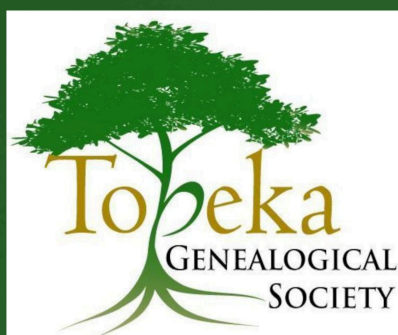




News & Views

Newsletter

www.tgstopeka.org

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September 2024

From the President's Desk

The months seem like they are flying by! I can't believe that Summer is nearly gone, but the signs are clear. Foliage is starting to change colors, and I have seen a few yellow leaves drifting around as they fall from trees. The seasons seem to get shorter with every year that passes. I guess that is a reminder that life is ever-changing, and our time here on earth is not unlimited. Better make the most of every day we have left. There will never be a better time to get around to organizing your Family History files, and writing up that Family History that you hope to leave to younger generations of your family.

Time is also flying by at TGS as we try to navigate and define the details of plans for closing down our library and our building. There is so much to think about with these big changes! We will get it all figured out, but will also take the time needed to carefully think about and prepare for the implications of the coming changes. The huge changes that we are planning may feel like a big loss to some members, but will also strengthen our future and free up resources that allow us to pursue new opportunities and offerings. Change is hard, but we must adapt to our changing environment and the needs of the next generation of genealogists!

At our upcoming **Annual Member Meeting on September 21st**, we will have a short business meeting where we will be providing updates and answering questions about where we are and what we are planning for these big transitions. Terry Stahl will be providing us with an entertaining program about the well-known homemaker Betty Crocker, and we will have some time for networking with fellow members as we enjoy a delicious brunch meal. I would like to encourage our members to plan to attend. More details and registration are available in the [event listing on our website](#) – there is no charge to attend, but we are requesting pre-registration so that we will know how many people to set up for. I hope to see you there.

- Barb

Welcome, New Members!



We want to extend a warm welcome to new members who have joined our organization since we brought the new website up in June. We hope that you will take full advantage of everything that we have to offer, and don't hesitate to let us know if we can assist you in your family history quest!

- June 2024 - Deborah Snyder; Melissa, Texas
- June 2024 - Lisa Larue Baker; Topeka, Kansas
- July 2024 - Tricia Johnson; Holton, Kansas
- July 2024 - Nicole Martin; Kansas City, Missouri
- July 2024 - Laura Vanchieve; Cypress, Texas
- August 2024 - Jamie Fitzhugh; Topeka, Kansas
- August 2024 - Ginger Chang (returning member)

Welcome, and we look forward to getting to know all of you better!

New on Our Website

We update and add content to our website on an ongoing basis. So that you don't miss anything, here's a short list highlighting new additions in the past month or so.



- New program recordings added - April, May, June & July 2024
- New databases - none this month, but more are in the works! We currently have over 350,000 searchable records online.
- Other - Did you know that every-name indexes for our 2011-2023 *TGS Quarterly* are now included in our searchable database, and the digital versions of the *Quarterly* are online, too?

We hope that you are taking full advantage of all of the resources and information on our website. Access to some content is restricted to our members. To gain full access, we invite you to visit the membership page on our website and become a member today!

[Visit Our Website](#)

Introducing - the TGS Speakers' Bureau

Do you know of a club or organization that is looking for a speaker for an upcoming program? Volunteers from the Topeka Genealogical Society would love to provide a program related to genealogy and family history. Currently, we have three program titles to select from: *Get to Know Your Ancestors*, *Preserving Your Family Heritage in 10 Easy Steps*, and *How to Get Started in Researching Your Family History*. For short descriptions of each, or to request a program for your group, [see our website.](#)



Upcoming TGS Events and Programs

(Please refer to the [events calendar](#) on our website to see all upcoming SIG meetings, classes and programs)

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS:

These informal groups meet on a monthly basis for information sharing and learning around a topic or area of shared interest. Participation is free, and open to the public. Refer to the [events listing on our website](#) for information about how to register to participate.

- **September 12, 9:30am - Computer & Genealogy Software SIG**
- **September 17, 9:30am - Brick Wall Problem-Solving SIG**
- **September 23, 6:00pm - DNA and Genetic Genealogy SIG**
- The **Foundations of Family History SIG** will not meet in September due to conflict with the Presidential Debate

MORNING JOE & JAW - Monday, September 9, 9:30 - 11am.



This is a new opportunity for some socializing and networking with other members. Meet us at Perkins Restaurant, 1720 SW Wanamaker, for some lively conversation while you enjoy a morning coffee, pastry or breakfast. No need to register. Just drop by to say hello.

