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The Johnson County Genealogical Society was founded in 1972 to encourage the study of family history and to promote the preservation and publication of genealogical records in Johnson County, Kansas.

Membership in the Johnson County Genealogical Society is open to all who are interested in genealogy and share the society’s objectives.

General meetings of the society are held the fourth Saturday of each month (except in October and December) at 10:00 a.m. at the Johnson County Central Resource Library, 9875 W. 87th Street, Overland Park, KS 66212. Interesting topics or events by well qualified speakers are scheduled for every monthly meeting. The meetings are open to all and visitors are welcome.

An all-day seminar with a nationally known speaker is offered annually in October. Members receive discounted admission. The non-profit status of the society allows members to make tax deductible donations of books, magazines, and manuscripts. Cash donations over the amount of yearly dues are also tax deductible.

Dues are payable January 1. New members joining after July 1st pay one-half the annual rate for the year in which they join. A significant portion of dues goes to acquisition and maintenance of genealogical source material which is maintained at the Johnson County Central Resource Library.

Quarterly. Each individual or family membership will receive by email a copy of each issue of the Johnson County Kansas Genealogist which is published quarterly. A printed copy may be received for an additional $10.00 per year. Members have access to all current and past issues on our members only secure download page.

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Come explore who you are with
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www.jcgsks.org
The Johnson County Genealogist
Vol. 45, Number 3
September 2017

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The Purpose of the Quarterly

The purpose of the quarterly is to support the Johnson County Genealogical Society by:

- Providing tips, educational, and research information to assist in genealogy research.
- Collecting, preserving, and publishing genealogical and historical information and records for Johnson County but not limited to Johnson County.
- Providing information for members on events and happenings in the society.

NOTE: This publication contains transcriptions which are a true word-for-word rendering of a document with the original punctuation and spelling. All notes and marks on the page are copied as faithfully as possible in the original formatting.

The editor and staff make no claim to perfection; mistakes will be corrected when possible.
Early this summer the Johnson County Genealogical Society through our field trip coordinator, Pam Miller, and with the help of Suzee Oberg, organized a very successful field trip to the Bingham-Waggoner Estate and the National Frontier Trails Museum. Thanks go to all those involved to make this trip meaningful and all those that attended.

Now the fall is approaching, I hope you all were able to connect with family and friends during the summer. Some of you might have had the opportunity to attend a family reunion or just visit with family far and near. Maybe even learn new stories or genealogical information to enhance what you already know. Remember to record what you learn so the detail won’t be lost to later generations.

With the summer ending, JCGS is moving at full speed. The new volunteer recognition program “You Made My Day” is becoming more popular. This is an opportunity to thank someone in the society for anything they have done to help you. There is a short article within this quarterly about “You Made My Day.” Please read it to learn how you can thank someone this month and in the coming months.

October is just around the corner and so is the JCGS Annual Seminar on October 28th with Thomas MacEntee at the Ritz Charles Events Center. Thomas is a dynamic speaker, vendors are preparing and the food will be fabulous. Registration is open on the website or you can register at one of our meetings. More details about the seminar are in this quarterly and on the JCGS website. Each year the JCGS Seminar requires a team of volunteers. This could be the activity you are looking for to get involved. If you are interested in helping make this seminar a success, please contact Richard Rosenstock, seminar coordinator.

The JCGS Skills Building Series has been a great success but they are coming to a close in November. I want to thank the Education Committee for all their hard work and dedication to help our members and the community learn basic genealogy research skills. Join us for the next several months on these topics; military records (new class), transcribing or abstracting documents and cemetery research. Next year the society is planning a new project for its community educational outreach program. More details to follow in the upcoming quarterlies.

As the weather cools over the course of the autumn months we have time for more indoor activities. Among those activities I hope you take time to work on your family history, interact with your fellow JCGS members and reach out to help your society grow and strengthen. As always the board welcomes your feedback and ideas.

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Olathe Family Receives Dreaded War Telegram
Submitted by Joyce A. Mitchell, JCGS member

Clifford Henley - Killed in Action in France, Sept 29

[The Olathe Mirror, 31 Oct 1918, page 1]

Clifford Henley was born in Randolph county, North Carolina, April 5, 1896. The family moved to Johnson county, Kansas, when Clifford was two years old, and they had lived in Olathe for the past sixteen years. Clifford received his education in the Olathe schools, since which time he was employed here until the spring of 1917. After driving a car through to Arizona, New Mexico and California he went to Bruneau, Idaho, and was employed as a mechanic in his brother, John’s garage. When the call for ship builders came he went to Washington and was earning twelve dollars a day in the ship-building yards when the draft called him, June 5, 1918.

He went to Camp Lewis, Wash., for detention, received a few weeks training in Camp Kearney, California and was on his way east by the first of August, arriving over seas August 20. It was certainly a great shock to his family and friends when the telegram came last Sunday evening from the War Department that Clifford had been killed in ac-

HOW C. HENLEY FELL

[The Olathe Mirror, 9 Jan 1919, page 1]

Miss Hazel Hawkins, this city, has received the following letter from a pal of Clifford Henley’s, who fell in the Argonne Forest fight, giving the particulars leading up to his death:

Laymont, France, Dec. 1, 1918

Dear Miss Hawkins: Many times have I wanted to write to you, and in fact when Clifford left us I promised him I would, but I have never been to find your address, so can you imagine the surprise and pleasure when your letter came yesterday. I am so glad to have heard from you and there is so much I would like to say, that I hardly know where or how to start.

(Continued on page 6)
I first met Clifford at American Lake, Washington, and from that time until he left us at St. Coins, France, for the front we had been good pals. He left us September 8, for the front, and I have never had any word from him; but only the other day I received a letter from one of the boys who went at the same time, and with him, which gave me a full account of everything.

On the night of September 25th they moved into the lines, and went over the top at day break the morning of the 26th. They pushed forward for seven days through woods so thick you could not see fifty yards ahead. Machine gun nests everywhere and on the evening of the seventh day they pushed ahead and took their position on a side hill and dug themselves in. The next morning they found that they had pushed ahead of the rest and were completely surrounded by “Boches”. They were without water for five and one-half days and scarcely any water, almost dead with hunger and the want of sleep, but yet full of the fighting spirit. The morning of the sixth day the 307 Inf. broke through and saved them, bringing them food and water.

This chap describes it as being nothing short of Hell on earth and believe me, what little I know about it, it must have been just that. Just think, if you can of being in a place like that without food or scarcely any water, and in rain and mud for five days and nights, without any sleep and with machine guns firing from all directions. I am sure it must have been Hell. This particular drive was the “Argonne Forest” drive in this battalion, as I have said, was completely surrounded.

Out of the 250 men in the battalion only 62 men and two officers came out, and most of them are still in the hospital.

Yes, Clifford fell in that battle. He was one of the Honored boys on the Honor Roll. He gave his life but God bless him he gave it like the fine boy he was, fighting for his country. I have always known Clifford to be one of the best of chaps, and I too shall mourn his loss, but we must be brave and think of him and remember him as the dear boy he was.

Tell his dear mother for me that she had a son she might well be proud of. Clifford was always cheerful and happy and everyone had a good word for Corp. Henley.

Perhaps Clifford has told you that I have a sister, Mrs. G.H. Epperson living only two miles east of Gardner and when I return to the “Dear Old U. S. A.” I shall try and stop to see her and would be delighted to call upon you and his family for there is much that I could tell you.

Corp. JAS. M. GREENE, Co. A, 1st M.P. Battalion, A. P. O. 774.

Henley’s Company was part of World War I’s Lost Battalion

By Joyce A. Mitchell, JCGS member

The terrible situation described by Corp. Greene in the above letter became known as the Lost Battalion. The 77th Division had advanced, believing it was flanked by a French unit on the left and another American division on the right. In fact, the French had been delayed and the 77th had moved ahead of the Allied line on the right. The men were surrounded by Germans. While Greene’s letter states only 64 of 250 men survived, he likely was referencing the size of Company C, in which Henley served. The Wikipedia accounts say 194 Americans were rescued out of about 560. About 150 were missing or had been taken prisoner, and 197 were killed in action.

Henley had fallen on the first day of the push into the Argonne Forest and therefore did not endure the days without food or water.

