



# THE SUNFLOWER

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**Reno County Genealogical Society**

**P. O. Box 5**

**Hutchinson, Kansas 67504-0005**

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The Reno County Genealogical Society of Hutchinson, Kansas was founded in 1978 for the purpose of fostering genealogical research, promoting the exchange of information and encouraging the deposit of genealogical and historical materials in established libraries and archives. Membership in the Reno County Genealogical Society is open to anyone interested in genealogy or local history. Dues are \$15.00 per year, per couple from January 1 to December 31 each year. Meetings are held the third Monday of each month in the Auditorium of the Hutchinson Public Library, 9th and Main, 7:00 – 8:45 P. M.

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### RCGS Web Site: 3 ways to find us on the web

<http://rootsweb.com/~ksrcgs>

<http://tinyurl.com/RenoCoGenSoc>

<http://bit.ly/RenoCoGenSoc>

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**Genealogy Entry paperwork must be in the State Fair Office by  
August 15, 2015**

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TO NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

PLEASE SEND A CHANGE OF ADDRESS TO THE SOCIETY

WE APPRECIATE YOUR ATTENDANCE  
AT OUR MEETINGS

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**SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT**

**Have you started compiling your family history. Don't just do it for yourself, but think of your children and grandchildren. They would like to know about your life and their ancestors. See page 77 for some books with ideas for stories.**

**When I was staying with my son in November, he asked me to list all of the antiques that I have and to take a picture of them. He also wanted me to list who they belonged to and how I acquired them. The list is about complete, but I can't get to things to take pictures of them. When I can lift and climb, I'll start taking the pictures.**

**THANKS!**

**Thanks to everyone who sent me cards and called me.**

**It was hard to be away from my home for a month, but my sons and daughters-in-law gave me wonderful care.**

**There were only two rooms in Dan's home where I could get use my cell phone, which made me appreciate how much I relied on it. Hopefully, they are going to get another tower to increase coverage very soon. Ruth Filbert**

## STRATACA

By Marilyn Jones

Permission to print this article was given by Larry Freeze, editor of *Kansas Country Living*, Oct. 20, 2014 by phone. The article can be found in the above magazine, July 2014, pages 18 & 19.

**A  
Unique  
Underground  
Adventure  
Awaits**

The door slammed shut and the small band of explorers began to descend the 650 feet down into the mine. In the pitch black, the elevator rumbled and shook; one woman giggled and her husband said something reassuring. It was a long 90 seconds.

The claustrophobic atmosphere of the elevator immediately disappeared as the eight men, women and children walked out into a wide cavernous hallway of salt-sparkling, beautiful salt.

This is, Strataca, the Kansas Underground Museum. Located on the southeast edge of Hutchinson in central Kansas. Strataca is part industrial education, part tourist attraction, and all very interesting.

The salt formation developed geologists believe, about 275 million years ago when the Permian Sea dried up. One of the largest in the world, the extent of this salt deposit is 27,000 square miles in central and south-central Kansas. The purest portion of the salt vein is 650 feet underground and is still mined today.

Salt was discovered in 1887 by a land developer drilling for oil; the first significant salt discovery west of the Mississippi. Today there are three salt companies in Reno County: Morton and Cargill (brine evaporation facilities) and Hutchinson Salt Company (HSC) where Strataca is located.

HSC began as The Carey Salt Mine when Emerson Carey opened the mine in 1923. Today more than 500,000 tons of rock salt are mined each year. The salt is primarily used to de-ice roads across the Midwest and eastern United States.

When Reno County Historical Society members recognized the importance of preserving and presenting the Hutchinson salt story to the public, they decided to take on the project to open a portion of the mine for public tours.

The museum is the result of a partnership between the historical society and the two businesses that exist in the mine: HSC and Underground Vaults and Storage (UV&S).

Built within one of the world's largest deposits of rock salt, the museum is centered in the area already mined, about 300,000 square feet.

There are 15 salt mines in the United States, but Strataca is the only one open to tourists. Worldwide there are only two other salt mine tours—one in Wieliczka, Poland, and another in Salzburg, Austria.

The mine chambers, a constant 68 degrees range in size from 2,500 to 15,000 square feet with ceilings 11 to 17 feet high.

From the elevator there are displays along the wide corridor leading to the mining gallery. To create the gallery, organizers searched 67 miles of mined caverns to find artifacts to display in a comprehensive way so that visitors can understand how the salt is mined.

The artifacts are coupled with videos, so it's easy to grasp aspects of modern-day mining, as well as earlier practices. The exhibits are arranged in sequential order so the process can be followed—from the use of explosives right up to the getting salt out of the mine.

After the gallery is the Salt Mine Express, a train ride that takes passengers back into a portion of the mine where virtually everything is exactly as it was left over 50 years ago. The train once used at a local park, makes a 15-minute circuit through a part of the mine that was active during the 1940s and '50s.

