COMING UP AT TGS

Thursday, October 25
“Victorian Mourning: A Complicated Business”  (Monthly Program)
7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library

Jill Frese and Joel Meyers, from Manhattan, will enthrall you with 19th century traditions surrounding death, funerals, and burial and share their implications for your family history.

Program is free, and open to the Public. No registration required.

Oct. 27, 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM - "DNA Testing with 23 and Me", (Class/Workshop), at TGS

Oct. 27, 2:00 - 3:00 PM - (Saturday Skillbuilder), "Using the Mayflower Society Lineage Books", at TGS

Nov. 3, 1:00 PM - "Getting the Most from the Major Online Genealogy Databases"  
(Class/Workshop) Register HERE

Nov. 8, 9:30 AM - Family Tree Maker/Computer Genealogy SIG, at TGS

Nov. 8, 1:00 PM - TGS Board Meeting, at TGS

Nov. 10, 1:00 PM - "Introduction to Genealogy Research"  (Class/Workshop), at TGS

Nov. 11, 1:00 PM - "Using GedMatch with Your DNA Results"  (Class/Workshop), at TGS

Nov. 12, 9:30 AM - DNA SIG, topic- MyHeritage DNA, at TGS

Nov. 12, 1:00 PM - Brick Wall SIG, topics- demos of FamilySearch.org & Legacy Family Tree, at TGS

Nov. 16, 9:30 AM - "Using DNA Painter” (Class/Workshop), at TGS  Register HERE

Nov. 17, 10:00 AM - (Saturday Skillbuilder), "HeritageQuest", at TGS

Nov. 18, 2:00 PM - Computer Genealogy SIG (was PAF), contact Eileen Davis at 785.235.5845 for more info.

Nov. 10, 9:30 AM - DNA SIG, topic- X-Factor (workshop- your own X-factor project), at TGS

Dec. 10, 1:00 PM - Brick Wall SIG, topic- How to Use FamilySearch.org, at TGS

Dec. 13, 9:30 AM - Family Tree Maker/Computer Genealogy SIG, at TGS

Dec. 13, 1:00 PM - TGS Board Meeting, at TGS

Dec. 15, 10:00 AM - (Saturday Skillbuilder), "Thinking about DNA, But Haven’t Tested Yet”, at TGS

*there won’t be any Monthly Programs scheduled for Nov. & Dec. due to holidays
NEWS FROM THE PREZ

Are you ready for Halloween? What type of family traditions do you have? Are you writing memories from past Halloweens? Let’s share our memories of what we did as a child with our grandchildren. They will remember. Do you have stories your parents gave you? Please make sure you are sharing yours.

Here is one of my memories. I lived in the country and in our four-mile square there were nine homes and eleven children. Our parents would drop us off at one home and the group would walk around the square mile. This would take about 2 hours in the dark. We picked up big candy bars, apples, popcorn and sometimes a quarter. By the time we made it around the square mile the treats were gone. The best part was the stories we would tell. My favorite was Ichabod Crane. I swear we knew he was following us. We would run and giggle and have so much fun. Our miles had lovely large trees that made an awning over the road which enhanced our fears. The moon would be shining just right and produce the scariest atmosphere for our stories.

It is easy to get busy and let the story telling and writing get delegated to the bottom of the pile, but I’m reminded that it is extremely important to write and share those memories before it is too late. My mom who is 93 has been cleaning closets, shredding, giving to goodwill, and has found amazing junk that have triggered her many memories throughout her life. She shared with me the story of the hat from the bull ring in Spain. What if she had died before doing this? This story would have been lost. Her sharing was a wakeup call for me.

TGS is fortunate to have several resident writers who are willing to share their expertise. The writing class in September did not have enough folks to sign up. We would like offer it again. Would you please let the Education Chair, Tom Garcia, know if you want to attend? We really want to offer this quality class to our members. Tom’s email is toppensoceducation@gmail.com. If we could get 5-10 to sign up and commit, I would be thrilled. The timing did not work for me in September and I want to attend.

In November, DIG (DNA Interest Group) is reviewing and using the X factor in their research. The Brick Wall SIG is undertaking the study of using Family Search.org in their research. We will cover a different topic each month. We hope to be prepared for our speaker in April from Family Search. We just may be able to stump the expert - LOL. These two groups meet on the second Monday of each month. Come join us. The Family Tree Maker/Genealogy SIG meets on the second Thursday. I will be sharing my experience on the upgrade that Family Tree Maker put out recently. They have added a DNA component I hope to demo. There are DNA and Genealogy Research classes continuing through October and November. Check out our Web page for details. Please enroll at least 3 days before the class. It is easy on the web. Most people get confused when it asks for a security code. Just click the box for your security code. This is an example of the digit code you would type in the box.

If you are a member, you must log on with your ID and password to get the discount. If you really do not want to use your credit card when you enroll, then select form and check; and bring your check to TGS on the day of the class. We want to make this easy. Nancy Appelhanz is Membership Chair. She can help you get your ID and password and get you set up.

Check out our web page for the amazing Skill Builders that we are doing. These are free so bring a friend. October is how to use the Silver Books in researching New England ancestors. Who knows you might be a Mayflower Descendant.

- Marty Flanagan

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED

The elections for open positions in 2019 were completed at the September Monthly Program Meeting. We want to extend congratulations to our elected officers:

   Vice-President                        Barbara LaClair
   Corresponding Secretary       Nancy Brock
   Treasurer                                Spencer Smith
October was National Family History Month, and we celebrated with an Open House on Sunday, October 7th. We had a very good turnout and here are a couple of photos from the day.
BRICK WALL (SIG)

Our monthly Brick Wall Special Interest Group (SIG) meets every 2nd Monday at 9:30 AM and is led by Marty Flanagan. We learn tips & tricks, methods, resources, and problem-solving techniques about how to better locate our missing ancestors or "knock down our brick walls". There may be a presentation, slideshow or video, group discussion, or workshop on the given topic. Hope you can come & join us!
Here is a photo from our Oct. meeting, while watching a video on using FamilySearch.org:

OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN & RESEARCH:
Topeka Genealogical Society - website; TGS Library; Special Interest Groups; Skillbuilders; Classes/Workshops; & Events; go to https://tgstopke.org/ and find out more.
Topeka Shawnee County Public Library - Genealogy Center on 2nd floor; check out their newsletter/website & sign up for genealogy & computer classes at Events- https://tscpl.org/events
Midwest Genealogy Center - website, online genealogy databases (with membership), library, events, & classes; check out their website - https://www.mymcpl.org/genealogy/