Most of those in the 77th Division were from New York City and had left for Europe in April 1918. After training with the British army, the divi-

(Continued from page 5)

(Continued on page 7)
The extensive losses were replaced by recruits from the American West, according to Wikipedia, and this is likely when Henley, who enlisted in Washington, came to be part of the 77th.

Wikipedia entries on the Lost Battalion and the 308th Infantry Regiment were accessed 14 Jun 2017.

Gold Star Mothers Visit Overseas Cemeteries
By Joyce A. Mitchell, JCGS member

When Nancy "Nannie" Henley of Olathe visited her son’s resting place in France in 1932, she was among 6,700 who traveled on the government-sponsored tours. Clifford Henley's grave was in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, the largest of the eight cemeteries, with 14,000 burials. These mothers and widows of the fallen visited from 1930 to 1933, a dozen years or so after their loved ones had paid the ultimate price.

The War Department’s Graves Registration Service verified the identity of the men killed in battle, who had been hastily buried near battlefields. Families had to decide whether to have the remains returned to the states or reburied in an American cemetery in Europe.

About 30 percent chose to have their loved ones buried overseas.

While some women visited the graves in the 1920s, the Gold Star Mothers Association realized that such a journey was too costly for many. The group began lobbying Congress, and in March 1929, President Calvin Coolidge approved $5 million to sponsor pilgrimages for mothers and unmarried widows. The country remained committed to the endeavor even when the Great Depression loomed.

The government took great care to consider the women’s physical comfort as well as their morale. The women sailed overseas on luxury ships.

Mrs. Nannie Henley’s photo from the passport she obtained for the trip to France to visit the gravesite of her son.

Nannie was part of Group H, which traveled aboard the S.S. President Roosevelt, leaving 18 Aug 1932 for Paris.

As many did not speak French, translators were provided to bridge the language barrier. Chairs were provided at the graveside, where mothers could reflect after laying a memorial wreath. Each woman received a photograph of herself at the tombstone. At 57, Nannie was a bit younger than her counterparts, most being 61 to 65.

"The towns near the Meuse-Argonne, Oise-Aisne, and St. Mihiel cemeteries did not have..."
restrooms or cafes that could efficiently serve the groups,” according to a NARA article by Constance Potter. “The quartermaster therefore built, within ninety days, rest houses at each of these cemeteries. The rest houses had tables, comfortable chairs, and restrooms as well as kitchen facilities.”

While the main purpose of the trip was to visit the cemeteries, women could also sightsee, some visiting the Louvre, Notre Dame cathedral and Versailles.

Group H returned during the height of hurricane season, sailing from Cherbourg, France, 10 Sep and arriving six days later at the port of New York.

Some women expressed their appreciation with letters to the War Department. Perhaps Nannie felt similarly to Mrs. G.A. Buckley of Grand Rapids, Michigan, who wrote: “I feel that a gap has been filled, and that now that I have seen my dear son’s resting place, and know that it will for ever be kept beautiful, I am more contented.”

Cemetery where Clifford Henley was buried in France.


Bibliography
Nannie Henley passports, passenger lists and other family documents provided by Connie Knox and Nancy Nowatzke. Knox is the great-granddaughter and Nowatzke is the granddaughter, respectively, of Nannie Henley.

JCGS June 2017 Field Trip
By Suzee SoldanEls Oberg, JCGS member

It was a beautiful June morning when 17 society members congregated in the northwest corner of the library parking lot and sorted themselves into several automobiles to carpool to Independence, Missouri. Upon arrival at our first destination of the Bingham-Waggoner Estate we were seated in the carriage house/gift shop for a short film and welcome talk by one of their volunteers about the estate’s history. It was then only a short walk to the beautifully preserved Victorian home where we split into two groups with a couple of knowledgeable guides.

The house which was originally built in 1852 as a two-story six-room home on 19-plus acres, passed through several owners before being purchased before the Civil War by artist and politician George Caleb Bingham. The home’s walls have been restored to the original paint colors with decorative embellishment and have some copies of Bingham’s paintings hung throughout. His most famous painting of the odious “Order Number 11” that resulted in the burning of so many Missouri homes and farms during the Civil War is believed to have been painted in his studio on the estate grounds. The studio no longer exists. The Bingham’s sold the home and moved to Kansas City, Missouri in 1870.

The wealthy Waggoner family of Pennsylvania erected their enormous Waggoner-Gates Flour Mill across the street from the grounds of the house in 1875 where they produced, among their other brands, the nationally and widely popular Queen of the Pantry Flour. They bought the house in 1879 and had it enlarged to three stories and 26 rooms in 1882 with additional outbuildings. One of those buildings was a clever outhouse with one side and entrance for adults and another side and entrance for children, presumably with suitably sized openings on each side. The family lived there for 97 years. (The Gates partner in the mill was Bess Truman’s grandfather and he was the builder of the more modest house across town that is now known as the Historic Truman Home.)

The last Waggoner family member to live in the huge Bingham-Waggoner home was a bachelor. After his death, the estate was purchased by and is run by a nonprofit, The Waggoner-Gates Historical Society, with help from the city of Independence. When cleaned up by historical society volunteers, it was discovered that that this bachelor was so devoted to his pets that he fed them dog food from the fine china dishes found in the magnificent dining room. Almost all of the furnishings in the home have been recovered from Waggoner descendants and are faithful to the family and era. Closets have period clothing displayed within. The kitchen and the icebox that is large enough to live in is amazing. It is truly a place worth exploring and seeing, filled with history. There are also wagon ruts or swales on the grounds that are preserved with a walkway just east of the house showing where pioneers traveled past this house on their way west on the overland trails in the mid-1800s.

We were shown through most of the rooms of the home where Harry Truman was a frequent guest for poker games. The third floor was closed

(Continued on page 10)
for repairs but we are invited back in the holiday season when the house is suitably decorated and hot chocolate and cookies are served.

On our break for lunch all of us chose to go to the Rheinland Restaurant that specializes in authentic German food. Lots of munching on German potato salad and other ethnic specialties ensued. Unfortunately, we just missed the free beer day but were seated in their party room where they had magnificent beer dispensers in their bar area. The restaurant is across Main Street from the old jail and some other original buildings with lovely shops. We had to save the exploring of the historic block and the corner drugstore where Truman once worked for another visit. At lunch we pretty much all voted to return to this historic city in late November or early December when we could go on a special holiday tour consisting of the candlelit tour of the jail, the Marshall home next door, the magnificently decorated 1881 Vaile Mansion, and a final trek back to the Bingham-Waggoner Estate.

At 2 p.m. we went back to West Pacific Street and the National Frontier Trails Museum where a guide awaited us. He ushered our group into a theater where a short film started us off. Then we were shown through the well-lit modern museum filled with artifacts and explanations of the various routes taken by the westward-bound wagons.

From a coiled rattlesnake, with fangs exposed ready to strike, to a series of beloved family heirlooms that had to be discarded along the trail, there were many artifacts and reminders of the hardships faced by the individuals who went by wagon train to California, Oregon, and on the Santa Fe Trail. Some were seeking gold, some were seeking new lands, and some were traders seeking wealth. There were various reasons for enduring the harsh realities of life and death on the trail. Fortunately, we know quite a bit about them thanks to their surviving letters and diaries.

Our guide showed us the hands-on spaces they maintain for children which would be fun and educational for any visiting youngsters to learn about history. Then we were allowed into their research library where an amazing amount of books are kept. A long-time volunteer there spoke to us and explained what they have. She told us that the trail diaries they own are being digitized so that we might soon find online those elusive great-great-great grandparents or other kinfolk who followed the trails west. Their holdings are huge and they have boxes of donated material yet to be archived. Appointments can be made to go there and do research through this library with an assisting librarian.

After our morning, seeing how we might have lived if we were a member of the wealthy Waggoner family more than a hundred years ago, and then, mentally, taking a tortuous trip west in a wagon and perhaps having to throw grannie’s beloved old rocker out along the trail to lighten the load, we were back in the 21st century and ready for our own trip west and the reality of traffic on Interstate 435 to Johnson County with a touch of Germany resting in our tummies.

