

MIDWEST HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

ALERT

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

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info@mhgswichita.org

mhgswichita.org

Library Hours:

By Appointment Only
(library@mhgswichita.org)

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- Items of Interest
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LIBRARY CLOSING AGAIN

I am sad to announce that the board has decided to close the library again, until at least the end of the year. While we are only a tiny gathering place, we just couldn't justify the risk to our members and volunteers.

That's not to say that MHGS activities will stop. Board members will still be monitoring the building for maintenance issues. Jim will still be picking up the mail, and we will be filling mailed requests for obituary and other copies. I will keep adding scanned photographs to our website and items to our COVID archive (up to 1450 items at last count!). Twila, Jim and Rex will be working on marriage book indexing. And I plan to come in to process a couple of recent donations, in the fond hope that we will one day see our floors and table tops again.

But still, we miss you guys! We miss the community and conversation we have around the table at SIG meetings and the challenges of helping with your tough research questions in the library. The board has been discussing ways to move some of our activities online and beef up our printed materials. We're preparing a survey for members to get ideas about what you'd like to see in the *Alert* and the *Register*, and to get a sense of your level of interest for activities like getting together on Zoom or Facebook. The survey will go out in the next few weeks – please fill it out and return it.

We'll let you know when we think we can open the library again. In the meantime, if you really need to use the library, email me at library@mhgswichita.org and we'll set up an appointment.

In the meantime, it is the holiday season, so we hope you can find ways to celebrate with your family while keeping yourself and your loved ones safe. Be sure to take some photos and write some memories so your descendants will know how you made it through the pandemic!

Julia

HOW TO CALCULATE A BIRTH DATE

Remember the “Magic Number” : 8870. It is the number to remember when you want to find the birth date of someone when you only have the date of death and death age in years, months and days as some old tombstones show. Suppose the person died May 6, 1889 at age 71 years, 7 months, 9 days:

Write the death date as YR/MO/DA: 18890506, subtract the death age -710709, this produces the remainder 18179797, Now subtract the “Magic Number”: -8870, leaving 18170927 or YR, MO,DA.

Source: Platte Co, MO. Historical Genealogical Society

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



Carl McCaslin with Christmas Presents,
December 25, 1947, Wichita, KS,
from the McCaslin Photograph Collection, <http://mhgswichita.org/om/collections/show/24>

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

The Honey Springs National Battlefield Park Movement	R-670 276
October 25 th and the Battle of Mine Creek	R-670 277
The Civil War, strange and fascinating facts	R-670 278
The American Revolution	R-670 279
Historic Fort Gibson	R-670 280
Judith Ann Douvielle Lankford Collection	VB Lankford V 01,02
As A Tree Grows	online—link in catalog
The Handybook for Genealogists	I-202 10 th
The Journal of Chickasaw history and culture	R-631 072
Tied to the great packing machine: the Midwest and meatpacking	R-600 100
The Warriors Among Us	G-B 172
Hobbs and related families	G-H 166 V1,2
Sod-House Days: letters from a Kansas Homesteader, 1877-78	G-R 073
Creating Junior Genealogists: tips and activities for family history fun	I-316
Me and my family tree	I-317
Cemetery and Gravestone Handbook	I-318
My Family Tree Workbook: Genealogy for Beginners	I-319
Cripple Creek ! A Quick History of the World's Greatest Gold Camp	R-080 025
Cinders & Smoke: a mile by mile guide for D&RG Narrow Gauge RR	R-080 026

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Library open by appointment only; email library@mhgswichita.org

Please see the Google calendar or our Facebook page for details.

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

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Change Service Requested