The engineer also serves as a guide and explains “what goes into the mine stays in the mine.” Past empty dynamite boxes and cast off tools, the train makes frequent stops so that passengers can further understand previous mining practices.

Because of the constant temperature and low humidity the salt mines are perfect for storing priceless artifacts including costumes, scripts and original camera negatives Hollywood holds dear.

Although the actual 26 acre UV&S facility is a secured site in another part of the mine, the museum has an exhibit illustrating what the vaults look like.

Known for its highly protective, secured storage capabilities, UV&S also stores medical records, oil and gas charts, and a host of other valuable documents and materials from around the world.

Currently on loan to the museum from UV&S are costumes and props used in the recent film *Monuments Men*. The film chronicles the story of eight men and women charged with locating, tracking and returning priceless works of art stolen by the Nazis during World War II.

Across the aisle way, past the gift shop, is another part of the tour—The Dark Ride. Here, a tram rumbles back into the mine through a maze of chambers, to illustrate the complex labyrinth of corridors and support system as well as the complete darkness when the lights go out. The guide is entertaining and, at the end of the tour, allows passengers to pick out a fist-size piece of salt to take home as a souvenir.

A recent addition to the museum is the Salt Safari. The more intrepid visitors can go on a longer expedition and see areas not open on the main tour.

This is especially appealing to Hutchinson resident Steve Snook and his wife Andrea Springer.

“We were fortunate to be part of a test group with the Salt Safari,” Snook said, “an extreme three-hour experience that takes you to places I never thought people would have access to. There’s so much to see.”

Due to the deep underground location and logistics, mining supplies and other castoff articles were left behind over the decades.

**It was a  
fascinating walk  
through a  
portion  
of  
Kansas History.**

“One thing that interested me were the trash piles,” Snook remarked. “It’s like time is standing still. I’ve seen a calendar from 1955 and a lot of old magazines. It’s like a moment in time that ‘s been captured.”

“I wondered what we would see for three hours,” Springer recalled. “But it went by in a flash. It was so interesting to see the different types of technology used in different eras. It was a fascinating walk through a portion of Kansas history.”

Even before the Salt Safari was created, Snook said he was hooked on the underground experience.

“I was a docent there,” he said. “I can’t count the times I’ve been down with family, friends, or as a docent –maybe 50, 60, 75 times.”

“Every time we have friends or family from out of town, that’s one place we try to take them,” Springer added. “We’ve yet to find somebody who wasn’t delighted. There are always changing exhibits and something for everyone to see.”

The museum, with all its educational factors, is also a tribute to the men and women who work there, and the mine owners and managers who make sure it is a clean and safe environment.

Strataca, the Kansas Underground Salt Museum, is located at 3650 East Ave G in Hutchinson. For more information call 620-662-1425 or check the website at [www.underkansas.org](http://www.underkansas.org).

Thanks to Marilyn Jones, a freelance writer in Henderson, TX.

Hutchinson is a great place to visit. First we had the space museum, Cosmosphere and now the underground mine, Strataca. Come visit Hutchinson.

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## SCRAPS OF HISTORY

Are you one of the 23 million Americans who keep scrapbooks?

Are scrapbooks going out of date? When it is so easy to put the pictures, in the cloud where it is so easy to share them with interested family members, on a DVD or on a flash.

Karen Burgess has given several different lessons on preserving your pictures and records. She stresses each time that\_\_\_

1. We don’t have to keep every picture of the same mountain, or your whole trip worth of pictures.
2. Write the names of the people in the picture on the back of the picture with pens made for that purpose. Include the names of pets and other objects in the pictures.
3. Don’t throw away the pictures of children doing silly things. How many pictures of your ancestors do you have who are stiffly upright? Which are the most interesting pictures?
4. Are you using archival materials when you do scrapbook?
5. Have fun and enjoy the memories as you go through your pictures.

## Winter Has Arrived

Winter came in like a roaring lion. There was no gradual decline in temperature. So.... Are you ready for some serious genealogical research?

Are there new members of the family that you need to record?

Were there marriages in the family? Remember that is a new family group.

Have you recorded all the information about deaths in the family? When did they die? Where did they die and where were they buried? Did they die of natural causes or from a disease? Was the disease inherited?

Take the time and go back through the information that you have recorded. Is there information that you could not find. Remember there is new information available on the internet every time you turn on your computer.

Did you know that sometimes we have to use microfilm, order books thru interlibrary loan or even write to places for something we need.

When you send Christmas cards to your relatives, do you ask for some updates on family members? I can hardly wait for the cards or letters from my extended family and friends. Especially, if they include pictures of their family.

My niece and nephews send me "picture cards". I have a picture frame that holds three pictures. Each year, I replace each picture with the updated family photo. This year instead of my nephew holding a sign that says "We're excited to announce BABY # 3 in June 2014" I hope to replace it with the new baby included with the family.

A friend of mine has a large collection of pictures featuring family and friends. She is digitizing the pictures she wants to keep and sending the originals or copies of them to the people in the picture. What a great idea!