Thought for the Day

Genealogy is the search for our ancestors. Family history is the study of the lives they led. A true picture of the family is the result.
2017 JCGS Annual Seminar
October 28, 2017

8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Ritz Charles Event Center, 9000 W. 137th St., Overland Park, KS 66221. Thomas MacEntee is the featured speaker. For information, go to www.kcgsks.org

Seminar Topics:

Managing the Genealogy Data Monster

It is so easy to let the large amounts of data involved with genealogy overwhelm you—to the point that family history research is no longer fun! Learn how to tackle the three main problem areas of genealogy data: research data, project data and file data so you can put the fun back in your research! Attendees will learn the basics of working “smarter” instead of “harder” when it comes to managing genealogy data. We’ll cover setting up genealogy projects and tracking them to completion, using a research log to track research, and how to better manage your genealogy data files.

What’s Been Done: Using Someone Else’s Genealogical Research

Whether you are new to genealogy or you’ve been working on your family history for years, incorporating the research of others can always be tricky. Here’s how to develop a proven strategy to benefit from the work of other genealogists. Many of us as genealogists have inherited research from a relative and we are not always sure whether the content is reliable. What’s the best way to incorporate the research of others into your own research without leading to dead ends, road blocks and unnecessary detours? Here’s a road map on the best way to handle “outside research” and benefit from it as you combine the content with your own research.

Can I Use That in My Genealogical Data? What you should know about Copyright

Are you aware that certain documents and photos that are part of your family history research may be restricted by copyright? Don’t panic—you can still use them in your genealogy! But understand how to determine if an item is copyrighted and how it can and can’t be used. Learn the basics of U.S. copyright law and how you can still use copyrighted items such as documents, articles, and photographs as part of your genealogy research.

Utilizing Social Networks for Genealogy Research

Thousands of genealogists and family historians have discovered new ways to expand and improve their genealogy endeavors using social networking, also called social media networking. Learn the basics of blogging, Twitter, Facebook, wikis and more in an easy-to-follow session that cuts through all the hype and the lingo. Did you know that the over-55 crowd is the fastest growing group of Facebook users? Did you know that Twitter is not the domain of the much younger “texting” crowd but is used by an older, more savvy group of people? Did you ever wonder how and if these programs, along with others such as blogs and wikis, can be used to help genealogists? Wonder no more as we explore what makes up the oft-mystifying term “social networking” and how each program is currently being used by genealogists and family historians of all ages.

About Thomas MacEntee

Thomas MacEntee is a genealogy professional based in the United States specializing in the use of technology and social media to improve genealogy research and as a way to connect with others in the family history community.

He began his own genealogy-related business called High Definition Genealogy after being laid off from a 25-year career in the information technology field. He also created an online community of over 3,000 family history bloggers known as GeneaBloggers. His most recent endeavor, Hack Genealogy, is an attempt to “repurpose today’s technology for tomorrow’s genealogy.”

MacEntee describes himself as a lifelong learner with a background in a multitude of topics who has finally figured out what he does best: teach, inspire, instigate, and serve as a curator and go-to guy for concept nurturing and inspiration. Thomas is a big believer in success, and that we all succeed when we help each other find success.
This book offers a lot of descriptive information about Kansas and Kansas City from post-Civil War days in Leavenworth through the Harvey family’s roots and influence in Kansas City. You get details about the grasshopper plague, Buffalo Bill and his Wild West shows, and the pitiful options in food before Fred Harvey raised the standards. If you have female ancestors who were Harvey Girls, you find plenty about the strict requirements and considerable benefits of being a Harvey Girl.

This is as much a history of dining in America as a view of the nation’s growth to the West via the railroads, then the competition from cars and airplanes as these industries were born.

Fred Harvey arrived in Leavenworth in 1865 when the city expected to become a transportation hub. His own experience of wretched food and stomach distress as a traveling salesman caused him to ponder better dining options for train travelers.

Harvey’s lunchroom at the Topeka depot in 1876 was his first independent operation.

Two years later, he opened a hotel and restaurant at tiny Florence, Kansas turning it into an overnight sensation where rooms were constantly sold out. At a Fred Harvey, one could reliably expect a satisfying meal and the best coffee anywhere, thanks to the fresh meat, produce and custom-blended coffee, transported by rail to his locations which grew in number as the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe aggressively expanded.

When railroads added Pullman dining cars to the trains, stops at the Harvey restaurants eventually ceased.

The company designed Kansas City’s Union Station which the author deems the “nation’s first true shopping center or indoor mall,” where people (Continued on page 13)
could shop for books, perfume, cigars, toys, and gifts, all managed by Fred Harvey. When the grand building opened in 1914, it featured a 200-seat lunchroom and 152-seat dining room. The Harvey corporate offices were upstairs, having moved to Kansas City when the company left Leavenworth in the 1880s.

By the time Union Station opened, Fred had passed away and the leadership of the company was in the hands of his son, Ford, who deliberately kept his father’s name at the forefront of the business, so much so that many did not realize the founder had died.

Ford Harvey and his wife, Judy, were prominent in the social scene of Kansas City. Ford was appointed to oversee the city’s streetcar services, while Judy was involved in a lot of charity work.

As America became involved in the Great War, the military turned to Ford Harvey for advice about feeding so many people. “After all, until the war started, Fred Harvey had been among the country’s largest bulk purchasers of foodstuffs, and probably fed more people every day than any other entity in the nation.” Thousands of soldiers were routed through the Kansas City Union Station on their way to wartime training.

Ford’s only son, Freddy, was a flamboyant man who eagerly signed up for the Air Corps in the Great War. When Freddy and his wife died in a spectacular plane crash, fights ensued over his fortune and the leadership of the company.

The author’s research included interviews with Fred’s great-grandchildren and descendants of some of Fred’s top brass, as well as access to Fred’s datebooks and review of many newspaper accounts of Fred Harvey, the man and the company. This book is available through the Johnson County Library.

Photos courtesy Kansas Memory/Kansas State Historical Society.”

Mentor Help Available for Members

The following members of JCGS have volunteered to be mentors for genealogical researchers who want a person they can call when they have a genealogical question. These volunteers are all well qualified in genealogical and family history research. Mentors will not do the research for you. They will discuss your research situation with you, and will suggest what to do and where to go to find a solution to your questions. There is no charge for this service.

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Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer.

www.jcgsks.org
Several of Kansas’ First Trails Passed Through Shawnee

Kansas was once labeled the “Great American Desert.” Thought by some to be uninhabitable, the area was wilderness until 190 years ago when fur trappers and Indians proved that there was an abundance of natural resources and animals to hunt and that the land was fertile and could be farmed. Paths were cut to link one settlement to another. Soon they became well-trodden and eventually developed into major trails and roads.

Several of the first roads in Kansas passed through the northeast Johnson County area. In fact, the convergence of these roads may well have been a contributing factor in the early development of the Shawnee area.

One of the first roads in eastern Kansas was a military road between Fort Leavenworth and Fort Scott. Fort Leavenworth was established in eastern Kansas in 1827. Troops were sent to the cantonment to preserve peace among the hostile Indians, to protect the trail, and to accompany those on their way to Santa Fe.

Fort Leavenworth was the steamboat landing where all military supplies were sent and was the origin of the military expeditions across the plains. The troops aided in the development of the West.

The government began to create the military road, and in 1831 brought Moses Grinter to the Indian Territory to establish a ferry across the Kansas River along the road. Grinter was the first permanent white settler in Wyandotte County. He settled in Secondline, on the north side of the Kansas River (Kaw), nine miles from the Missouri state line.

Alone in this wilderness, he married a Delaware Indian who helped him build a ferry to take troops and supplies across the river. On the south side of the Kaw, the road continued through Shawnee, southward to Fort Scott, Fort Gibson and Fort Smith.

According to the Kansas State Historical Collections, the trails ran through breaks in the hills, “long familiar to the Indians who seemed to have the uncanny instinct for selecting the easiest grades and shortest routes between two points. Improved by military authorities several of these became continental thoroughfares, without which migrations to the ‘Gold Diggins’ and other remote areas would have been more difficult.”

“One such trail headed northwest from here over the hills and up on the prairies. It later became known as the northern end of the Military Road from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Scott, and was often called the Leavenworth branch of the Santa Fe Trail since it intersected the latter in Johnson County, and one fork became part of the famous trade route.”

Part of this old military road can still be followed today. It is the diagonal McAnany Drive that comes from the northwest and intersects at Nieman Road north of 56th Street. A historic marker has been placed at the site and gives a brief history of the road. It reads:

FORT LEAVENWORTH TO FORT GIBSON MILITARY ROAD

"McAnany Road, from Nieman Road to Bond Street, was part of the middle section of the western military road, set up as a communication and defense line under an act approved by President Jackson on July 2, 1836. The road linked a series of posts along our western frontier and extended from Fort Snelling near the Canadian Border to Fort Jessup and the Gulf of Mexico.

