

MIDWEST HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

ALERT

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JANUARY 2018

HISTORY OF WHY WWI SOLDIERS WERE "DOUGHBOYS"

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Library Hours:

Tuesday & Saturday

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Inside this issue:

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When the United States declared war on Germany and Austria on 08 April 1917, the country was completely unprepared. There was only a small army, and there was an inadequate supply of rifles, artillery and other military necessities. Nevertheless many Americans thought that six weeks of American action would be enough to defeat the German military machine. Patriotism ran high and thousands of young men rushed to enlist in the Armed Forces. But President Wilson and his advisers knew that a great effort would be required before America's armed might would be large and strong enough to make a real contribution and they promptly set to work. A draft law was enacted to guarantee adequate manpower. Training camps were hastily built and staffed with regular soldiers whose job it would be to train the newcomers. Factories were converted and expanded for the production of uniforms and vast amounts of other military supplies. All of this required money, far more than had been raised before by the government, but Congress willingly appropriated the funds. Yet in spite of all the planning, hard work and goodwill it soon became apparent that it would take many months for a sizable force to be recruited, armed, trained and then sent across the ocean. As we have seen it was two months before even General Pershing and his advance guard arrived in France. No one knew better than Pershing how small and ill-equipped the regular army was. He had just completed a tour of duty with several units along the Rio Grande, where his soldiers had picked up the nick-name "Doughboys". That would stick to them through World War I and become as distinctive for that era as "G.I." would become for American soldiers in World War II. On the Rio Grande, U.S. infantry powdered white by the dust of the adobe soil found throughout the southwest were called "Adobes" by mounted troops. It was a short step from "Adobes" to "Dobies" and then eventually to the more familiar "Doughboys".

James Eugene Kramer

Now that you know about the name "Doughboys", it is time for more research about your WWI ancestor. We finished our research on our Civil War Ancestor (although some of us are still finishing our writing) and now we will begin a new project about WWI ancestors.

Come join us on this new adventure beginning 20 Jan 2018.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & LIBRARY EVENTS

WRITING A PROFILE OF YOUR WORLD WAR I ANCESTOR. Saturday, Jan 20 @ 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, Jan 9 @ 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, Jan 13 @ 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, Jan 20 @ 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 Jan 27 @ 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.

NEW IN THE LIBRARY

- People-Places & Events: Minot-Ward County Bridging the Century R-100 005
- Pamunkey Neighbors of Orange County, Virginia R-470 389
- Cherokee County, Kansas Genealogy Society – Relatively Seeking V 34,36,37 R-210 CK 08
- Kanza Pittsburg State University 1939, 1940 R-210 CR 02
- Crawford County, Kansas Genealogy Society The Seeker V 45-46 R-210 CR 06
- Sunflower Emporia State University 1938-1942 R-210 LY 01
- Half Century Club Emporia State University 1991 R-210 LY 17
- Profile Curtis Junior High School Wichita, Kansas 1970, 1971 R-210 SG 209
- Hoofbeats Southeast High School Wichita, Ks 1973, 1974 R-210 SG 210
- The Tree Tracers SW Oklahoma Genealogy Society V 41 R-390 1

UPCOMING LOCAL ITEMS OF INTEREST

- Lunchtime Lectures at Botanica – Wichita, Kansas Every Wednesday from 12:15 – 1:00. Lunch served 11:00-12:15, only \$8. Catering provided by Sweet Basil
 - January 17 Historic Homes in Wichita
 - January 24 Gravestone Restoration
 - January 31 Stone Arch Cellars of the Flint Hills

THREE PLACES TO LOOK FOR DIGITIZED RECORDS ON FAMILYSEARCH.ORG

Did you know that there are THREE places to find digitized records on FamilySearch?

1. The easiest way is to search by a person's name under the Search Records tab. These are the records that have been both digitized and indexed. These are also the records that show up as hints if you have a tree on FamilySearch. Unfortunately, indexing is veeeeeeery slow, so this is the smallest set of digitized records on the site.
2. The next easiest way is to browse records by location using the little map on the right side of the Search Records page. These records have been digitized, but not indexed, so you have to work by place. These records are straight from the microfilm, but someone has set up a few waypoints, so you can start from, say, Kansas Marriages, then get a list of counties, then get a list of records available for a specific county.
3. The hardest way to find records, but the only way to see ALL the digitized records, is to use the Search Catalog tab. Here, when you search by location, you get the complete list of all resources held by the Family History Library. As you browse through the categories (census, vital records, probate, etc,) you can click through to see each resource, and whether it's a book, microfilm, etc. If it's been digitized, there will be a little camera icon toward the bottom of the page. Click on that to be taken to the images digitized from that roll of microfilm. Many of these images are NOT available any other way yet.

Why so many options? It seems that the team digitizing the microfilm can work much faster (more than 1,000 rolls per day) than the volunteers indexing the records or the teams creating the waypoints. The images available from the catalog are the least processed records, straight from the microfilm, so they are the most numerous but most difficult to use. (Of course, if you've used microfilm, you can use these, since these are just digital pictures of the microfilm pages.)

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 closing

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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