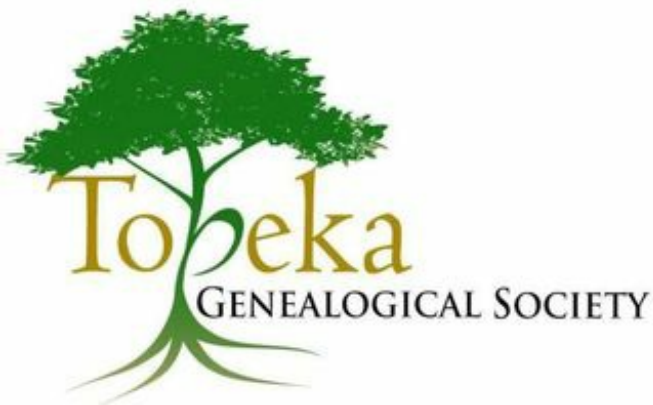




March 2024
Vol. 32 No. 3

From Your President

Another month has flown by, and Spring is just around the corner! Here in Kansas, we have been enjoying some unseasonable spring-like weather. We can be almost certain that we will have a few more winter weather days before Spring really arrives to stay, but we'll enjoy the nice days as they come.

At TGS, we have not been in a state of winter hibernation – we are keeping busy working on some big plans and projects. Our discussions with the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library about transferring our library collection to them are moving forward and looking promising. It's too soon to have details or timelines in place, but we are encouraged and working toward a more detailed plan and proposal. As soon as we have enough detail to be able to address questions, we will share the information and plans with our members and ask for their approval. So, stay tuned!



We're also continuing the work on developing a brand-new website, and it is coming along. We're excited about having a website with a fresh new look, and about finally being able to offer online access to our numerous indexes and databases! Right now, we are aiming for the launch of the new website in late Spring. Again, stay tuned for more details!

As we move closer to the possible closure of our library, we're also busy considering where and how we want to re-assign and re-focus our efforts and resources. We are looking at ways to offer more in-person opportunities for connection and socializing. We have a list of new indexing and digitization projects identified and waiting in the wings. We are working on clearing out storage spaces in our building, and thinking about how we could operate without having the responsibility and financial costs of a physical building or permanent office space of our own.

It continues to be a time of big changes and transition at TGS. Change is sometimes hard and scary. It forces us out of our comfort zone. But, at the same time, changes are sometimes necessary for the organization's survival and can mean exciting new opportunities and new energy. We're focusing on the positives and are excited about the possibilities ahead.

- Barb LaClair

Monthly Programs

"Bulletins of the Shawnee County Historical Society; Digital Collection at TSCPL" by KatieKeckeisen

Thursday, March 28

7:00 pm

Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library, or online with Zoom

TSCPL History Librarian Katie Keckeisen will present a program on the digital collection of the bulletins of the Shawnee County Historical Society and how they can be used for research. Use of the collection for researching historic Topeka buildings will be emphasized. Whether looking to be entertained or do serious research, you will find something to like in the Bulletin collection!



Monthly programs are free and open to the public. No registration is needed to attend in person. To get a link to attend virtually with Zoom, [click here](#).

Special Interest Groups

Foundations of Family History SIG | 2nd

Tuesday of each month | Virtually by Zoom.

To sign up for this class, [click here](#) or go to the TGS website at tgstopeka.org and click on the Events and Education link on the left side of the page.

March 12

7:00 - 8:30 pm

Topic: Church Records



Computer Genealogy & Software SIG | 2nd Thursday of each month | Virtually by Zoom.

Contact Rich at: rlm4017@gmail.com to sign up.

March 14 and April 11 Zoom meetings are canceled. See below for Rich's February CG and S link list.

9:30 - 11:30 am

Topic: TBA

Brick Wall SIG | 3rd Tuesday of each month | In-Person-even months | Zoom-odd months

March 19

9:30 - 11:30 am

Contact Cindy at: clcruz32153@aol.com to sign up.

Topic: Members Helping Members

Attendees can ask questions and the group will brainstorm resources which might help answer research questions from members. (Submit your research questions to Cindy by Monday, March 19, or bring other questions to the meeting.)

[Download: Research Question Form](#)

https://tgstopeka.org/upload/events/files/1704736860_BRICKWALLSIG2024researchquestionform.docx

DNA SIG | 4th Monday of each month | Virtually by Zoom.

March 25

6:00 to 7:30 pm

Contact Marty at marty.flanagan3@gmail.com to sign up.

Rich's CG and S Link List

As a preliminary to the Roots Tech 2024 conference, Rich gave us a list of informative links that we are sharing with everyone. Those who were in the meeting already have this information so for the 800+ rest of you, please enjoy!!

RootsTech home page: <https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/>

Hear What RootsTech Attendees Have to Say (1:24):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2lo1dwWhvZM>

Relatives at RootsTech (4:48): <https://www.familysearch.org/en/connect/c808520d-0660-4c10-96b7-7241e6a3acff/addtotree>

Frequently Asked Questions:

https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/faq#question_48

On Demand Library: <https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/library>

YouTube: RootsTech Videos:

https://www.youtube.com/results?app=desktop&search_query=familysearch+rootstech

YouTube: Family Search Videos: <https://www.youtube.com/@familysearch/videos>

Family Search (What you can see without an account):

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/united-states/>

Family Search Online Books: <https://www.familysearch.org/library/books>

Family Search Wiki: https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Main_Page

Get Help from the Family Search Community: <https://community.familysearch.org/en>

Roots Tech 2024



February 29 to March 4, 2024

Registration is open for the largest genealogy conference in the world.

Attend in person in Salt Lake City, Utah, for a nominal fee or online worldwide for free.

For more information, click the link. <https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/>

Spring Seminar 2024: A Day with the Genetic Genealogist**

March 16th, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Presented by the Midwest Genealogy Center,

3440 S. Lee's Summit Road,

Independence, MO 64055, (816)252-7228

Join us on March 16th for A Day with the Genetic Genealogist. Blaine Bettinger, The Genetic Genealogist and author, will provide four presentations that link the use of DNA to genealogy research. Join us as you learn how to use DNA to explore your ancestry! Tickets are \$50, and lunch will be provided.

This is an in person-only event.

Refunds will only be granted through February 16, 2024. To register, go to:

<https://www.mymcpl.org/genealogy/events/spring-seminar>

**REGISTRATION ENDS MARCH 4, 2024, 11:59 pm

Mr. Bettinger's website is: <https://thegeneticgenealogist.com/>

Online Research in Great Britain

The National Archives of the United Kingdom offers free webinars on a variety of topics, including short podcasts (audio only) on subjects like immigration records; birth, marriage, and death records; wills; and the UK census.

Webinars include topics like migration to England from across Europe, Asia, and Africa and how to research the history of British towns and cities.



Go to their site and explore their educational offerings and then browse their website to see what other gems you can uncover. If you have British ancestors, this is a great website to explore.

<https://media.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

Topeka Genealogical Society Library

2717 SE Indiana Ave.

Topeka, Kansas

tgstopeka.org

(785) 233-5762

Email: tgstopeka.president@gmail.com

LIBRARY HOURS

1-4 pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

Noon - 3 pm Saturday

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