

# MIDWEST HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## ALERT

VOLUME 39 NUMBER 1

APRIL 2017

1203 N. Main,  
P.O. Box 1121  
Wichita, KS 67201

316-264-3611

[info@mhgswichita.org](mailto:info@mhgswichita.org)

[mhgswichita.org](http://mhgswichita.org)

### Library Hours:

Tuesday & Saturday

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Inside this issue:

- Upcoming Programs
- Power-Up Schedule
- Latest Library Additions
- Items of Interest
- Calendar of Events

### ANNUAL MEETING AT MHGS

Meeting was called to order by President Rex Riley at 10:33 a.m. with 16 members present.

Rex acknowledged the activities of Elinor Jackson, a long-time member who recently passed away.

His Annual President's report included:

1. Membership of 139 which he attributed to the success of our Special Interest Groups:
2. The work taking place on the building which includes the addition of 48 linear feet of shelving to accommodate the Sedgwick County marriage records which have been stored at Bill Pennington's; the seeds planted by Vince Marshall for our wild flower garden; and replacement of storm windows.
3. The inventory of Lakeview Cemetery gravesites is approximately fifty percent complete.
4. We celebrated the MHGS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in October with an Open House.

One big expense this past year was the purchase of equipment for the digitization project and, as usual, our biggest expense is insurance for the building.

President Rex explained our previous Vice President Ann Boll had requested to be replaced and Jozel Smith Eckels had been selected to serve the remainder of her term. Our by-laws require that she be elected to the Vice President position at the Annual Meeting. Also, the term of Secretary Twila Brown has expired and she must be reelected to that position. Both were elected unanimously.

Technology Committee Chairman Vince Hancock reported that the plan to maintain redundant copies is in place. The PC upstairs that held our sole copy of the Membership database lost its hard drive last week, but we still have four undamaged copies remaining. Also, a 10-pack of 4GB USB flash drives has been ordered for sale to scanning patrons at \$5 (authorized at the February Board meeting). We have chosen the first floor, West room, as home for the new scanner. The most practical way to get network connectivity to that area is with a combination Wireless Access Point/Wi-Fi Range Extender, which will cost about \$20. Motion carried.

## ANNUAL MEETING CONTINUED

2016 Library Activity by Julia Langel:

- New books accessioned: 441 (includes books, bound periodicals, online books)
- Research requests: 134 from 34 states.
- Volunteer Hours: 21 volunteers worked 3,428 hours. This includes one elementary school student doing community service. Volunteer hours were up 362 from last year.
- Member visits: 277
- Non-member visits: 172 from 11 states.
- Accomplishments:
  - Obtained equipment and set up a semi-pro quality scanning station.
  - Launched digital collections section of the website.
  - Indexed more than 2,100 vertical files and research binders, including 11 research collections.

Francene Sharp, Publicity Chairman, stated she routinely informs the community of our activities.

Lucille Williams has retired as Alert editor.

Membership -Current membership is 139.

Julia reported that MHGS purchased videos by Lisa Louise Cooke, covering various subjects relating to genealogy. They are available for viewing at MHGS.

No further business, meeting adjourned.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS & LIBRARY EVENTS

**LAKEVIEW CEMETERY PHOTO PROJECT.** Monday mornings at 10 am to 11:30 am, weather permitting. This is led by Jim Scharnhorst and Paul Smith. Cemetery is located at 12100 East 13th St. in Wichita. Bring your cell phone or tablet with the BillionGraves app and help us document the cemetery. We won't be there if the weather is bad.

**WRITING A PROFILE OF YOUR CIVIL WAR ANCESTOR.** Saturday, April 1 @ 1:30 pm. Led by Julia Langel. A writing workshop to get you started writing your family history.

**GENEALOGY DNA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP.** Saturday, April 8 @ 1 pm to 2 pm. Led by Paul Renner Smith. Discover the latest news in the field of Genealogical DNA study. This informal discussion group uses the newest information available to learn what DNA can tell us about our ancestors. Learn what tests are available and where.

