



Editor: Lucille Williams

1203 N. Main,
P.O. Box 1121
Wichita, KS 67201
316-264-3611

Established 1966

Library Hours:

Tuesday & Saturday

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Email:

info@mhgswichita.org

Online Alert:

go to website>publications
>Alert

Inside This Issue:

Upcoming Programs
p. 2

Library Additions
p. 2

More Library Catalog Instructions
p.3

Amazon Smile
p.3

MHGS Facebook
p. 3

Calendar of Events

Alert

Midwest Historical & Genealogical Society



MHGS is Open Tuesday and Saturday, 9am-4pm. Wi-fi is available with knowledgeable volunteers to help you with your research and answer questions. We have yearly memberships and non-members can do research for a fee. (316) 264-3611 MHGS Website: <http://mhgswichita.org>

VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

Saturday, March 28 at 11am at the MHGS Library

This will be our Annual Meeting which is held every year in March. We need to have a lot of our members in attendance at the meeting in order for us to have a quorum and to be able to conduct business. We also need all of our members to consider being either an officer or a committee chairperson. We will have some seats to fill and need your serious consideration. Every member should consider taking a turn on the board or a committee. **NOTE:** The library will be closed to research during the meeting.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO BYLAWS:

Members attending the Annual Meeting on March 28 will be asked to vote on the following proposed addition to the Bylaws:

“The mission of the Midwest Historical & Genealogical Society is to collect, preserve, and share information of historical and genealogical interest, accomplished through maintaining the Society library and publications.

The Society serves those who desire a greater understanding of their personal, community, and cultural heritage. Emphasis is upon the records of the people and historical events of Sedgwick County, Kansas, but includes, as well, a repository of comparable information about peoples and locations throughout the nation and abroad.”

RAISE YOUR HAND!!

We have three vacancies to be filled at the Annual Meeting on March 28. If you are willing to step into one of them—or would like more information before deciding—please contact Elaine, Jim, or Julia. This is the perfect opportunity to get involved.

Don't be shy; we need you!

Vice President (Programs & Projects) - Helps to schedule & support special projects, interest groups, or programs sponsored by MHGS; a voting member of the Board.

Secretary—Maintains the record of monthly board meetings, conducts occasional correspondence; a voting member of the Board of Directors.

Facilities Chairperson—Advises the Board of occasional repairs needed and coordinates the required service providers (hands-on technical skill not required).

Upcoming Programs & Library Events

Board Meeting. Saturday, March 14 @ 10:30am.

Genealogy DNA SIG. Saturday, March 14 @ 1pm to 2pm. Led by Paul Renner Smith.

Discover the latest news in the field of Genealogical DNA study. This informed discussion group uses the newest information available to learn what DNA can tell us about our ancestors. Learn what different tests are available and where.

Genealogy on the Internet. Saturday, March 21 @ 10am to 11am. Led by Jim Scharnhorst. Genealogy research has embraced the computer as not only the most efficient way to organize data, but the quickest way to access historical records. The ongoing digitization of documents for preservation purposes makes them searchable, economical, and immediately available. Our meeting is for sharing the sites we find most useful, finding solutions to the problems that have developed, and learning what the future holds.

Daughters of the American Revolution SIG. Saturday, March 21 @ 1pm to 2pm. Led by Sandi Bush, Lucille Williams, and Susan Newman. Do you have ancestors who served in the American Revolution, either in a military unit or by providing service in another way? We can help you with the application process, show you what records you need to qualify, and give you all the details.

Afro-American Special Interest Group. Saturday, March 28 @ 1pm. Led by Jozel Smith Eckels. Interest group that encourages historical and genealogical study of families with special emphasis on African-Americans. This informal group seeks to learn more of the history and factors within the family stories that we have been given. We will demonstrate how to research your family tree with the goal of discovering and understanding your family history.

Check our website at mhgswichita.org periodically for program information.

You will notice there is a Membership Renewal Form included with this newsletter. The MHGS new year starts April 1 each year. If you have recently renewed for the new year, please just pass the form along to a friend who might like to join. No need to send in another renewal. Hope this is not too confusing.

Latest Additions to the Library

National Genealogical Society—5 of their quarterlies

The Talisman—4 for 1967, 1969, 1970, 1971

Royal Purple—3 for 1968, 1973, 1940, 1948, 1942, 1941, 1939, 1949

The Graymaroon—6 issues from 1923

Parnassus—10 vols. for 1926

The Kettle—4 vols., 33, 34, 36, 37, 35,

The Melting Pot Genealogical Society Members Pedigrees, 2013, 4 vols.

The Lark—5 vols. For 1960, 1974, 1949, 1973, 1971

Pinches & Dashes: recipes & life measures from the Junior League of Wichita

Too many more to add here but check them out the next time you are in the library. There are more from Ireland, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia.

Continuation of Library Catalog Instructions

By Julia, Librarian

Tip #3: Look at the Record

There's a lot of information on the search result page, and it may be tempting to stop there. But when you click on an item in the search result list, you will be taken to the record for that item, which has some additional useful information.

- ◆ Each record will include the title, author and publication information (as far as we know—it's amazing how many genealogy society publications don't have dates, for example.)
- ◆ The record will show all subject headings assigned to this item, which should give you an idea of what the book is about.
- ◆ The Item Type will tell you whether the item is a map, a book, etc.
- ◆ The Location will tell you what major group this item is in—Kansas books, Military Research books, etc. (This is mostly useful for library tracking and reporting.)
- ◆ Call number will give you the ID for the item. Available means it's on the shelf and may be checked out by members. Not for loan means it can only be used in the library. Checked out means, well, checked out. Unavailable may mean it's missing or that we don't have a physical copy of the item (it may be online).

If you click on the Browse Shelf next to the call number, you can see which items are on the shelf to either side of the current item. This can be an easy way to scan books that are all shelved together, such as the books on Saline County. Remember, though, that this reflects the physical locations of the books, and not your search results, so it will show the books that are filed in the Saline County KS section, but not Saline County maps, for example.

From the record view, you don't have to rerun your search to see the other results. At the upper right of the page, you have the option to move to the previous or next record in the list, or you can click Browse Results to see the complete list.

(4th and 5th Tips will be in the April issue of the Alert. Be sure to save these instructions.)

Some important things to remember:

Amazon Smile: You order items on Amazon.com and Midwest reaps the benefits by way of a donation.

MHGS Facebook Page: Go to facebook.com/mhgswichita and "like" us.

Midwest Annual Meeting, March 28 at 11:00 am. We need you there!

Since it is now wintertime when we could have snowy or icy weather at any time, it is always a good idea to call the library at 316-264-3611 before making the drive to Midwest. Also, if it does snow very much, the parking lot will probably be packed with snow since it takes a little while to get it cleaned off. Also, the walk, steps, and handicap ramp. Have patience and remember to call first. Hopefully winter will end soon!!

**2014-2015 Board of Directors**

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Midwest Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 1121
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Change Service Requested



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Open Tues. & Sat.. 9am to 4pm

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Led by Paul Renner Smith

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DAR SIG
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Led by Sandi Bush, Lucille Williams, and
Susan Newman

Afro-American SIG
Saturday, March 28 @ 1pm
Led by Jozel Smith Eckels

SAVE THE DATE!
MHGS ANNUAL MEETING
Saturday, March 28 @ 11am
(LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED TO RE-
SEARCH ACTIVITIES DURING THE
ANNUAL MEETING)

Call 316-264-3611 for information or
to check on library closings.