Civil Engineer Charles Dimmock surveyed the Middle section in 1837, beginning September 27 at Fort Coffee and finishing October 8, at Fort Leavenworth. The road served military, Indians and settlers alike. When Kansas was (Continued on page 15)
declared a territory in 1854, the road was declared a territorial road. McAnany Road is one of the few original sections of the military roads that have remained in continuous use.”

This military road came in just north of the Shawnee area passing through land later allocated to Charles Bluejacket (a Shawnee Indian leader) and near a home built by Frederick Chouteau in the 1850s. It then went by one of Shawnee’s earliest homes built by Chris Fangro in 1824 just north of the town square (present day Nieman and Johnson Drive).

Another early road was known as the Lawrence to Westport Road. Coming from the west, the road ran through Monticello, a little town laid out in 1856; Chillicothe, a Shawnee Indian council house and blacksmith shop located at what is now Shawnee Mission Parkway and Interstate 435; and on into Shawnee to the Indian log church and cemetery. From here the road passed the Quaker Mission, located near 61st and Hemlock in Merriam, and the Baptist Mission near 55th and Walmer; followed the path of present-day Johnson Drive passing near the Shawnee Methodist Mission and linking with the Santa Fe Trail.

North from Shawnee a road named the Kansas City-Shawnee Road ran in northeasterly direction toward downtown Kansas City. It paralleled the diagonal row of trees still visible in West Flanders Park at 55th and Nieman, ran along County Line Road through Silverheels Indian property and along the road now called Shawnee Drive. It stayed north of Turkey Creek along the ridge overlooking the Kansas River.

Yet another road led southward from Shawnee toward Olathe, thus it was called the Shawnee-Olathe Road. It followed closely the path of Interstate 35 and eventually linked up with the Santa Fe Trail as it passed through the town of Olathe.

When Kansas became a territory in 1854, the roads were heavily traveled by white settlers bringing their families and their belongings to this new and rich land. Over the years the early trails have been modified but still served as the basis for many of our modern-day roads. Parts of them are still traveled, but most of the early wagon ruts have long been covered with concrete.

This article first appeared in the Shawnee Journal Herald on Wednesday June 4, 1986. It was written and updated by Marsha Bennett. The Journal Herald is no longer publishing.
What Kind of Genealogist Are You?
By Lorine McGinnis Schultze

My husband and I are very different genealogists. I love research. I love the challenge of the hunt, the mystery waiting to be solved. I'll research anyone’s ancestry just to have the thrill of following the clues. I just love solving the puzzle. Of course I also love finding my own ancestors!

My husband however dislikes research. He finds it tedious and a lot of work. He loves finding an ancestor, or better yet, having someone else find that ancestor for him. He’s passionate about his ancestry, but avoids the actual research whenever possible. Family lore is enough for him and he feels no need to find sources to verify that lore. If it’s important enough to him, he’ll force himself to push through the research but he’d rather I did it for him. He always says that if he were rich, he’d hire someone to do all the research for him.

I’d hate that, and in fact I often feel bad that I’m doing so much that I’m not leaving my grandchildren the fun of the hunt!

It seems to me that there are several types of genealogists:

**The Hunter or Detective:** This genealogist loves the research. While they want to find their own ancestors, they’ll research anyone’s ancestry just for the thrill of the hunt. They are easily sidetracked from their own ancestral research by the challenge of solving a stranger’s brick wall.

**The Gatherer or Ancestor Collector:** This genealogist loves to know about their ancestors, doesn’t really enjoy the hunt. He/she is happy to have others share what they have found.

**The Ancestor Finder:** This genealogist loves it all - doing the actual research and finding that elusive ancestor but they only enjoy researching their own family tree, not the ancestry of strangers.

**The Hoarder:** This genealogist does lots of research, finds new things about their ancestors but refuses to share any of the information.

**The Junkyard Collector:** This genealogist gets excited over online family Trees and merges these with his/her own. He/she never verifies anything or checks their facts. Before long they have a mess of unsourced information, conflicting data and facts that don’t make sense. They’ll have female ancestor -having children at the age of 100, or men born 50 years after their spouse, or children born before their parents.

**The Scholar:** This genealogist lives and breathes source citations. Accuracy is everything to this research. You’ll often find this person submitting articles to scholarly journals as the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record. Page after page of red edit marks from the editors do not intimidate them. They’ll plow through their article drafts, refining and revising and making each more accurate than the last.

**The Analyzer:** This genealogist finds a new fact, then studies it and analyzes it carefully before moving on to the next bit of research. They use each fact as a stepping stone to more research. They verify every piece of information they find and they view it critically, thinking about what it actually means and what other clues might be gleaned from it.

**The Planner:** This genealogist is a faithful keeper of research logs. He/she creates research plans and follows them. They are extremely organized in their research and meticulous about planning before they go on a research trip.

**The Writer:** This is the genealogist who is driven to write the stories of the ancestors. Some publish the books they write and offer them for sale; others write only for their family.

I’m not judging any specific type as the best or the worst except the junkyard collectors who make me shudder and shake my head in bewilderment.

Some of us may fit more than one category. I am definitely a Hunter-Detective and a Writer but I’m also a little bit of a Scholar. I don’t live and breathe source citations but I have submitted articles to scholarly journals and I’ve faced the red editing pen with determination. I’m also an Analyzer. My husband on the other hand is a Gatherer. He doesn’t seem to fit any other categories.

**Where do you fit in?**

Lorine McGinnis Schulze is a Canadian genealogist who has been involved with genealogy and history for more than thirty years. In 1996 Lorine created the Olive Tree Genealogy website and its companion blog. Lorine is the author of many published genealogical and historical articles and books. Published with permission of the author Lorine McGinnis Schulze, Olive Tree Genealogy. [http://olivetreegenealogy.com](http://olivetreegenealogy.com)
BIG WEEK FOR HINES
Undersheriff Delivered the Punch In a Variety of Cases
[The Olathe Register, 30 Aug 1917, page 1]
The past was a big week for Undersheriff C. W. Hines. During the absence of Sheriff E. G. Carroll, who went East after a forger, the undersheriff recovered two stolen cars, ran two thieves clear out of Johnson County with a fusilade [sic] of rapid revolver fire, attended to numerous other cases, and wound up his activity with a raid of the little “store” on the Kansas City road, about a mile northeast of Olathe, Tuesday afternoon.

This “store” has been under suspicion for some time. It appeared to be doing a flourishing business—particularly in wet goods. Armed with a search warrant, the undersheriff raided the place and found two dozen pints of whisky, two pints of wine and a quart of wine. The proprietresses, Mrs. M. Carlisle and Mrs. Sadie Naylor, were placed under arrest for violation of the bone dry law, and are being held at the county jail.

HINES IN A BARRAGE FIRE
Auto Thieves Ran When Undersheriff Opened Up Artillery
[The Olathe Register, 30 Aug 1917, page 10]
Undersheriff C. W Hines has been reading about the barrage fire on the war front in France, and indulged in a bit of the same when he ran across two auto thieves, who were in hiding near the car they had stolen, late Saturday night. The car was standing in the lane near Luby Station, on the Strang Line, and the thieves were hidden in the grass near the car. The undersheriff went up to the car, and as he did so the thieves started to run across the corn field. The officer called to them to halt, and when they showed no signs of doing so, opened fire. His barrage was not sanguinary but it had the effect of making those two thieves put on an unbelievable burst of speed. They didn’t exactly fly, but they ran clear out from under their hats which the officer picked up at his leisure and brought back to town.

The thieves have not been captured. The car was a light Buick six, and was the property of H. Kusik, a wholesale florist, of Kansas City. Deputy Otto Gras and Bert Collard were along with Mr. Hines when he staged in his shootin’-fest.

TERROR TO BOOTLEGGERS
Undersheriff Hines Grabs Two More, and Unearths Cache of Booze
[The Olathe Register, 6 Sep 1917]
Undersheriff Clark W. Hines is a terror to gents who would violate the bone dry law. The undersheriff was waiting for the 1 o’clock Strang car when it pulled into Olathe Sunday morning, and seized two violators who were bringing home a little Sunday supply of wet goods. One of them was carrying seven quarts of whisky and three quarts of beer, and the other, a gent of colored persuasion, was toting three quarts of rye. The booze was confiscated and both offenders were thrown into jail.

