

MIDWEST HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

ALERT

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AUGUST 2019

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

316-264-3611

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mhgswichita.org

Library Hours:

Tuesday & Saturday

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Inside this issue:

- Upcoming Programs
- Latest Library Additions
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- Calendar of Events

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SIGNERS?

Have you ever wondered what became of the brave men who signed the Declaration of Independence?

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and grist mill were laid to waste. For more than a year, he lived in forests and caves, returning home after the war to find his wife dead, his children vanished. A few weeks later, he died from exhaustion and a broken heart.

Robert Morris and Philip Livingston suffered similar fates.

Thomas Nelson, Jr at the Battle of Yorktown, noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters and quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt.

Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. These were not wild-eyed, rabble-rousing ruffians. They were soft-spoken men of means and education. They had security, but they valued liberty more. They pledged: "For the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of the Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

They gave us an independent America. Can we keep it?

Micki Stephans

DELANO HOMESTEADERS

The library recently acquired a copy of *The Dugans, the Story of Irish Pioneers in Wichita*. 150 pages. The author's family were Delano Township homesteaders who came in 1860, before Kansas became a state in 1861 and before Wichita became a city. The author, who describes himself as a plain country lawyer, tells a story that includes Indian raids, grasshopper plagues, crop failures, boot-legging and other subjects that makes his ancestors come to life. He was always interested in hearing stories of the olden days and remembered it all. His story ends in the 1950s and he hopes a descendant will write a sequel. These descendants number in the hundreds and most are in the Wichita area. Their ancestor's American Dream indeed came true.

Joanne Hackerott

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & LIBRARY EVENTS

POWER UP YOUR GENEALOGY. Tuesday, Aug 13 @ 1:30 to 3 pm. Led by Julia Langel. This month we'll be talking about the automated hinting systems in the major genealogy databases.

PHOTO MYSTERIES, Tuesday, Aug 20 @ 1:30 pm. Led by Rex Riley. Bring your mystery pictures and let our photo detectives go to work finding clues about the dates, places and people.

AFRO-AMERICAN SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP. This group is taking the summer off. More information later. Led by Joziel 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.

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Polk Street Methodist Church: 75 Years in Review	R-440 075
Historical Celebrations in Craftsbury, Vermont 1889-1941	R-460 018
When Horses Pulled Boats: a story of early canals	R-600 088
Emigrants from Scotland to America 1774-1775	R-650 088
Lew Wallace: an autobiography	online – link in catalog
The Brugh-Stuart Family & Associated Families	G-B 166
The New Haven and Wallingford, Conn. Johnsons	G-J 032
Genealogical Gleanings, Contributory to a History of the Family of Penn	G-P 073
Jesse James Rule Family History	G-R 070
The Woodroof-Woodrough-Woodruff Family	G-W 126
Alabama Records	R-010 003 V 004
Alabama Records	R-010 003 V 136
Alabama Records	R-010 003 V 147
Alabama Records	R-010 003 V 212
Gwinnett Co, Ga. Inferior Court Minutes 1819-1861	R-150 036
Gwinnett Co, Ga. Deaths 1818-1989	R-150 037
Rush Co, Indiana Marriages 1822-1849	R-190 218
Katy Parsons Employees Memorial Roster	R-210 LB 10
Official 1980 Neosho Co, Ks Rural Directory	R-210 NO 08
Mount Hope, Ks Clarion Obituaries	R-210 SG 178 V2
A People of the City: Lorraine Ave Mennonite Church	R-210 SG 235

CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITY

Federation of Genealogical Societies – A Conference for the Nation’s Genealogists—2019 Family History Conference

August 21-24. Register online at <https://fgs.org/conferences/registration>.

8th Annual Wichita Genealogical Society Conference - October 5, 2019 For details and registration visit www.wichitagensoc.org

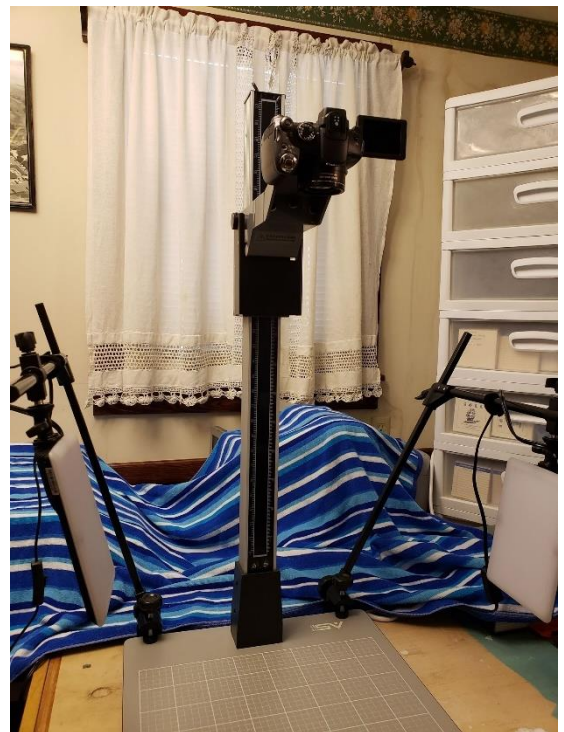
NEW TOOL IN OUR KIT!

Thanks to a couple of generous donors, we have been able to purchase a new piece of equipment for our digitizing projects. Our new copy stand allows us to use a camera to digitize items larger than our scanner can handle; we're still experimenting to learn the capacity of the equipment, but we can easily handle items as large as 24 inches.

The copy stand uses a digital camera that mounts either with a screw or an ARCA/Swiss-style tripod quick-release clamp. The camera can be placed anywhere from 3 inches to 30 inches above the base. There are two panels of LED lights on adjustable arms; the lights are color-corrected especially for copying photographs and other graphics.

Most of the time, the copy stand will be set up on the main floor of the library. Anyone can come in and use it for free. You may bring your own camera. We don't have a dedicated camera yet, so if you need to borrow a camera, you should email Julia at library@mhgswichita.org to make sure we'll have one when you come in. At some point we may figure out how to attach a cell phone to the stand, but for now it only works with stand-alone digital cameras.

In addition to using it in the library, we plan to take the copy stand on road trips! We can digitize record books, maps, oversized photographs, scrapbooks and almost any other flat or mostly flat items. We will do the digitizing for free; we only ask for permission to put a copy of the digital files on our website. If you have any ideas about where we should go and what we should digitize, please let us know!



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Library open Tuesdays and Saturdays, 9 to 4
Call 316-264-3611 for information or to check on library closing.

POWER-UP SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP Second Tuesday @ 1:30 to 3 pm Led by Julia Langel	PHOTO MYSTERIES Third Tuesday @ 1:30 Led by Rex Riley AFRO-AMERICAN SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP Fourth Saturday @ 1 pm/ Not meeting this summer Led by Jozel Smith Eckels
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Midwest Historical & Genealogical Society

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Change Service Requested