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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 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 - 3:00 p.m.

CALL FIRST IN BAD WEATHER - CHECK FOR HOLIDAY

CLOSINGS

COMING UP AT TGS

Thursday, May 24
Charles Sheldon’s In His Steps (Monthly Program)
7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library
The Topeka Genealogical Society hosts Dr. Tim Miller, biographer of Charles Sheldon, who will explain his influence on our city, state, nation, and world. Program is free, and open to the Public. No registration required.

May 19, 10:00 AM - “Lost Genealogy-What Inaction Produces!”, Saturday Skillbuilder, TGS register here
May 20, 2:00 PM- Computer User (was PAF Users) Special Interest Group, TGS
May 24, 7:00 PM- Monthly Program- “Charles Sheldon’s In His Steps”, Topeka Publ. Lib.

June 1, 9:30 AM- “DNA-Testing with MyHeritage and LivingDNA” Class, TGS, register here
June 1, 9:30 AM- Family History Writer’s Group, TGS
June 5, 7:00 AM-6:00 PM- Topeka Gives, Fairlawn Plaza Mall
June 9, 10:00 AM - “Intermediate Genealogy” Class, TGS, register here
June 11, 9:30 AM- DNA Special Interest Group, TGS
June 11, 1:00 PM- Brick Wall Special Interest Group, TGS
June 14, 9:30 AM- Family Tree Maker/Computer Genealogy Interest Group, TGS
June 14, 1:00 PM- TGS Board Meeting, TGS
June 16, 10:00 AM - “Organize Your Genealogy: Building a Mole Hole Out of a Mountain”, Saturday Skillbuilder, TGS register here
June 28, 7:00 PM- Monthly Program - “Genealogy and the Civil War”, Topeka Publ. Lib.

July 7, 1:00 PM - “Using Land Records in Genealogical Research” Class, TGS, register here
July 9, 9:30 AM- DNA Special Interest Group, TGS
July 9, 1:00 PM- Brick Wall Special Interest Group, TGS
July 12, 9:30 AM- Family Tree Maker/Computer Genealogy Interest Group, TGS
July 12, 1:00 PM- TGS Board Meeting, TGS
July 15, 2:00 PM- Computer User (was PAF users) Special Interest Group, TGS
July 21, 10:00 AM- Saturday Skillbuilder (topic to be announced when available), TGS, register here
July 26, 7:00 PM- Monthly Program, “Homesteading, Settling the West”, Topeka Publ. Lib.

NEWS FROM THE PREZ

WOW! Can you believe another month has sped by? So many things are swirling around my genealogy. In the Brick Wall class, we tried to use techniques from Tom Jones, our conference speaker, to break my brick
I only research genealogy on days that end in "y".
Join us!

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.

wall, but we went around in circles. I bet you feel that way too. Several important things came out of the discussion, I needed: a timeline, to understand the history of the two areas that impact my ancestor, to check probate records to see if there is clarification, write my DNA plan for breaking this wall, visit the county court house and genealogy societies in the area, and document, document and document. I hope you will visit our Brick Wall special interest group on the second Monday at 1:00 PM to learn a variety of techniques to solve these pesky problems. Next month, June 11th, we will learn how to use Goggle for searching our ancestors.

TGS is headed to Lawrence for a day of activities visiting Spencer Library and Wakins Museum on June 13, 2018. We will leave TGS at 9:30 AM and arrived back about 4 PM. We are planning a lunch at one of the many fine restaurants in Lawrence. Please RSVP to tgstopeka.president@gmail.com and let me know if you can come and if you are willing to drive by June 1.

Our second project to raise funds for TGS is on June 5th at Fairlawn Mall. Please consider coming to the mall and donating to our organization. Topeka Gives matches a certain % of each donation received. It is a great way to help TGS. Our project this year is to upgrade our training facilities. TGS has cleaned out the room on the south side of the Library to use as our training room. Our plans depending on money raised are putting a safety gate up at the stairs, buying tables similar to the ones in the main library, chairs, upgrade internet capabilities (faster streaming of webinars and more students can use their computers at the same time), upgrade the screen for our new projector, and white board. It takes resources to upgrade to a great training facility. I hope you will be part of the effort. If you have any questions or want to sign up to work contact: Sandi at ckraskass1@att.net.

Great monthly programs are coming up in May and June at the Topeka Public Library. Check out our web page at www.tgstopeka.org. Teri has amazing speakers for these programs. June will be Dr. Graves who was unable to speak in February due to the weather. Please thank Teri for the hard work she has put in for our Education program. She is cutting back for personal reasons. THANK YOU, Teri.