After the raid on the Roselawn place, on the Kansas City road last week, the undersheriff had a hunch that not all of the booze about the premises had been found. Acting upon this hunch, the officer paid another visit to the place with a shovel and a pick. After some excavation, he unearthed forty-five half pints of whisky from an underground cache. Further investigation of the place disclosed a corn shock that yielded twenty four bottles of the same stuff.

Jesse W. Kuhn, a driver, who is said to have been transporting the wet goods from Kansas City was arrested by the undersheriff last week, and will stand trial for law violation together with the two women who were taken into custody last week.

Thought for the Day
Finding ancestors is like eating potato chips, you can’t stop with just one. For everyone you find, there’s always more waiting in the wings for you to find them too.

In 1844, ten years before Kansas was opened as a territory for white settlement, the area we now call Johnson County was deluged with rain. Those who inhabited the area — Shawnee and Delaware Indians, missionaries, fur trappers, traders, government agents — as well as those crossing the prairies on their way westward, endured the worst flood in the history of the Kansas River basin.

Although meteorological records for this area date back only to 1889, early diaries and reports kept by the Kansas State Historical Society document the disaster that occurred and the toll it took on the pioneers.

“In Kansas, the season of spring opened very early,” wrote Delaware missionary Ira Blanchard on 30 June 1844, “but after about three weeks’ pleasant weather in March, rains commenced, and continued up to the first of June so constant, as to render it quite impossible to plough or plant.”

And from the Reverend Francis Barker, Shawnee Baptist missionary, a comment from July 1844, “After a mild winter and delightful opening of spring at the latter part of April, the rains commenced falling in such torrents as to remind us of Noah’s day.”

One of the most interesting accounts follows the journey of a wagon train en route from Independence to Oregon. Former fur trapper James Clayman, heading west with a caravan of 358 persons, describes the weather conditions the group encountered leaving Independence in mid-May. “Roads extremely bad owing to the laete greate rains, (It rained all day the 14th too.)” On the 15th he commented, “This morning the whole prairie covered in water Shoel mouth deep…” (Evidently he is referring to the depth of a person’s foot or an animal’s lowered mouth.)

As their journey continued the rains also continued. The emigrants were stalled at the flooded Wakarusa River in Douglas County from May 22 through 26.

On May 30, the caravan arrived in Shawnee County (Topeka) and got in line behind other teams waiting to cross the flooded Kansas River. “We have had almost one continual shower of rain since we left the settlements, Clayman wrote. “We are commencing to cross the Kansas River today, which will occupy all our exertions for the next two or three days. We shall not all get collected in one company in less than eight or ten days…our ferrying goes slowly, it being difficult to get to the boat on account of all the low ground being overflown.”

Clayman’s reports continue, “Rains began anew and on June 10 Knife River (Cross Creek, Shawnee County) rose 15 feet during the day. On June 13, in mid morning after 80 hours of steady rain the sun came out and a general shout of joy went through the camp.”

As the wagons headed to the higher lands, the travelers began to make progress. Looking down on the mighty Kaw, which extended from bluff to bluff eight to ten miles wide and 20-feet deep in some spots, the swollen waterway must have resembled an ocean.

Clayman’s wagon train finally reached its Oregon destination on 13 October, 151 days from Independence “which was at least one month longer than were the last year’s company of emigrants. This was owing to the unusual rains that fell during the first two months after our departure from Missouri.”

Not only did the rains affect those who traveled through the area but it directly ravaged those who had settled here, most of whom made their homes along the rivers and tributaries. Their beloved source of water, transportation and power for mills turned against them. Both Indians and white men suffered.

Missionary Jonathan Meeker who had been at the Baptist Mission in Johnson County and moved to Ottawa Mission, commented in 1844 that the rain “has fallen almost every day in the last three weeks. The river (Marais des Cygnes) has overflowed its banks, and the bottoms in many places have been inundated more or less for three weeks.”

(Continued on page 19)
Meeker’s June 10 diary entry read: “The river is very high...put things away and prepare for the flood.” On June 12, Meeker and his family fled to the hills. The river continued to rise for 36 hours until the water was 6 to 12 feet deep.

The Fort Leavenworth to Fort Gibson Road, a main artery that passed through Shawnee-town, was reported “greatly injured” with many of its bridges over small streams destroyed. Fortunately the Shawnee Methodist Mission, which was built by Thomas Johnson, had moved its operations, from the river area near present day Turner, KS to higher ground and its location in what is now Fairway.

Missionary Ira Blanchard living on the north side of the Kansas River near Grinter House commented on the fate of those who lived along the water: “The Kanzas River rose at least 20 feet above what had been supposed to be high ‘water mark’, carrying with it houses, farms, cattle, horses and sweeping the whole bottom country. Thousands of families along the water courses are without any thing to shelter them from the storms, and many of them have lost their last morsel of food...There is not even a stalk of corn left in all their fields; and their old stock (of grain) all carried away....”

Francis Barker at the Shawnee Baptist Mission (near present-day Mission, Ks.) wrote of the June flood: “The waters came up over the banks of the creeks and rivers so as to be in many places fifteen feet high where they have never known to come before.” Fences were swept away invariably; the newly planted crops destroyed...hogs were drowned, many horses and cattle also. Many persons barely escaped with their lives, leaving all behind. Many have been drowned in the white settlements.

“Our Mission is several miles from the Kansas river bottom....but our crops have been very much injured by the continued rains as is universally the case throughout the region. We still have the clouds lowering around us with only here and there a day of sunshine. The roads are almost impassable on account of the mud.”

Indian Agent Richard W. Cummins from his headquarters in present-day Johnson County reported “there are about 80 Munsees, 171 Shawnee and 240 Delaware that were deprived of breadstuff by the freshets last spring”, they “lost their houses as well as their crops and fences...old corn in their cribs, and a great many hogs, some cattle and horses.”

Another missionary, John Pratt of the Shawnee Baptist Mission, recalled that during the flood a large steamboat came up the Kansas River as far as the Delaware or Grinter crossing carrying lumber for the traders.

In the 1874 Atlas of Johnson County it was reported that during the flood of 1844 the Mill Creek (located in the western part of Shawnee) was so wide that a steamboat could have easily navigated the course. Those who lived near the Mill Creek were also dealt losses. Frederick Chouteau, early French trader, who lived in the Monticello area, lost his home, barn, cattle and hogs in 1844. He saved his horses by swimming them to shore. A mill built for the Shawnee Indians and located a mile south of the Kansas River on Mill Creek was completely demolished. According to the atlas, “Mr. Clifford, the miller kept count, and said it rained 60 days and nights.”

And so the spring and summer of 1844 logged the worst flood in history for this part of the country. Although there were few people settled here at the time and therefore less chance of property and life damage, available records indicate the flood of 1844 was greater than a preceding flood in 1826 and those that followed in 1902 and 1951. The water level in 1844 was 5 to 6.5 feet higher than the flood of 1951 which many living today remember as a devastation which turned the Kansas River into the area’s worst enemy.

Before the year was out, however, Mother Nature again set her forces on the early pioneers with severe sleet and rain storms bulldeting the Midwest. She dealt her final blow to Johnson County that year on 24 October when a destructive tornado passed through the area. A passage from Louise Barry’s *Beginning of the West* notes: “in the evening a dreadful hurricane passed over (Shawnee Methodist Mission and school) demolishing many of the buildings and injuring some few individuals, but no lives were lost...East of the mission, near the state
What do you plan to do when you graduate from college in 1965? Join the Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) of course!

I had no idea what to do when I graduated from Western Michigan University in 1965 until I picked up a flyer that was promoting the newly formed program of VISTA initiated by President John F. Kennedy in 1963 and put into effect by President Johnson in 1965. It was formed as a domestic anti-poverty program similar to the Peace Corps established in 1964 as an international program. Orientation and training was offered. We were to serve in communities to help enrich existing education and vocational programs and to strengthen the local agencies and organizations. When in service, we would receive training, a stipend for living expenses, transportation, health care and upon completion of our one year, would receive a cash award of $600. On a whim I signed up.

