



Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies

Newsletter

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Good afternoon,

We are nearly out of winter and I, for one, am glad to have it so. Bring on the sunshine. Now the chores begin, gardens to make and lawns to mow, spring cleaning to do and maybe houses to paint. Closets to clear and trips to Good will or Salvation Army. There is hardly time for our dearest hobby, genealogy, but we will find some anyway.

The KCGS Board is working hard on our June conference and soon you will be receiving registrations forms and making plans to attend.

I have been reading interesting things.

WWII Writing Course Announced

from Eastman

The following announcement was written by the World War II Research and Writing Center:

The World War II Research and Writing Center is pleased to announce the release of a new educational website. WWII Education, which will provide users to online courses, webinars, and more! We are excited to announce the release of our first course, Finding the Answers Through WWII Writing.

Course Description:

Stories have the power to transform us. Throughout our lives, the stories we have heard may shape our identity. They may shape the perspective we have on life, the past, present, and future, ourselves, and those we love. Stories may raise questions about the war, family secrets, those who were lost, and things we discover through our research.

For five weeks, through a WWII family story, you will receive each week, access to a new module to help you explore your family & military stories. The target of this course is help you put a story on paper and view it from multiple perspectives to see how you, your family, and the story have grown, found answers, peace, and closure.

Researching your service member's history can be complex. The World War II Research and Writing Center provides expert research experts to tackle your most challenging research questions. Contact us at info@wwiirwc.com for project details and costs. We have researchers on-site at the National Archives facilities to obtain materials within a few weeks, and a network of researchers and tour guides around the globe.

Kenneth R Marks posted in Kansas Genealogy on Facebook:

In Case You Missed It - The U.S. MIDWEST edition:

Check out the 900 new Free Historic newspaper Links that have recently been added to the 13 Midwest States' free newspaper link lists:

Illinois - <http://www.theancestorchunt.com/blog/illinois-online-historical-newspapers-summary>

Indiana - <http://www.theancestorchunt.com/blog/indiana-online-historical-newspapers-summary>

Iowa - <http://www.theancestorchunt.com/blog/iowa-online-historical-newspapers-summary>

Kansas - <http://www.theancestorchunt.com/blog/kansas-online-historical-newspapers-summary>

Michigan - <http://www.theancestorchunt.com/blog/michigan-online-historical-newspapers-summary>

Minnesota - <http://www.theancestorchunt.com/blog/minnesota-online-historical-newspapers-summary>

Missouri - <http://www.theancestorchunt.com/blog/missouri-online-historical-newspapers-summary>

Nebraska - <http://www.theancestorchunt.com/blog/nebraska-online-historical-newspapers-summary>

North Dakota - <http://www.theancestorchunt.com/blog/north-dakota-online-historical-newspapers-summary>

Ohio - <http://www.theancestorchunt.com/blog/ohio-online-historical-newspapers-summary>

Oklahoma - <http://www.theancestorchunt.com/blog/oklahoma-online-historical-newspapers-summary>

South Dakota - <http://www.theancestorchunt.com/blog/south-dakota-online-historical-newspapers-summary>

Wisconsin - <http://www.theancestorchunt.com/blog/wisconsin-online-historical-newspapers-summary>

Snapshot of Ireland a Century Ago: an Online Photographic Archive

Dick Eastman

If you want to see what your Irish ancestors saw 100 years ago, you might want to look at the new Snapshot of Ireland on Ancestry.co.uk. The digitally restored black-and-white photographs date as far back as the Land War of the late 1800s. The historical prints and photographs include more than 120 images taken in Ireland, offering an insight into daily life in Irish cities, towns, villages and countryside between the late 1800s and the 1950s.

The collection is part of Ancestry's UK Historical Photographs and Prints 1704-1989 set, which features more than 40,000 photographs. The full collection of photographs and prints is available to view online at ancestry.co.uk, and will be available without charge over Easter weekend. Details may be found in the IrishTimes web site at: <http://bit.ly/2GbTCn7>.