We are still looking for an Education Chair, Social Media Coordinator, a back -up for Dave our IT guy, and a Chair for our Annual Conference. Please contact me at tgstopeka.president@gmail.com or Janice at janiceashby3131@yahoo.com. These office positions are up for election this year: Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact the nominating committee chair, janiceashby3131@yahoo.com. If you are interested in helping on projects at TGS contact Susie at: graberhaus2@gmail.com. It takes a large neighborhood of volunteers to make a viable Society. I hope you will consider and give it a try.

Please put August 4th on your calendar for TGS Annual Membership Meeting/Picnic. It is your opportunity to suggest and make recommendations to the Board of Directors, hear our annual update for finance, plans for the future, and many other updates on what has happened at TGS. Our slate of officers for beginning of 2019 through the end of 2020 will be announced. It is a great time to visit with friends and make new ones. Watch for update information on this meeting.

This Newsletter is all about volunteering to make TGS the best. See you soon at one of our many activities.

- Marty Flanagan

RECAP FROM THE 2018 TGS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 46th Annual Conference of the Topeka Genealogical Society was held April 20 & 21, 2018 at the Kansas State Historical Society, in Topeka.

The 2018 TGS Annual conference turned out to be a great success. There were 151 registered participants for the conference; 105 attendees on Friday and 136 attendees on Saturday.

The breakout sessions included: Midwest Genealogy Center, Hidden Treasures at Spencer Library, Deborah Samson/Revolutionary War Soldier, Using Civil War Records to Locate Kansas Ancestors, Searching Native American Family History, Using the Internet to Find Ancestors, Hidden History: Researching Like a Historian to Find Clues in Your Family Tree, Using Pension Records to Find Hidden Records, & Beginning Genealogy.

Saturday, the featured speaker was Tom JONES, PhD, CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS. Mr JONES
presented four sessions throughout the day. His topics were: Getting the Most Out of Genealogical Evidence, Five Ways to Prove Who Your Ancestor Was, How to Systematically Use Autosomal DNA Test Results to Help Break Through Brick Walls, and Finding "Unfindable" Ancestors.

On Saturday, we also had nine vendor booths available for attendees to browse. The TGS fundraiser drawing for the 10 baskets raised over $450 for the society.

NEWS FROM THE TGS LIBRARY

We hope those of you who attended the TGS Annual Conference enjoyed it and gained some new insights for approaching your often stubborn "brick walls."

In the Conference Syllabus the speaker, Thomas W. Jones, listed over 50 references directly related to his discussions about how to use evidence in different ways to find "unfindable" ancestors. The TGS Library would like for you to know that about 43 of these references are available at our library. (Three (3) others are available online.) For the convenience of those of you who attended the conference, as well as those of you who were unable to attend, all 43 of the references available at the library have been pulled from the stacks and placed on a cart in the main reading room until July 1.

Come on by the TGS Library and spend some time reading more about finding your "unfindable" ancestors. We look forward to your visit!

- Lyn Hutchinson, Library Director

Topeka Gives Coming in June

Don’t forget Topeka Gives on June 5th at Fairlawn Plaza Mall, 7 AM-6 PM. During the event, you have an opportunity to support TGS by making a cash, check or credit card donation to the Topeka Community Foundation.

All donations of $25 up to $1000 will be proportionally matched resulting in additional funds for TGS. You may support up to 5 different organizations. This year’s donations to TGS have been designated to upgrade technology and training facilities at the TGS Library. Donation sheets will be available the day of the event or may be picked up in advance at the TGS Library.

* If you are available to help distribute material and information about TGS during a 2 hour work period on June 5, please notify Alma Baker, 273-7921 or Sandi Kassebaum, 862-7499.
Volunteers Needed - Are YOU the one we're looking for?

If your expertise runs along the lines of computers, printers and other tech machines, the library could use your help. Dave Haslett, chair of the Information Technology (IT) Committee is looking for two volunteers to help him keep our technology running.

Do you love social media? If so, our Social Media Coordinator position would be great for you. Help us manage Society publicity through social media such as our Facebook page, Twitter and Instagram.

Do you like to teach or find subjects that will be of interest to the group? You might like to volunteer for the Education Committee Chair.

In August/September three Board of Director positions will be voted on for the 2019-2020 term. If you are interested in a Board position, you may want to volunteer to be put on the ballot for the positions of Corresponding Secretary, Vice President or Treasurer.

Contact janiceashby3131@yahoo.com for more information.

TGS MEMBER’S PICNIC

Mark your calendar for our annual TGS member’s picnic on Saturday, August 4, 12:00 PM-3:00 PM at the Brookwood Covenant Church. More details to follow.

PRINTER CARTRIDGE RECYCLING

Thanks to everyone for turning in your empty printer catridges for recycling. We have earned $325, which Lyn will be using to purchase a new library ladder.

Keep those cartridges coming!

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR TGS MEMBERSHIP FOR 2018?

