

# MIDWEST HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## ALERT

VOLUME 41 NUMBER 10

MAR 2020

1203 N. Main,  
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Wichita, KS 67201

316-264-3611

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

Inside this issue:

- Upcoming Programs
- Latest Library Additions
- Items of Interest
- Calendar of Events

### SHORT SAGA OF ERNEST LEROY CRAIG

After his parents, Michael and Magdalena (Fromholz) Craig moved from Illinois to Wichita, Kansas, their first home was at 1706 N. Waco. Ernest had one brother, James and two sisters, Mary and Magdalena. Through the late 1900's, James and his wife Katherine (Smyser) lived at 1624 N. Fairview, Mary and her husband Leo Kopplin, Sr. lived at 1317 Lewellen, while Magdalena Naramore lived at 1902 Arkansas.

The father (Michael) moved to 530 W 19th. All of these homes are still in their original place.

In the early 1900's Ernest began the Headlight Gas Company located on North Broadway (then called Lawrence). The company provided gas for the headlights of early vehicles.

Later, Ernest began building homes. He built several homes in north Wichita including the Fairview Apartments at 18<sup>th</sup> and N. Market.



After various fingers in other businesses as far as Kentucky, Craig at age 69 moved to Joplin, Missouri and started TAMKO Roofing Company in 1944. He converted a streetcar barn to a roofing line. A few

years later he acquired a local asphalt refinery to begin a felt mill, raw material supply for his roofing business.

In 1994, TAMKO celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> year of business, having expanded to various states and different products, all under the continued leadership of his daughter, Ethelmae and her husband, Jay Humphreys (now deceased) and now, her oldest son, David Humphreys.

The company headquarters is still in Joplin, Missouri.

By Francene Sharp

### RENEWAL TIME HAS ARRIVED!

Don't forget to renew your membership. Our membership year is from April 1 to March 31 each year.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS & LIBRARY EVENTS

*POWER UP YOUR GENEALOGY.* Tuesday, Mar 10 @ 1:30 to 3 pm. Led by Julia Langel. This month we'll be learning about Photo Organizing Software.

*PHOTO MYSTERIES.* Tuesday, Mar 17 @ 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 on hiatus. We are looking for a volunteer to coordinate this group.

*NEW SIG* Beginning Sat, Mar 21 @ 1:30. Researching a house, building, or land , how to do it, where to find information.

## ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

A Map Book – Historical Sites in Hacker’s Creek Watershed	R-480 098
Mary Margaret van De Kerkove Wagner Collection	VB Wagner V20-21
Willard Garvey: An Epic Life	G-G 086
The Ancestors and Descendants of Robert Allen Ittner and Nellie Maude Higgins	G-I 006
Genealogical History of the Family of Montgomery	G-M 107
A Crack in the edge of the world: America and the California earthquake of 1906	R-050 018
Kansas Oil Industry: The First 150 Years	R-210 164
Indians of Kansas: Euro-American invasion and conquest of Indian Kansas	R-210 165
Flint Hills cowboys: tales from the tallgrass prairie	R-210 166
Upper Paw Paw School, Elk County, Kansas	R-210 EK 04
African Americans of Wichita	R-210 SG 243
Early Texas Oil: a photographic history 1866-1936	R-440 079
The Rocky Mountain fur trade journal	R-600 089 V 05, 7, 8
The First Pictorial History of American oil and gas 1859-1983	R-600 090
The Fur Trade: Based on the private collection of Milton Von Damm	R-600 091
Searching for Black Confederates: Civil War’s most persistent myth	R-670 265
The Navy’s first enlisted women: patriotic pioneers	R-670 266
Calvary Presbyterian Church Annual Reports and Membership Directory Century II	MHGS digital collections online—link in catalog
Waifs, foundlings and half orphans: search for Orphan Train Riders	I-313
The Family Tree Toolkit: Guide to uncovering Your Ancestry and Genealogy	I-314
Black Indian Genealogy Research	I- 315
Black Indians: a hidden heritage	R-632 06
African American Women of the Old West	R-632 07

## CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES

The Topeka Genealogical Society 2020 Heartland Family History Conference will be April 3 & 4. Our own Julia Langel will be giving a presentation on Saturday, the 4<sup>th</sup>. Gary Clark of Wichita Genealogical Society will also be presenting, as will Leo Oliva, a well-known Kansas historian. The keynote speaker will be John Colletta. Website: <https://tgstopeka.org>

## ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Midwest Historical and Genealogical Society will be held on Saturday March 14, 2020 at 1:00 pm. The election will include the offices of President and Treasurer as well as introducing our new Vice President. It is very important for the members to attend in order to fulfill the requirement of a quorum to hold an election.

Please plan to attend and cast your votes!

## REUNION TIME IS FAST APPROACHING!



Are you planning a family reunion soon? It can be a daunting task to be chairman of this undertaking. Our own Clarice Miller has a suggestion for introducing your ancestors.

She developed a Bingo game for her family reunion. Clarice made 75 (yes, 75!) DIFFERENT cards with ancestor's pictures. As each picture was called a fact about the person was told thus introducing the players to each person.

The family enjoyed the game and learned many interesting stories about the family.

## 2018-2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Rex Riley ( <a href="mailto:president@mhgswichita.org">president@mhgswichita.org</a> )	Committee Chairs:
Vice President: Barb Myers ( <a href="mailto:vicepresident@mhgswichita.org">vicepresident@mhgswichita.org</a> )	Alert Editor: Micki Wright Stephans ( <a href="mailto&gt;alert@mhgswichita.org">alert@mhgswichita.org</a> )
Treasurer: Jim Scharnhorst ( <a href="mailto:treasurer@mhgswichita.org">treasurer@mhgswichita.org</a> )	Building & Grounds: Open
Secretary: Michelle Pickett ( <a href="mailto:secretary@mhgswichita.org">secretary@mhgswichita.org</a> )	Computer Technology: Vincent Hancock ( <a href="mailto:tech@mhgswichita.org">tech@mhgswichita.org</a> )
Librarian: Julia Langel ( <a href="mailto:library@mhgswichita.org">library@mhgswichita.org</a> )	Publicity: Francene Davis Sharp ( <a href="mailto:publicity@mhgswichita.org">publicity@mhgswichita.org</a> )
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**Library open Tuesdays and Saturdays, 9 to 4**  
Call 316-264-3611 for information or to check on library closing.

<b>POWER-UP SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP</b>	<b>RESEARCHING THE HISTORY OF A HOUSE, BUSINESS OR A FARM</b>
<b>Second Tuesday @ 1:30 to 3 pm</b> <b>Led by Julia Langel</b>	<b>Third Saturday @ 1:30 to 3 pm</b> <b>Led by Julia Langel</b>
<b>PHOTO MYSTERIES</b>	<b>AFRO-AMERICAN SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP</b>
<b>Third Tuesday @ 1:30</b> <b>Led by Rex Riley</b>	<b>Fourth Saturday @ 1 pm On hiatus</b>

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Change Service Requested