In June of 1965 I graduated from Western Michigan University and the next month I was on my way to Tempe, Arizona, near Phoenix for training on an Indian Reservation. I chose an Indian Reservation as at that time my sister and her husband were on the Navajo Reservation at Greasewood Boarding School near Ganado, Arizona, working for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) as teachers. That was 52 years ago, and I am glad to report that the boarding school system for Indian children is just about obsolete. Indian children on most reservations are now living with their families, attending community schools, and do not have to be separated from their cultural home.

We had classroom instruction orientation and sensitivity education for two weeks at Arizona State University to acquaint us with Indian cultures and to work with trainers who were Indian. One was Gerald One Feather, an Oglala Lakota Indian man from Pine Ridge, South Dakota; the other was Peterson Zah, an Indian man from Low Mountain, Arizona, from the Navajo Reservation. They gave us very intense training in and out of the classroom regarding general Indian culture. We also were taught how to build items like bookcases, tables.
and a privy (outhouse). Physical exercise was a must every evening from 6-8. Physical and psychological exams were given along with all sorts of shots to ward off sickness.

Peterson Zah worked for VISTA for two years. He was the last chairman of the Navajo Nation, a position chosen by the nation. In 1990 he was elected as the first tribal president by the Navajo people. Gerald One Feather, was elected Oglala Lakota tribal president in 1970 at age 32, the youngest in history. Both men went on and made very important changes in the lives of their tribes during their presidencies. I am honored to have been a part of their lives in their quest for better understanding of what is needed for our native people.

After two weeks in Tempe, eight of us were taken to Canyon Day on the Apache reservation which was about a two-hour drive northeast of Tempe, Arizona, near White River and Fort Apache. With our trainers nearby, we were to live among the people for a month. I lived with another girl in trailer housing with no heat and was glad for my sleeping bag. There was no indoor plumbing, no running water, and no indoor toilet. With my roommate and others, we had to move our privy closer as it was two roads and two fences away. We ate some meals at our house and some at the community center. Lights out was when the sun set as there was no electricity. We were given a goat who we named Maggie so we had fresh milk until she started eating the wrong type of greenery and then had to stop drinking her milk. Bathing was done in the nearby river, fully clothed. We went down a very steep bank in order to get to the river which was rather muddy but cool and wet. I even bought myself a pair of cowboy boots. We then knew they were getting us ready for everything and anything. My roommate could not take the living conditions and headed back to Chicago.

After four weeks on the Apache reservation, we were asked which Indian reservation we would want to go to, so I put down Navajo Reservation as my sister was there. The Navajo Reservation is located at the Four Corners or where Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Colorado meet.

I got the assignment and lived only about 50 miles north of where she lived. The place was called Salina Springs, Arizona, and was located about five miles off the paved highway on a dirt road. It was on the top of a mesa with a very steep s-curved road to where our house was located. My roommate, Suzi, had already been there for two months. She was waiting for me at the train in Gallup, New Mexico, when I arrived late one night. It was a two hour drive to my new home in a Jeep that would not go over 45 mph. It seemed like it took forever to get there. Our little adobe house was located next to the trading post and house where the trader and his wife lived. In the compound that made up Salina Springs was also a missionary and his family, a church, and a large corral for the horses. Nearby was a long log building that housed the BIA one-room schoolhouse with a kitchen on one end to feed the children. That is also where the teacher lived. The other end of the log building was not in use at that time. It was beautiful!

The winter was harsh and roads harsher. Bad weather? Stay indoors. Privy got too full? Dig a another hole and have the men move it over the new hole. The horses got loose? Help them round them up. The trading post floods from a torrential rain? Help him and the others move the water out and save his goods. Wanted to hear Muhammad Ali’s latest fight? Turn on the radio and hope we get a “skip” in the atmosphere. (We did.) Get stuck in the clay on the road? Dig ourselves out.

During the time I was there we were able to do so many things. We started a Head Start program.
One of the most important gifts that we can give our family is the gift of knowing who they are, the people they are related to, and those who came before them. How our ancestors lived their lives can shape our lives. By sharing the things and activities in our ancestors’ lives, they become real. We see how we

(Continued from page 21)

which we held in the vacant end of the log schoolhouse building. We had about ten children who we picked up in the morning in our Jeep and delivered home again after they had lunch which Mary, the cook for the school, prepared. We had a wonderful lady named Jane who became our interpreter and helped us all the time we were there to communicate with the people. She paved the way for us many a time as we spoke no Navajo and very few people spoke English unless there were members of the family who had attended a BIA school.

We held a rifle shoot along with prizes like a shovel, saw and lariat; showed outdoor movies with popcorn during the summer months; made ourselves Navajo squaw skirts and blouses of velvet; went to Chapter House meetings (each area had a Chapter House where all sorts of activities occurred); learned how to weave a rug on a Navajo loom; got stuck in the clay in the desert; ate our fill of mutton ribs or stew with fry bread and warm Pepsi; went through Canyon de Chelley near Chinle with a Navajo park ranger; had an Easter egg hunt in the desert after spending the night at the summer hogan of our wonderful friends Mary and Peter Totsoni; visited Window Rock where the tribal headquarters are located and attended a Johnny Cash concert which was held there; visited my sister and her husband at Greasewood Boarding School; held cooking classes in hogans for women who wanted to learn how to use all the federal commodities that were given them—we used picture recipes; and so many more memories. We taught some how to improve their English by reading the Bible with them, and of course, learned some Navajo words. One thing I remember is that we were told that we were the first white workers who had come and not imposed our “white” values on them. They invited us into their hogans and they were invited into our adobe house. That was probably the biggest compliment we received. One man told us that he had been baptized eight times as that is what was expected of him, so he did it.

I was able to go home for Christmas for a week and visit my mother. On the way back I landed in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and visited my mother’s brother and his family. We went hunting for Indian artifacts and found some. Then my cousin Martin and I met my partner, Suzi at the airport and he took us to the bus station to catch the bus back to Gallup to get our Jeep. It was a long way back in the middle of the night to Salina.

The lowest point of being there was when we learned that the ex-husband of Jane, our interpreter, was found frozen to death out in this cold weather from drinking. Alcohol is the greatest cause of death within the tribe. Alcohol is not sold on the reservation, so they go just over the border and get it.

I had written my mother about a letter a week which she saved for me. They are like a diary of my life on the reservation with facts and feelings I experienced 52 years ago. I was amazed when I read them and put together all that we did during those 12 months. What a treasure.

When I finally had to leave after my year was up, and my partner had left two months before me, it was not a good scene. I loved it there and the work I was doing with the Navajo people or Dine as they called themselves (the first people). I arrived home August 1, 1966 and was lost as what to do with my life.

What do you do when you leave being a VISTA? Exactly what my mother told me to do—GET A JOB!

Note: The story in the next issue will be in response to the writing prompt: Imagine a typical day for a female ancestor. What time did she wake up, and what did she do throughout the day?

Genealogy ABCs Can Bring Our Ancestors to Life

By Char Mitts, JCGS President aka The Genealogy Lady

One of the most important gifts that we can give our family is the gift of knowing who they are, the people they are related to, and those who came before them. How our ancestors lived their lives can shape our lives. By sharing the things and activities in our ancestors’ lives, they become real. We see how we
have things in common that run through generations, tying us together with them.

This series of suggested topics from A to Z might help you share your family history in interesting ways to both the young and the old. These ideas can also be used to write about our ancestors.

Our ancestors made lace by hand, passing the pieces down to each generation. They were prized possessions. The labor-intensive skill required to make this delicate creation is mostly gone as manufactured lace can be had very inexpensively. What skills did your ancestors have that are not needed today? Do you know one? Have you passed it on?

Owning land was vital for many of our ancestors’ survival. Land meant you could provide more easily for your family. How would land have looked different in their time? Have you had the chance to walk where your ancestors walked? Have you looked into the land records, or do you have pictures? Are there stories about the land or the land they came from?

Some of the everyday tasks we do now were done very differently by our ancestors. Laundry is a good example. It was an all day chore for earlier generations. Do our grandchildren understand what “Laundry Day” was really like? Next time you gather tell the story of “Laundry Day”. Or make it fun and interactive. Create a Laundry Day Relay or include other daily chores and have a Chores of the Past Olympics. Though they will not see the full experience it could strike up a conversation about our ancestors’ daily life.

The law and lawyers have been around a long time, and our ancestors had to deal with them as well. Were there crazy laws in your ancestor’s time, ones that don’t make sense to us now? Were your ancestors involved with the law whether on the criminal side, or as a victim? Were they lawyers and did they protect the rights of those in the community? Did they stand up for injustices during the Civil Rights movement, encourage women to get the vote or stand up against those who broke the law? Many interesting stories in any century can be found of those that had the courage and bravery to stand up for the right of others, challenging or enforcing the law. Do you have some in your family tree?