We have added a new, convenient feature to make your experience of joining or renewing a breeze. On our website click on “Membership – Join Us”, then choose “online join” and follow the guidance. It’s that simple! Thank you for your membership in TGS!

INVITE OTHERS TO JOIN TGS - INVITE YOUR FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS!

Google Cloud Storage Plans are now Cheaper than Ever

by Dick Eastman · May 14, 2018

https://blog.eogn.com/2018/05/14/google-cloud-storage-plans-are-now-cheaper-than-ever/

I have often recommended using file storage services in the cloud for storing your genealogy information and for storing any other information that is valuable to you. Whether you use the cloud as your primary storage area or if you use it simply as a backup to your computers’ disk drives is unimportant. If information is important to you, you need to have AT LEAST two copies of everything, stored in two different places. Three copies of everything stored in three different places would be better still and four copies… well, you get the idea. You can never have too many backup copies.

What interests me is that prices of storing data in the cloud keep dropping. Today, Google made new changes to its storage plans that include a new, low-cost storage
plan and half off the price of its 2 terabytes storage option. Details may be found in Google’s announcement at: https://www.blog.google/products/google-one/one-simple-way-get-more-out-google/.

Several changes were announced:

1. All Google Drive paid storage plans are converting to Google One, perhaps in part because you’ll now have one-tap access to Google’s live customer service. This is the first time live support is coming to Google for users who do not pay for Google’s G Suite for business accounts.

2. If you want to use Google One without paying at all, the company will still offer Drive’s basic 15 gigabytes of FREE storage space.

3. For only $2.99 a month, Google One will provide 200 gigabytes of storage. The 2 terabytes plan (that’s 2,000 gigabytes!), which usually costs $19.99 per month, will now cost $9.99 a month. Finally, the 1 terabyte plan that previously cost $9.99 a month is being removed. The other plans for 10, 20, or 30 terabytes won’t see any changes.

4. Google will also make the Google One plan shareable within a family of up to five members.

   Note: Google’s prices are still not the lowest available. If you shop around, you can find even lower prices from other companies, although probably without live customer service. For instance, Canada’s Sync.com offers 500 gigabytes of storage for $4.08 a month, New Zealand’s Mega.co.nz offers 200 gigabytes of storage for 4.99 Euros a month (roughly $5.95 US), and Amazon S3 offers a variety of services with some of them as cheap as $0.004 per gigabyte per month (500 gigabytes will cost $2.00 per month).

   One caveat with Amazon S3, however, is that it is more difficult to install and configure than most other cloud storage services and normally requires purchasing additional software from a third-party to actually transfer the data. Amazon simply sells the file storage space, not the required software to make all the pieces to work together. Also, Amazon does not offer free live customer service at these prices; you are on your own to make it all work.

   With millions of customers, Google cannot “flip a switch” and instantly convert all its servers to the new plans. Instead, the new pricing will be rolled out to everyone over the next few weeks. The upgrade will arrive first to users who already pay for additional Google Drive storage, and you can expect to see an email confirming the change shortly.

I am aware that some computer owners who are not familiar with cloud technology are afraid of it, thinking that the cloud is not secure. The truth is exactly the opposite: today’s cloud storage services are even more secure than storing files in your own computers where they are vulnerable to hackers around the world as well as thieves who steal flash drives, cell phones,
tablets, or laptop computers from backpacks and briefcases. For instance, a number of corporations suffered hacker attacks on their internally-hosted corporate databases but have since moved their data to the cloud to take advantage of the better security offered.

**Note:** For more information about the security of storing data in the cloud, see *Cloud computing security* on Wikipedia at: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cloud_computing_security](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cloud_computing_security)

If you are concerned about the possible loss of your genealogy data or any other data that is important to you, you might consider cloud storage, whether you decide to use Google or on any of a couple dozen other cloud storage services. For instance, at least two copies of all my important information is securely encrypted and then stored in two different cloud storage services. Even the employees of the cloud storage services cannot read my encrypted files.

Besides security, another advantage is that all the same information is available to me quickly on my desktop, laptop, and tablet computers as well as even on the cell phone, regardless of where I am, as long as I have a cellular network connection.

You might consider doing the same.

**OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN & RESEARCH:**

**Topeka Genealogical Society** - TGS Library; special interest groups; skillbuilders; classes; events; go to [https://tgstopeka.org/](https://tgstopeka.org/) and find out more.

**Topeka Shawnee County Public Library** - come to the 2nd floor's Genealogy Center; check out their newsletter/website & sign up for genealogy & computer classes at [https://tscpl.org/](https://tscpl.org/).

**Wichita Genealogical Society** is conducting a research trip to St. Louis, MO & Fort Wayne, IN Sept. 8-16; Arrangements can be made to pick up travelers in Emporia & Kansas City area!! for more details - [https://wichitagensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=63](https://wichitagensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=63)

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