for an overhead scanner for quite some time. We may all help purchase it by participating in Topeka Gives.

When? June 6, 7AM – 6PM
Where? Fairlawn Plaza Mall
How? Make a cash, check or credit card donation of $25 - $1000.

At the end of the day, an additional percentage will be added to all donations. Last year the match was 18% which makes $25 = $29.50 and $100 = $118. Great return on your investment!!
Volunteers will also be needed to work at the booth in 2 hour shifts on June 6. It is a fun day to promote TGS and our library services. A sign-up sheet is available at the TGS Library or you may call Alma Baker at 273-7921 or Sandi Kassebaum at 862-7499.

JOSH TAYLOR HAS A “GENEALOGY ROADSHOW” MOMENT AT OUR CONFERENCE

Josh Taylor’s final presentation at our Conference in April was a case study of his efforts to learn more about his third great-grandfather, John Wesley Shoup. He was flabbergasted when two sisters came up to him before that final presentation and gave him a photo of his ancestor in his Civil War uniform! Shoup was also the great-great-grandfather of the sisters, Claudia Hintz of Topeka and Nanette Lane from Oklahoma, and they signed up to attend the conference when they learned that they were Josh Taylor’s cousins and he would be talking about their common ancestor.

SPEAKING OF THE GENEALOGY ROADSHOW . . .

Have you joined the effort to get the program to come to Topeka? The Topeka Shawnee County Library is campaigning to have the PBS program Genealogy Roadshow come to Topeka in 2017 and film an episode here. The Topeka Genealogical Society is partnering with the library to get the word out. We encourage all of our members and friends to contact PBS and show them we want the Roadshow to come here - the goal is to get 10,000 contacts!

Follow this link for more information - www.tscp.org/roadshow. It would be great if you could publicize the campaign on your Facebook pages and give the same link to the library website set up for the campaign. We believe that bringing the Roadshow to Topeka will enrich the spirit of genealogy here and inspire the community, young and old, to research their ancestors. Please help us!

TGS RECEIVES GRANT FROM FREEDOM’S FRONTIER

Topeka Genealogy Society (TGS) and Freedom’s Frontier National Heritage Area are pleased to announce their partnership in working toward a better understanding for our heritage and telling the stories of the unsung ancestors who struggled for freedom on the frontier. TGS received a grant from Freedom’s Frontier to help bring D. Joshua Taylor to be the featured speaker at the Topeka Genealogy Society Conference on April 8, 2017 and Freedom’s Frontier representatives were present at the Conference to distribute information about the Heritage Area.

Freedom’s Frontier National Heritage Area is an internationally recognized region of 12 western Missouri and 29 eastern Kansas counties where a young nation’s diverse definitions of freedom collided in the 1850’s and 1860’s. Through sharing authentic and honestly interpreted stories, we learn multiple views of freedom.
MAY SKILL BUILDER SESSION TOPIC IS SCANNER APPS

On May 6 from 10:00 to 11:00 am at the TGS Library, Terry Stahl will demonstrate how to use the Ancestry app called Shoebox that turns your iPhone or Android into a photo scanner. With Shoebox, you can scan photographs and other documents, label them with date and location, tag them to one or more people, and then upload them directly to your tree on Ancestry. Other scanning apps for mobile phones will also be discussed.

Mark your calendar for our TGS annual members' picnic on Saturday, August 5, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. at Brookwood Covenant Church.

YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN THESE OTHER EVENTS

Genealogy Jamboree is a FREE event in Cumberland, Tennessee June 8-10. There will also be craftspeople and military re-enactors. Find out more here.

Have German ancestors? There will be a Germanic research conference July 28-30 in the Minneapolis area. Details here.

Free online webinars the 4th Wednesday of every month, sponsored by the Georgia Genealogy Society. The March topic is “Going Beyond the Basics: Vital Records & Related Sources.” The Society's website can be found here: www.gagensociety.org