If you are fortunate to have letters from your ancestors feel lucky indeed. With so much of our communication done online these days, our descendants will be hard pressed to find written communications, such as letters, from us. Post or upload these written ties to your ancestors online so everyone in your family will be able to share this rich treasure of words, written and held in their hands. I have a few letters including those from my mother and grandmothers, and all the letters my husband and I wrote back and forth while we were dating. I have a letter my grandfather wrote to his Aunt Em asking to borrow money to build his first house. There was even a diagram of the floor plan drawn by my grandfather. Each letter is an opportunity to take a glimpse into the past.

They say love makes the world go round, and it was so for our ancestors too. Stories of first love and things we do for love are precious to us. Being resourceful, my mother would make banana bread with bananas that were past their prime. But early in their marriage my father told her that he didn’t like banana bread. As I grew up and wanted to cook, I loved banana bread with nuts, so I learned how to make it. Because my dad worked long hours, I saved him several pieces so he wouldn’t miss out. I laid the pieces out and waited excitedly for my dad to see them. I proudly showed him my prize and waited there for him to take a bite. So not to hurt my feelings, he told me that he really didn’t like nuts. Disappointed but not undaunted, my next batch included a loaf with no nuts. Again I cut several pieces and waited patiently for my dad’s arrival. He ate them with a smile on his face, praising my baking skills while gobbling the slices up as I watched. This went on for many baking sessions over the years. Behind the scenes my mother told him just to tell me he didn’t like banana bread but he didn’t do it. As my siblings grew they followed my lead and continued the banana bread baking and sharing with my dad. It wasn’t until I was married and most of my siblings were grown that my mother finally told us. Now that was a dad’s love for his daughter. Do you have a fun love story to tell?

These are only a few topics but hopefully they have encouraged you to think of different ways to share your family history. If you have any additional ideas for upcoming letters of the alphabet or topics that were not included in this article please share them with the editor or the author and we will include them in an future issue.
Volunteer your time and talents to help the Johnson County Genealogical Society. Check out the opportunities below and email info@jcgsks.org with your name, contact information, questions you might have and how you want to help. The person listed in parentheses and will contact you with more details.

**JCGS Board**

Sign on for a leadership role in the organization by serving as an elected or appointed board member or a member of the nominating committee. (Char Mitts, JCGS President.)

**Genealogy Desk Volunteer**

Help Library patrons at the Central Resource Library with questions about their genealogical research and resources that available to them. Assisting with research requests online. (Dorothy Zarda, JCGS Library Volunteer Coordinator.)

**Education Committee and Skill Building Sessions**

Volunteer to share your expertise by teaching a genealogy class, or help in the classroom with handing out materials and assisting attendees to their seats and with building logistics. (Darlene Jerome, JCGS Education Committee Chair.)

**Hospitality**

Help with refreshments at JCGS monthly meetings, by making coffee, setting up food table, arranging for treats, or baking some goodies. (Margaret Baker, JCGS Hospitality Chair.)

**Outreach Opportunities**

Set up and staff JCGS booths at special events such as Shawnee Mission Indian Festival and Johnson County Library Kansas Day celebration. Interact with attendees about genealogy and help educate children about their family tree and ancestors. (Trish McAdams, JCGS Special Events Coordinator.)

**Program Committee**

 Assist in developing programs for monthly JCGS meetings. At the Saturday monthly meetings help with presenter set up, handouts, signs and introductions. (Marsha Bennett, JCGS Second Vice President.)

**Seminar Committee**

This large annual event has lots of opportunities to help including set up, registration, coordination of vendors, door prize drawing, selling JCGS merchandise and publications, and clean up. (Richard Rosenstock, JCGS Seminar Coordinator.)

**JCGS Quarterly Publication**

Share or write an article about your family, genealogy research or local history that would be of interest to JCGS members. (Darlene Jerome, Quarterly Editor)

**Newspaper Obituary Extractors**

Look at the obituaries each day in the Kansas City Star for any with a Johnson County connection. Enter the information into an Excel spreadsheet. (Dorothy Zarda, JCGS Library Volunteer Coordinator.)

**Tech Tip**

Present a short 5-minute session relating to online resources, searching techniques or how you use technology to help in your genealogical research. (Margaret Baker, JCGS Tech Tip Coordinator.)

For more general information on volunteering, send an email to info@jcgsks.org
You Made My Day
Submitted by Marsha Bennett, JCGS member

Johnson County Genealogical Society volunteers are being recognized for their help and support, both at the Genealogy Desk at the Central Resource Library and through their service to the society. The following You Made My Day cards were received over the last quarter:

David Nowlin
For his knowledgeable help with a patron on the Genealogy Desk.

Joyce Mitchell
For her article and proofing contributions to the quarterly and hours spent researching old newspaper microfilm for the WWI soldier and 100 years ago columns.

Pam Miller
For teaching beginning and intermediate genealogy classes and scheduling extra research time in the library computer lab.

Dorothy Zarda
For all her work for the society with library volunteers, skill building classes and assistance to the library patrons and always with a smile.

Lynn Wild
For serving on the JCGS program committee, suggesting great program ideas and following through with presenters to get them scheduled.

Pam Miller
For opening up the sign-up for the tour of Midwest Genealogy Center to those interested in genealogy but not yet members of the society.

No Name
Thank you for letting me borrow your pen.

Do you have a JCGS volunteer you would like to recognize? You Made My Day cards are available at the genealogy desk in the library and during general membership meetings. Take a few minutes to write a note thanking a volunteer for the work they do to support JCGS and drop it in the box. It will also make their day!

We ♥ Our Volunteers

- What do you like about the articles in the quarterly?
- What do you wish we would do differently in the quarterly?
- Do you have any suggestions for articles for the quarterly?
- If so, please send us an email and let us know your thoughts and suggestions. Reach us at quarterly@jcgsks.org
The last three classes will be coming up in September, October and November of this year. At the end of 2017, the classes will have been held for two years.

The attendance for the classes has exceeded our wildest expectations. An average of 42 people attended the classes in 2016. In 2017, we have averaged 56 people per class. Sixty-seventy percent of the people who attended each class were JCGS members. The big number of nonmembers was due to the Central Resource Library advertising the classes in their quarterly brochures and on their web page. Some of the classes were even listed in the Kansas City Star Johnson County section. The attendance numbers made the efforts put into the classes worthwhile.

Despite the overwhelming success of these classes, the Education Committee has decided to take a break. We are exploring some options but would welcome your suggestions on what the JCGS Education Committee might offer to meet the needs of the membership. Simply send an email to education@jcgsks.org.

The July 2017 class on DNA presented by Cathy Lawrenz, with an attendance of 96 people, set a new attendance record for the classes. The previous high attendance was in April 2017 when 81 people learned about *Comparing Popular Genealogy Web Sites and Software Programs*.

Recognize the difference between a primary and secondary source. Use primary sources whenever possible. Primary sources are made at the time of the event. Secondary sources are made at a later time. A death certificate would be primary for the date and place of death of an 80-year-old man, but secondary for birth date, place and parent’s names. Secondary sources may be incorrect because of time lapse.

*Courtesy of the Greater Omaha Genealogical Society and Karen K. Tippets’ book 365+1 Genealogy Tips*
The Johnson County Genealogical Society is offering monthly classes to help beginner genealogists by showing them ideas and techniques that will improve their genealogy skills. A different topic will be presented by an experienced and knowledgeable member of JCGS at each session.

The classes will meet in the Carmack Room at the Central Resource Library located at 9875 W. 87th Street, Overland Park, Kansas. There will be a lunch break between the JCGS General meeting and the Skill Building Classes. Registration is not required for the classes.

March 18, 2017 at 1 p.m.
*Research Plan and Research Log*
Research plans and logs are basic tools and the first thing you should use while searching for your ancestors.

April 22, 2017 at 1 p.m.
*Comparing Popular Genealogy Websites and Software Programs*
We all wonder what are the best websites? What is the best software program to use? This class will review some of the popular genealogy websites and software programs for your genealogy research.

May 27, 2017 at 1 p.m.
*Organizing My Research*
Discover how to create an organization system designed the way you think, enabling you to find items within seconds, saving you time and money.

