

MIDWEST HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

ALERT

VOLUME 39 NUMBER 11

FEBRUARY 2018

ANNUAL MEETING OF MIDWEST HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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

316-264-3611

info@mhgswichita.org
mhgswichita.org

Library Hours:
Tuesday & Saturday
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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- Power-Up Schedule
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- Items of Interest
- Calendar of Events

The annual meeting is scheduled for Saturday March 10, 2018 at 10:30.

We will be electing President and Treasurer. The present officers have announced that they would be willing to serve another term. The current president is Rex Riley and the current treasurer is Jim Scharnhorst. We would welcome other nominees if someone is interested in serving. We will also be voting on a proposed change to the bylaws (see page 3.)

We will need a quorum (at least 15 members) in order to conduct this business.

It is important for all members to attend this annual meeting on March 10 at 10:30. Please mark this event on your calendar as there will be light refreshments Yum!

SOME WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR INCLUDE:

- a volunteer to research requests for obits, divorce records, marriage licenses etc.
- a chairman for the building and grounds committee
- a legal size 4 drawer file cabinet.

NEW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

Come and join the newest Special Interest Group (SIG) PHOTO MYSTERIES beginning February 20 at 1:30. Bring in your mystery photos and we'll use both physical and digital tools to help identify people, places, and dates.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & LIBRARY EVENTS

WRITING A PROFILE OF YOUR WORLD WAR I ANCESTOR. Saturday, Feb 17 @ 1:30. Led by Julia Langel. A workshop to get you started writing your family history. Our first session for this new project!

POWER UP YOUR GENEALOGY. Tuesday, Feb 13 @ 1:30 to 3 pm. Led by Julia Langel. Let's power up our research techniques! We'll be analyzing photographs for clues about identification.

GENEALOGY DNA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP. Saturday, Feb 10 @ 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.

PHOTO MYSTERIES, Tuesday, Feb 20 @1:30. Led by Rex Riley. Bring your photographs and let our photo detectives go to work to solve the unknown facts regarding the images. NEW GROUP!!!!

GENEALOGY ON THE INTERNET. Saturday, Feb 17 @ 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, Feb 24 @ 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.

SOME FUN FACTS FOR FEBRUARY AND PRESIDENT'S DAY

Tallest: Abraham Lincoln (6'4")

Shortest: James Madison (5'4")

Youngest: Theodore Roosevelt (42 when he took office)

Oldest: Ronald Reagan (77 when he left office)

Heaviest: William Howard Taft (330 pounds)

NOW A WORD FROM OUR PAST PRESIDENT, ELAINE SUNDE

I just got word that my application for membership in the DAR has been accepted! The approval process included having an expert in Washington, D.C. evaluate my research and documentation of my lineage back to the Revolutionary War. This is the result of a couple of years work and the continuing support and guidance of Sandi Bush and Lucille Williams in the MHGS special interest group. I'm so excited and grateful to them for helping me through this rather daunting process and then for preparing my materials in the detailed and specific way required at the national headquarters.

So I would love to say a public thank you in the newsletter and to encourage others to "dive in!"

(Julia, our librarian, also recently joined the DAR with Sandi and Lucille's help!)

PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGE FOR ANNUAL MEETING

The current MHGS fiscal year runs from April 1 to March 31 the next year, which corresponds with our membership year. We have encountered two issues with this:

- Some of the grant opportunities we have pursued require us to submit our financial information in a calendar year format.
- Our revenue for any particular fiscal year can be highly variable, depending on whether most members renew early, which puts the revenue in the end of the previous fiscal year, or renew late, which moves the revenue into the next fiscal year. Since membership is our largest revenue category, this has an outsize effect on our revenue totals.

The MHGS board recommends that we change the fiscal year to January 1 to December 31. For the change-over, we propose that Fiscal 2017 will run from April 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017, and Fiscal 2018 will start January 1, 2018. The membership year would continue to be April 1 to March 31.

This requires a vote to change our by-laws. The MHGS board proposes the following by-law change:

Current:

Article 10: Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of this Society shall begin April 1 and end March 31.

Article 3.03: Dues

Dues shall be established by the Executive Board. The dues are payable initially upon application for membership, and annually thereafter by the last day of the Society's fiscal year, in order to remain a member in good standing. Dues paid on or after January 1 are considered paid for the next fiscal year. Membership dues shall not be refunded for any reason, including resignation, death, or dismissal from the Society.

Proposed:

Article 10: Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of this Society shall begin January 1 and end December 31.

Article 3.03 Dues

Dues shall be established by the Executive Board. The dues are payable initially upon application for membership, and annually thereafter by March 31, in order to remain a member in good standing. Dues paid on or after January 1 are considered paid for the next membership year. Membership dues shall not be refunded for any reason, including resignation, death, or dismissal from the Society.

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
(alert@mhgswichita.org)

Building & Grounds: Open

Computer Technology: Vincent Hancock
(tech@mhgswichita.org)

Publicity: Francene Davis Sharp
(publicity@mhgswichita.org)

Register Editor: Ann Hathaway Boll
(register@mhgswichita.org)

Membership: Beverly Jackson (members@mhgswichita.org)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

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

WRITING A PROFILE OF YOUR WORLD WAR I ANCESTOR	GENEALOGY ON THE INTERNET
Third Saturday @ 1:30 Led by Julia Langel	Third Saturday @ 10 am Led by Jim Scharnhorst
GENEALOGY DNA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP	PHOTO MYSTERIES
Second Saturday @ 1:30 Led by Paul Renner Smith	Third Tuesday @ 1:30 Led by Rex Riley
POWER-UP SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP	AFRO-AMERICAN SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP
Second Tuesday @ 1:30 to 3 pm Led by Julia Langel	Fourth Saturday @ 1 pm Led by Jozel Smith Eckels

Midwest Historical & Genealogical Society

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Change Service Requested