



Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies

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Newsletter

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Hi everyone,

Fall is officially here and the time change is not far off. That is good news for genealogists. When the weather turns cooler, we are more inclined to find indoor activities and genealogy research is one of the best.

If you were lucky you had some time with some of the older members of your family this summer and used that opportunity to ask some questions about relatives they may have known better than you. I hope you cleared up some of your family mysteries. At least maybe you got some new ideas of where to search for more information, states where family used to live, or military service, or relationships, etc.

There is more and more information available online, as you probably already are aware. Of course, we like to remind you that the best place to look is in the archives of the local areas. Courthouses, libraries, churches, cemeteries are best searched in person. If that is not possible, sometimes we can ask someone living nearby to look for us. I do recommend going to the actual location if you can because there is nothing like seeing the old homestead, the school, the church, maybe just the lay of the land to get a better understanding of where they lived and maybe why they left.

I once asked my grandfather why his family chose to migrate to dry Western Kansas instead of staying in the lush green hills where they were. His reply was, "Did you ever try to farm in just 6 inches of topsoil?" Those lush green hills were underlaid with solid flintstone, impervious to the one horse plow.

If you have the time, please take advantage of your local genealogy library or library section in the historical museum. There are documents there, access to online materials, and best of all trained folks who are eager to give you advice and a helping hand if needed.

We are hearing of libraries and societies all over the country who are facing closure and lack of funding because so many researchers are putting their faith in the internet for information.

You know our sermon by heart. Much of that information is erroneous, entered there by folks who simply copy from someone else's mistakes. And those mistakes are the result of half-hearted efforts to do the work. They cannot be documented and sourced. Research that gives the best satisfaction is the kind that can be proven as authentic.

Which reminds me, Congratulations go to Karen Burgess for winning recognition at the Kansas State Fair for her genealogy work. Next year it could be one of you. I have been reading:

Poughkeepsie Journal Newspapers are now Online

Dick Eastman

Would you like to find an article, obituary or photo published in the Poughkeepsie Journal or its predecessors? Ancestry.com and Gannett Co. Inc., the Journal's parent company, have digitized the Journal's centuries of archives. The Journal is the second-oldest paper in the nation, and the oldest in New York state. More than 1.2 million published newspaper pages are available on Newspapers.com, which is owned by Ancestry.com. Visit <http://poughkeepsiejournal.newspapers.com/> to begin your search.

You can also access the historic content by visiting PoughkeepsieJournal.com and clicking on "archives." In addition, the archive is also available via the main navigation on the Journal's mobile website, the tablet site and Android and iPhone apps. You can search by the publication date, name, key words or a combination of terms. There are tutorial videos and instructions — and even email and phone assistance if needed.

The searches are subscription based: access to all archived content costs \$59.95 a year or \$7.95 a month. In return, you receive unlimited access to historical editions. You can view, print, save, and share your findings.

To get started, go to <http://poughkeepsiejournal.newspapers.com/>.

14 London Councils' Burial Records now Available on Deceased Online

From Eastman

Deceased Online has added the first set of burial and cremation records for the London Borough of Lewisham and all records will be available at www.deceasedonline.com by mid-October.

Immediately available are the records for Grove Park Cemetery and Hither Green (aka 'Lewisham') Crematorium

When complete and online, the full Lewisham collection will comprise approximately 1 million records (nearly 400,000 names) and will include Brockley, Hither Green and Ladywell Cemeteries (in addition to Grove Park and the crematorium) dating back to 1858.

The new collection comprises:

- digital scans of original burial and cremation registers
- details of all grave occupants in each cemetery
- maps indicating the section in each cemetery for all graves

Lewisham is located in south east London and is the 14th London council to add its records to the Deceased Online website. When complete (and with some remaining records for Southwark to be added soon), there will be 60+ cemeteries and crematoria with approximately 4 million names and 8 million+ records for London on Deceased Online.

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Irish Family Saves Their Ancestors Pub in Ireland

What do you do when you inherit a run-down pub in Raphoe, County Donegal? Despite the advice of "Put a match to it all," the McGranaghan family decided to restore the Tirconaill House and five small rundown houses around it.

Eighteen American McGranaghan cousins and spouses traveled to Raphoe, County Donegal, and restored the buildings in an effort that would have made their grandparents proud. You can read the story by Michelle McGranaghan Pabon and see a number of pictures of the effort at <http://goo.gl/Mg4uBb>.

Ancestry Collaborates with Gannet to Digitally Archive More than 40 US Papers

The following announcement was written by Ancestry.com:

Cincinnati Enquirer the First Gannett Archive Launched with Over 4 Million Pages Online PROVO, Utah, Aug 24, 2015 — Ancestry, the leader in family history and consumer genetics, today announced its collaboration with Gannett Co., Inc., the largest local-to-national media company, to digitize more than 80 daily newspapers across the nation. Newspapers.com, an Ancestry business unit, and Gannett will provide a historical newspaper viewing experience complete with full text search, clipping and sharing features. Together, they expect to deliver more than 100 million full-page images of historical newspapers in a simple, easy-to-use online archive.



Drumming Out frm Fold 3



Are you familiar with the historical military practice of drumming a soldier out of the army?

This process of dishonorably discharging a soldier had its origins in the British army in the 17th century and was later picked up by the American military. Soldiers could be drummed out for a variety of reasons, from thievery to desertion.

Usually, during a drumming out, the guilty man's head was shaved, the insignia and buttons taken from his uniform, and a sign detailing his crime hung around his

neck. Sometimes he was dressed in felon's clothes or white feathers were placed above his ears, and other times a rope was put around his neck and he would be led by the smallest drummer boy. The convict would then be marched between the lines of his fellow soldiers to the tune of "Rogue's March," and he would be taken to the entrance of the camp, where he was sent on his way with orders to never return.

"Rogue's March" was often played by drums and fifes, though if they couldn't be found, a trumpet was sometimes substituted and the process was called being "blown out" of the army. During the Civil War, "Yankee Doodle" was sometimes played instead of "Rogue's March."

The point of drumming out a soldier was to make his departure from the military humiliating enough that others would be discouraged from committing the same crime. So in addition to being drummed out, the local newspaper would sometimes write about the man's crime to make it public. However, drumming out eventually fell out of favor as a punishment, and by World War II it had largely been dropped altogether in the U.S.



Are you counterfeit fit?

For every 10,000 US paper bills in circulation, one is a counterfeit. While that sounds small, it adds up to millions of dollars. And counterfeit money has the potential to destabilize economies and cause individual economic ruin. Commercial printing technology has made counterfeiting easier, but businesses are also getting better at detecting it--using a bit of chemistry. One common test uses iodine based pens to reveal if there's starch in the paper, which isn't used in US currency. If the bill is real,

the pen mark is yellow; if it's a fake it is dark blue. There's also a UV light test. Since 1996, all US bills contain a chemically enhanced, 1mm wide, polyester strip that glows under UV light. The strip is found in different positions for each denomination. But if you don't have an iodine pen or a UV light handy, the Secret Service has laid out a few visual clues to detect fakes.

1) If the portrait is standing out from the background, instead of looking "lifeless and flat," it's probably real. 2) Inspect the seal. It should have perfectly even saw-toothed points, and the color should perfectly match the color of the serial number. 3) Check for an unbroken and crisp outside border.

Do what you can to support your local genealogy library and its collection. We are losing societies all around. We are getting too old, I guess.

*til next time,
Janeice*