June 24, 2017 at 1 p.m.
*Why Should I Do a Timeline?*
Create a timeline for a person in your family tree and find out how it can be used to discover missing information.

July 22, 2017 at 1 p.m.
*Basic Primer in Using DNA with Genealogy*
This class is a basic primer for DNA and will explain the tests that are available, the testing companies that you can trust, and will help you formulate your research question to determine which test you want to do.

August 26, 2017 at 1 p.m.
*Multiple People with the Same Name — Which One is My Ancestor?*
Families often named their children after other family members or another person in the town. Learn strategies to help you sort the names in records to find out which one is your ancestor.

September 23, 2017 at 1 p.m.
*Military Records*
Learn strategies and places to begin your military research on your ancestors.

October 7, 2017 at 1 p.m.  --NEW DATE--
*Transcribe or Abstract a Document?*
Learn how to decide whether to transcribe or abstract a document and why, the skills needed to interpret the information, and how to write it out properly.

November 25, 2017 at 1 p.m.
*Finding Gold in Graveyards*
Much can be learned when visiting an ancestor’s cemetery. Headstones may hold surprises, giving you clues into their lives. Learn what you can discover from home and at the cemetery, and how to plan an effective trip to your ancestor’s final resting place.
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 8-9, 2017</td>
<td>GenealogyKC</td>
<td>Kansas City, Missouri</td>
<td><a href="http://www.genealogykc.org">www.genealogykc.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>October 28, 2017</td>
<td>JCGS Annual Seminar</td>
<td>at the Ritz Charles Event Center in Overland Park, Kansas</td>
<td>Presenter: Thomas MacEntee <a href="http://www.jcgsks.org">www.jcgsks.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>January 21-26, 2018</td>
<td>Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy</td>
<td>Utah Genealogical Association</td>
<td>Salt Lake City, Utah <a href="https://ugagenealogy.org">https://ugagenealogy.org</a></td>
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**JCGS Special Interest Groups**

- **DNA Special Interest Group**
  Contact info@jcgsks.org for more information.

- **Genealogy Writing Group** meets bi-monthly. Contact Barry Fitzgerald at 913-938-4030 or jandbfitz@kc.rr.com for more information.

- **Beginning Genealogy Interest Group** will resume in the fall. For more information contact Pam Miller at pmlle288@yahoo.com

- **The RootsMagic Users Group** meets the first Saturday of the even-numbered months at the Leawood Pioneer Library. For more information please contact Carol Kuse, bernie-carol@sbcglobal.net

- **Kansas City Area Legacy Users Group** meets first Saturday of each month at the Olathe Family History Center. For more information contact Char Mitts, KC.LegacyUsersGroup@gmail.com

- **Family Tree Maker Users Group** meets the fourth Thursday of the month at the Central Resource Library. For more information contact Dick Rosenstock at Richard@Rosenstock.net

*Learning is not a spectator sport.*
Everyone Has a Story to Tell and We Want Yours

What we accept:
The quarterly seeks original, unpublished submissions to include in upcoming issues. Articles should meet the focus and style of the quarterly and fall into one of the following categories:

- Profiles of citizens or people who have connections to Johnson County.
- Sketches of Johnson County towns, businesses, clubs, neighborhoods, schools.
- Details about museums or exhibits that shine a light on life in days gone by.
- Reviews of memoirs, biographies, or history books related to Johnson County or reference books about history or genealogy

Article guidelines:
Articles need not deal exclusively with Johnson County. Email your article to the editor at quarterly@jcgsks.org as a Microsoft Word attachment. When appropriate, citations should be listed. Articles may be used in the next issue or in a later issue. Contact editor for upcoming themes.

An index is not infallible. If you think someone should be in a census and is not found in the index, check alternate spellings, or go line by line thorough the census looking for them. Sometimes the one doing the index couldn’t read the census taker’s handwriting any better than you can or simply made a typing error.

To find a website that may relate to your family, put the surname of interest and the word genealogy or family history into the search engine.

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2017 General Meeting Topics

2017 Program Schedule

Johnson County Genealogical Society

The Society meets at 10 a.m. the 4th Saturday of every month except October and December at the Johnson County Central Resource Library, 9875 W. 87th St., Overland Park, KS

Note - Programs are subject to change, check our website for the latest information.  www.jcgsks.org

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<th>Speaker/Contact Information</th>
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<td>Germans From Russia - Mike Meisinger, Board Member of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia</td>
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<td>March 18</td>
<td>Preparing for a Heritage Trip to Discover Your Past - Kathy Wurth, Family Tree Tours  NOTE: THIS IS A CHANGE FROM 4TH SATURDAY TO 3rd SATURDAY</td>
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<td>April 22</td>
<td>Immigration &amp; Naturalization Records - Lori Cox-Paul, Director of Archival Operations, National Archives at Kansas City</td>
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<td>May 27</td>
<td>Resources at the Kenneth Spencer Research Library at the University of Kansas</td>
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<td>June 24</td>
<td>Where Did You Come From? Missouri Settlers - Beth Foulk</td>
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<td>July 22</td>
<td>Brick Walls and Problem Solving - Group participation with genealogy volunteers and JCGS members</td>
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<td>August 26</td>
<td>Missouri Digital Heritage/Missouri Archives Databases and Resources Christina Miller, Senior Archivist, Missouri State Archives</td>
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<td>September 23</td>
<td>Researching Through Newspapers.com and Other Newspaper Databases - Midwest Genealogy Center</td>
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<td>October 28</td>
<td>JCGS Annual Seminar at the Ritz Charles Thomas MacEntee, High Definition Genealogy</td>
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<td>November 25</td>
<td>How To Store and Preserve Your Documents, Mementos, Photos and Other Family Treasures - Johnson County Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>No meeting - Happy Holidays</td>
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www.jcgsks.org
### JCGS Publications

**Index of the 1865 Kansas Census of Johnson County**  
Alphabetical index of the 1865 state agricultural census of Johnson County. $10.00 plus $3.50 postage and handling. Kansas residents add $1.00 sales tax.

**1875 State Census of Johnson County, Kansas**  
Alphabetical index of the 1885 State Census. $25.00 plus $3.00 postage and handling. Kansas residents add $4.50 sales tax. New publication.

**1885 State Census of Johnson County, Kansas**  
Alphabetical index of the 1885 State Census. Kansas residents add $1.00 sales tax. Just published.

**1895 State Census of Johnson County, Kansas**  
Alphabetical Index of the 1895 State Census. $25.00 plus $3.00 postage and handling. Kansas residents add $4.50 sales tax.

**NEW 1905 State Census of Johnson County, Kansas**  
Alphabetical Index of the 1905 State Census. $25.00 plus $5.50 postage and handling. Kansas residents add $5.00 sales tax.

**1925 State Census of Johnson County, Kansas**  
Alphabetical Index of the 1925 State Census. $35.00 plus $5.50 postage and handling. Kansas residents add $5.00 sales tax.

**Johnson County, Kansas Will Book Extractions 1872-1934**  
Extractions of 62 years of wills filed with the Johnson County, Kansas Probate Court more than 3,450 surnames. $15.00 plus $4.00 postage and handling. Kansas residents add $1.50 sales tax.

**Johnson County, Kansas Marriage Records 1857-1905**  
New reprint. New cover design. Includes all Johnson County, Kansas marriage records, from the earliest recorded in 1857, through December 26, 1905, a volume of 180 pages. Alphabetical by groom surname with bride’s index. $15.00 plus $4.00 postage and handling. Kansas residents add $1.50 sales tax.

**Every Name Index of the Johnson County Cemetery Index**  
Alphabetical index of every surname, first name and initial appearing in the Johnson County, Kansas Cemetery Index. $12.00 plus $3.50 postage and handling. Kansas residents add $1.20 sales tax.

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<td>1865 STATE CENSUS OF JOHNSON COUNTY</td>
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<td>1905 STATE CENSUS OF JOHNSON COUNTY</td>
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<td>WILL BOOK EXTRCTIONS</td>
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Total enclosed: $______

Tax exemption number for tax exempt organizations: ________________________________

Name: ____________________________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________
Email: ____________________________________________________________
City: __________________________ State: ______ Zip: ________________

www.jcgskfs.org
Preserving Kansas
genealogy and its rich
history at the
crossroads of the
Santa Fe, California and
Oregon Trails.