

MIDWEST HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

ALERT

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OCTOBER 2017

CHISHOLM TRAIL IS 150 YEARS OLD!

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Library Hours:

Tuesday & Saturday

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Inside this issue:

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This year, Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas are celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Chisholm Trail. Many pioneer towns along the route owe their early booms to the cattle trade that began in 1867.

Every year, Kansas school children study their state history on January 29th. How many of us know the location of our ancestors on that pivotal day in 1861? Where were they during the Missouri Compromise of 1820, and the Compromise of 1850?

Kansas became a territory after the passage of The Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854. From then until statehood in 1861, we were “Bleeding Kansas”. Jayhawkers and Border Ruffians notably battled at the Sacking of Lawrence in 1856 and the raid on Harpers Ferry in 1859. Even the peaceful Free-Staters, abolitionist, and pro-slavery settlers flooded into the territory to exercise their new right of popular sovereignty.

Less than four months after Kansas statehood, the first shots of the Civil War were fired at the Battle of Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861. One of our MHGS special interest groups has been focusing on “Writing A Profile of Your Civil War Ancestor”. Whether they served in the military or not, you have ancestors who were alive during the War. Do you how they lived their lives?

Photography first came to America in the 1840s. It's popularity exploded during the war. Professional photographers realized this was an opportunity to visually document the most important historical events of their lifetime. How many of these photos were saved in your family? Have you taken steps to preserve and distribute them to future generations?

If you have Kansas settlers in your family, I encourage you to search the Internet for the “Atlas of Historical County Boundaries”, then choose Kansas. It's easy to get confused if we only work from a current 105 county map.

Our biggest local celebration this year will be the Delano Fall Fair from October 6-8. For more information, visit <http://ct-150.org/> and <http://DelanoFallFair.com/>.

Vincent Hancock

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & LIBRARY EVENTS

WRITING A PROFILE OF YOUR CIVIL WAR ANCESTOR. Saturday Oct. 7 @ 1:30. Led by Julia Langel. A workshop to get you started writing your family history. This month we'll start working on our ancestor's life after the war.

POWER UP YOUR GENEALOGY. Tuesday, Oct 10 @ 1:30 to 3 pm. Led by Julia Langel. Let's power up our research techniques! This month we'll have a discussion on genealogical blogging led by Eileen Cunningham.

GENEALOGY DNA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP. Saturday, Oct 14 @ 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 different tests are available and where.

GENEALOGY ON THE INTERNET. Saturday, Oct 21 @ 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. ON HOLD FOR THE PRESENT. 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 Oct 28 @ 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.

JULIA'S LATEST BOOK ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

- Birth of Guthrie: Oklahoma's run of 1889 and life in Guthrie 1889 through 20th century R-390 146
- Newkirk and Kay County Diamond Jubilee R-390 147
- Freeman at One Hundred R-300 283
- Blair County Genealogical Society Newsletter R-410 333 V 36
- The New Harmony Story R-640 110
- Afton Cemetery Records VF 003
- Report of the Adjutant General of the state of Kansas, 1861-65 online

INTERNET GENEALOGY NEWS

The Genealogy on the Internet special interest group meets the third Saturday of each month at 10 am at the MHGS library. The latest topics of conversation have concerned Ancestry.com and their decision to migrate their data to Amazon servers. The process was not without problems; most of the data is available again although there are still some occasional glitches. The concurrent change in the Ancestry.com record format that made previous versions of Family Tree Maker (FTM) software obsolete was also discussed. We are beginning to use the new FTM 2017 version and have not encountered any major issues thus far. It's ability to read information from Family Search as well as sync to Ancestry.com is a distinct advantage. There have been significant changes in management at Ancestry.com and FindmyPast; these may impact the price and availability of data for genealogists. Ancestry's initial public offering of stock has been delayed in recognition of the turmoil.

UPCOMING LOCAL ITEMS OF INTEREST

- Wichita Genealogical Society Annual Conference “A Day with Ancestry.” Saturday, October 14, 2017, 8:00 am to 4 pm, Hughes Metroplex. The speaker will be Juliana Szucs from Ancestry.com. More information at www.wichitagensoc.org
- Chisholm Trail 150th Celebration, Delano/Wichita, Ks, October 6-8th, 2017 – Visit Delanofallfair.com and CT-150.com for more info. MHGS will have a booth at 567 W Douglas.
- The History of Jesse Chisholm Sept 30th – Dec. 30th Mid-America All Indian Center.
- Greater Omaha Genealogical Society Fall 2017 Workshop Oct 28, 9 am to 4 pm, Nebraska Methodist College N 87th and Burt Streets, Omaha, Nebraska gogsworkshop@radiks.net

GENEALOGY TIDBITS

Genealogy Pox --- Symptoms: Continual complaints as for need for names, dates and places. Patient has blank expressions, sometimes deaf to spouse and children. Has no taste for work of any kind, except feverishly looking through records at libraries and courthouses. Has compulsion to write letters. Swears at mailman when he doesn't leave mail. Frequents strange places such as cemeteries, ruins, and remote, desolate country areas. Makes secret night calls. Hides phone bills from spouse and mumbles to self. Has strange, faraway look in eyes.

Treatments; Medication is useless. Disease is not fatal but gets progressively worse. Patient should attend genealogy workshops, subscribe to genealogical magazines and be given a quiet corner in the house where he or she can be alone.

Remarks: the usual nature of this disease- the sicker the patient gets, the more they enjoy it.

Borrowed from Houser Hunters newsletter Dec 1985 Vol III, # 4

DILLONS COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

Go to <https://www.dillons.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow>

If you have already created an online account for your Plus Card, click “Sign In,” if not, click “Create an Account,” scroll to bottom of the page to the “Community Rewards” section, and enter organization number 48325. Use your plus card whenever you shop.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

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

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Led by Julia Langel

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Led by Jim Scharnhorst

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On Hold

Led by Sandi Bush & Lucille Williams

AFRO-AMERICAN SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

Fourth Saturday @ 1 pm

Led by Jozel Smith Eckels

Midwest Historical & Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 1121
Wichita, KS 67201

Change Service Requested