What Your Cat's DNA Can Tell You

from Eastman

OK, now I have heard it all. Cat DNA?

Basepaws is a company dedicated to genetic testing for cats. You order a **CatKit** (\$95), which equips you with all the tools you need to provide Basepaws with DNA samples from your kitty. The kit includes a swab for collecting cheek cells and tape for collecting fur. Have you ever tried to put a stick into the mouth of a cat? Good luck with that!



Basepaws aims to tackle several spheres of information related to DNA—things like health, ancestry, and predicting traits. However, it is a new company and presently is only able to provide basic information about breeding. Is your cat a purebred? Probably not, but Basepaws can tell you for sure.

The Basepaws Alpha Report also tells you if your feline companion shares recent DNA (“recent” as in the past 100 generations or so... or maybe it is within the last 1,000 generations... or more) with wild cats. Is your cat descended from a jaguar?

Notice the word “alpha” in the name of the test: the Basepaws **Alpha** Report. “Alpha” means “not guaranteed to be accurate.” I wouldn’t place a lot of faith in this report.

Anyway... if you would like to test your kitty, head to <https://www.basepaws.com/> and be prepared to spend \$95. New Women's Records on Fold3!

From Fold 3

March is Women's History Month. Come explore two of Fold3's newest collections of women's records: [British WWI Honourable Women](#) and [British WWI Service Women Casualties](#).

[British WWI Honourable Women](#)

This collection is a reproduction of a book entitled Honourable Women of the Great War & the Women's (War) Who's Who. The book gives brief biographies of more than 200 British society women who participated in the WWI war effort through nursing, charitable work, etc. Photos of some women are also included. In addition to discussing the women's war work, each entry provides a wide range of genealogical and social information, such as parents' names, husband's name, marriage date, hometown, hobbies, club membership, and more. The book's entries are arranged in alphabetical order by surname. However, note that many of the married women included in this book are referred to by their title or surname only, or by their husband's name or initials, rather than by their given name.

British WWI Service Women Casualties

Like the title indicates, this index documents British servicewomen and nurses who became casualties of World War I. Early in the war, women were primarily involved in the war effort through nursing, caring for refugees, and assisting and caring for wounded servicemen. But as the war progressed, women's branches of the armed forces were created, and as a result women also served in organizations such as the Women's Army Corps, Women's Royal Navy, and Women's Royal Air Force. On Fold3, this index is organized first by the organization the woman served with, then by given name in alphabetical order.

African American Civil War Soldiers from Eastman

This may be one of the most important history-related web sites launched so far this year. The following announcement was written by John Clegg, a founder of the KCGS Newsletter

African American Civil War Soldiers web site:

African American Civil War Soldiers is a new website that will crowd-source the transcription of the military records of roughly 200,000 African Americans soldiers who fought for their freedom in the American Civil War. These records are of great interest to historians and genealogists, since they contain detailed biographic information on individual Union Army soldiers, most of whom were slaves at the start of the Civil War. However, until now these records have been locked away in the National Archives in DC, accessible only to a select few researchers.

Our website invites members of the public to help transcribe scanned images of the soldiers' records, turning them into text that can easily be searched by students and historians, as well as descendants of the soldiers themselves. The database we collect will be made freely available on the website of the African American Civil War Museum. It will serve as a memorial to the soldiers and their legacy, as well as a teaching aid and a tool for genealogical research.

New Content added to Montana Online Newspapers

The Montana Newspapers web site continues to grow with more and more historic newspapers being added to the site. The full-text searchable database now contains 541,270 pages from 83 Montana town, county, school and tribal newspapers dated 1883-2015.

If you had ancestors in Montana, there is a good chance you can find information about them in the Montana Newspapers web site at: <http://montananewspapers.org>. If you do not find the information today, check back in a few months as the web site's owners are continually adding new titles.

til next time, Janeice