**POWER UP YOUR GENEALOGY.** Tuesday, April 11 @ 1:30 to 3 pm. Led by Julia Langel. Let's power up our research techniques! This month we'll be discussing Genealogical Numbering Systems.

**GENEALOGY ON THE INTERNET.** Saturday, April 15 @ 10 am. 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 problems that have developed, and learning what the future holds.

**DAR/SAR SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP.** Saturday April 15 @ 1 pm. Led by Sandi Bush and Lucille Williams. Get help with the application process, learn what records you need to qualify for membership, and find out all the details. We'll provide assistance for both the Sons of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

**AFRO-AMERICAN SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP** Saturday, April 22 @ 1 pm. 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.

## POWER-UP SIG NOTES

Julia has the Power-Up SIG Notes: Data Standards for Names available on the MHGS website. Ellen Burd led the discussion group and included two handouts (which are really good!) and those are also available on the website. Go to: <http://mhgswichita.org/> Click the item in the latest posts on the right hand side of the page.

## JULIA'S LATEST BOOK ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

- Panorama of Progress: Pawnee County 1872-1972
- Illustrated History of Early Wichita: Incidents of Pioneer Days
- Cooking with Delano
- Wichita World War II Memorial Brick Orders (A-Z)
- Wichita 1866-1883: Cradle Days of a Midwestern City
- Prairie Runways: The History of Wichita's Original Municipal Airport

## UPCOMING LOCAL ITEMS OF INTEREST

Friends of the Wichita Pioneers/Highland Cemetery Tour will be held April 8 from noon to 4:00 pm. FREE

The following places are open for MHGS to have a table for promotion of our organization and activities. Contact Francene if you can help staff a table for an hour or two.

- Civil War Weekend, Old Cowtown Museum, Sat., April 29 (30), 9:30 am-4:30 pm (table will be inside)
- Chisholm Trail 150th Celebration at Caldwell, KS, May 6, 2017. All day, as long as we wish.
- Chisholm Trail 150th Celebration, Delano/Wichita, KS, October 2017. More later.

## CIVIL WAR RESEARCH CLASS IN KANSAS CITY AREA

The Midwest Genealogy Center in Independence, Missouri, is offering the class *Research Your Civil War Soldier* on April 27, 2017 at 7 pm. Program is free but registration is required -- call (816) 252-7228.

## AMAZON SMILE

Remember our Amazon Smile donation help. If you make purchases from Smile.Amazon.com be sure to make MHGS the non-profit you are helping. The name will be at the top of the page. We will get a percentage of all purchases you make. Good way to help MHGS and also get all those things you want delivered right to your door. How easy can it get?

## 2016-2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Rex Riley (president@mhgswichita.org)  
Vice President: Jozel Smith Eckels (programs@mhgswichita.org)  
Treasurer: Jim Scharnhorst (treasurer@mhgswichita.org)  
Secretary: Twila Ackley Brown (secretary@mhgswichita.org)  
Librarian: Julia Langel (library@mhgswichita.org)

Committee Chairs:  
Alert Editor: Micki Wright Stephans  
Building & Grounds: Open  
Computer Technology: Vincent Hancock  
Publicity: Francene Davis Sharp  
Register Editor: Ann Hathaway Boll  
Membership: Beverly Jackson

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

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

<b>WRITING A PROFILE OF YOUR CIVIL WAR ANCESTOR</b>	<b>GENEALOGY ON THE INTERNET</b>
First Saturday @1:30 pm Led by Julia Langel	Third Saturday @ 10 am Led by Jim Scharnhorst
<b>BOARD MEETING</b>	<b>DAR &amp; SAR SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP</b>
Second Saturday @10:30 am Led by Rex Riley	Third Saturday @ 1 pm Led by Sandi Bush & Lucille Williams
<b>GENEALOGY DNA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP</b>	<b>AFRO-AMERICAN SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP</b>
Second Saturday @1:30 pm Led by Paul Renner Smith	Fourth Saturday @ 1 pm Led by Jozel Smith Eckels
<b>POWER-UP SIG</b>	
Second Tuesday @ 1:30 to 3 pm Led by Julia Langel	

---

### MIDWEST HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 1121  
Wichita, KS 67201

Change Service Requested