2024 ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING - Saturday, September 21, 10am - 1pm

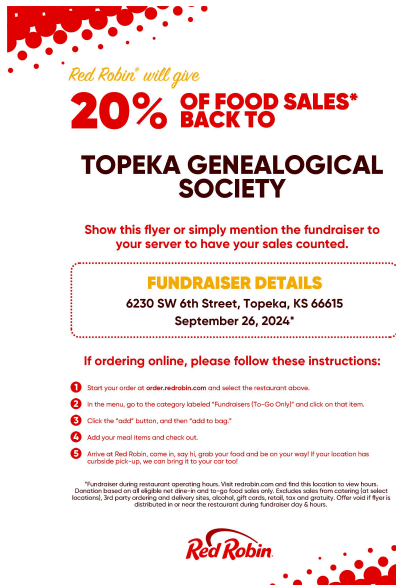
We invite all current TGS members to join us for our Annual Member Meeting.



We will share a Brunch, have a short Business meeting, and Terry Stahl will provide her entertaining program about Betty Crocker! We are requesting RSVPs so that we know how many people to set up for. [Please submit your RSVP by going to the event listing on our website.](#)

DINNER GATHERING/FUNDRAISER

Thursday, September 26, 2024, 5:00 pm, at Red Robin, 6230 SW 6th Street.



We invite you to join us for some socializing time with other TGS members, just prior to our September Monthly Program. Each month, we make arrangements to gather at a local eating establishment prior to our Monthly Programs. In most months, the designated restaurant has agreed to donate a percentage of the total purchases made by our group members. We welcome participation and support of our fundraising efforts by anyone who is interested. Please plan to join us!

Our September dining out social and fundraiser will be on Thursday, September 26th, gathering at 5:00pm, at Red Robin.

If you are unable to join us for dinner, purchases made any time between 11am and 9pm at the restaurant, or online for pickup/carry out will count toward our fundraiser if you show the flyer to the cashier, or follow the directions on the flyer for online orders.

Following dinner please join us for our monthly program, "*A Locality Guide for Researching in Shawnee County*," presented by Barbara LaClair. Program starts at 7:00 pm at the TSCPL.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you on the 26th!

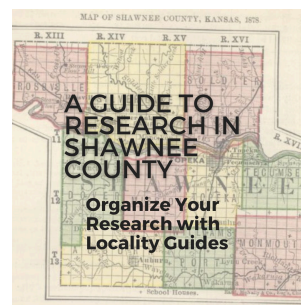
[Download the Flyer Here](#)

MONTHLY PROGRAM

Thursday, August 22, 2024, 7 pm. *A Locality Guide for*

Researching in Shawnee County.

TGS is making research in Shawnee County so much easier! **Barbara LaClair will review and demonstrate several new resources that make it easier to research ancestors or local history in Shawnee County, Kansas.** Attendance is free, and open to the public. Attend in person (at the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library), or online via Zoom. See the [event listing on our website](#) to register to obtain the Zoom link.



INTRO TO FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH CLASS, Saturday, October 5, 1:30-5:00pm

(Class will be held at the Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library)

Would you like to learn more about your family history, but need a little help in knowing how to get started? Improve your chances of success by learning a few basics and starting off on the right foot! This free class will cover the basics of how to research your family history ---- how and where to search for clues (both online and offline), understanding the most commonly used records and sources, using the major online database resources, and how to organize and keep track of the information that you find.



Class is free and open to the public, but **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** Class size is limited, so register early.

[See the event listing on our website to register.](#)

LAST-CHANCE LIBRARY LOCK-IN, Friday, October 11, 4-11pm



Join us at the TGS Library for an evening of "last-chance" research in our library, socializing and genealogy fun before we close down the Library and begin the process of transferring items in the collection to other area repositories. Spend your time researching, socializing and connecting with other members, or playing genealogy board and card games (or a little of each - it's up to you to decide!) We will have library volunteers on hand to help you find items in the library collection, and we have a collection of genealogy games ready for your enjoyment. Snacks and a light dinner of pizza, salad and cookies will be included.

Space is limited, so register soon! *This event is open only to current TGS members, and pre-registration is required. Registration fee of \$10 to cover food costs. See the [event listing on our website to register](#).*

2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE - April 26, 2025 - SAVE THE DATE!

Featured speaker will be **Michael John Neill**.
Watch for more details as they become available.



Upcoming Regional Events

There are lots of interesting and fun learning opportunities coming up in our region, hosted by our friends and colleagues. We encourage you to attend and support their efforts.

WICHITA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL CONFERENCE Saturday, October 5, 2024

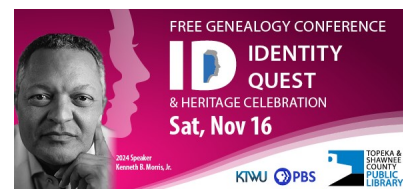
Registration is now open for the Wichita Genealogical Society's Annual Conference, which will take place on Saturday, October 5, 2024, with Cari Taplin as featured speaker.

Register soon to take advantage of reciprocal member discounts for TGS members. To see conference details and registration information, visit the WGS website, <https://wichitagensoc.org/event-5746648>.



IDENTITY QUEST 2024 Saturday, November 16, 2024

A free event, hosted by the Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library event and supported with participation by TGS. The 2024 IDQ Conference & Heritage Celebration will include heritage society exhibitors, genealogy speakers, and heritage



music, dance, and art.

Registration is now open. See the [TSCPL website for details and registration](#).



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