My number one project for 2015 is to make family notebooks for my sons. They will include copies of birth, marriage and death certificates, naturalization and homestead records, pictures of the individuals and other records pertaining to each individual. My grandsons and granddaughter will receive similar notebooks.

**That reminds me. I should enter my family history in the Fine Arts–Genealogy division at the Kansas State Fair. It would certainly surprise the judges if everyone in the Reno County Genealogical Society entered a family history in one of the categories or all of the categories.**

**Do you have Forgotten Settler certificates for your Kansas ancestors? Do you have documentation that shows your ancestor arriving in Kansas prior to 29 January 1861 (Territorial Certificate), between 29 January 1861 and 31 December 1880 (Pioneer Certificate), between 1 January 1881 and 31 Dec 1900 (Early Settler). Other states offer certificates for different time periods. Check them out. Check the NEW KCGS web page for more information. <http://www.kcgs.us/>**

## NEW, FREE DATABASE OF WORLD WAR I PRISONERS

Documents about millions of soldiers and civilians captured during World War I are now available free on the Prisoners of the First World War website at <http://grandeguerre.icrc.org/>, created by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

Eight million soldiers and 2 million civilians were sent to detention camps during the war. The combatants would periodically submit lists of prisoners to the ICRC's International Prisoners of War Agency, established in 1914. The agency received documents recording prisoner's names, capture, transfers between camps, and deaths while detained.

The agency staff made an index card for each prisoner, with references to records about that person, and filed the cards by nationality and military or civilian service.

It also indexed relatives' correspondence—since destroyed—requesting information on their captured loved ones. Part of ICRC's mission was to help prisoners find their families after the war.

According to the ICRC, 90 percent of the 5 million cards on prisoners and 500,000 pages of records associated with these cards are now searchable on the Prisoners of the First World War website.

You can search for names with the person's nationality (British and Commonwealth, French or Belgian, Romanian, German, American, etc.) and military or civilian status. If you find a relative's card, hover over it to click a link for "More information about this person." Then you'll be able to enter one of the reference numbers on the card to see the associated document, or click a link for help reading the card.

Each of the numbers links to a document or list that can be viewed.

The site also has examples of index cards (click the link in the site's navigation bar), prison camp information and postcards, and ICRC correspondence.

(From the Genealogy Insider blog by Family Tree Magazine). Originally printed in *The Topeka Genealogical Society NEWS & VIEWS*, Vol. 22, No. 3.

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### New Website

The Harper County Genealogical Society web site is now being hosted through the Kansas Council of Genealogical societies at the following location: <http://kcgs.us/HarperCounty/index.html>.



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## DID YOU KNOW

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### Medical Related Terms

Tincture — alcoholic base liquid medicine

Tonic — homemade or patent strengthening medicine, sassafras tea was used often in the springtime.

Trickling — intestines

Tuscarora rice — “sure cure” sold in early 1700’s for “consumption” made from “Indian corn.

Typhilitis—inflammation in the intestine.

Typhus fever — Sometimes mistakenly called typhoid fever but transmitted by fleas and lice. It was prevalent among sailors and passengers at sea and military establishments.

If you find a word that you need help in defining, please contact me at [charmitts.com](http://charmitts.com).

LiNote from New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS)

List made by Char Mitts, Johnson County Genealogical Society President

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### Note from New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS)

Middlesex Co., MA: Probate File Papers, 1648-1871 at <http://bit.ly/lywfvVh>. This collection contains records of 45,383 Middlesex Co. probate cases filed between 1648 & 1871. Includes wills, guardianships, administrations, and various other types of probate records. The cases range in length from one to more than 1,500 pages, with a total of more than 668,000 individual file papers. Freely accessible to the general public. Submitted by Elaine Sunde

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### More Quaker Resources:

[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~quakers/index.htm](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~quakers/index.htm) (The Quaker Corner)

[www.quakerinfo.org/resources/genealogy.html](http://www.quakerinfo.org/resources/genealogy.html)

[www.cyndislist.com/quaker.htm](http://www.cyndislist.com/quaker.htm)

[www.quakersurnames.net](http://www.quakersurnames.net)

[www.olivetreegenealogy.com/quakers](http://www.olivetreegenealogy.com/quakers)

<http://genforum.genealogy.com/quaker>

## WEBSITES WORTH SURFING

### For Civil War and Railroad Enthusiasts

Readers with an interest in the Civil War, or in railroad history, will enjoy “Confederate Railroads”, a huge database of maps, railroad documents, photographs, military reposts, newspaper articles, and more about the railroads of the South from 1861-1865. Compiled by David L. Bright, it can be found at [www.csa-railroads.com](http://www.csa-railroads.com). You can search by state, and further by railroad. Information ranges from shipping invoices of military supplies to annual reports and accounts of raids against the railroads. Searching may find the names of railroad employees among company papers; there are even some lists of slaves who were hired from slave owners by railroads.

Locomotives were the given names (like we would a boar or ship today) along with numbers. The site has the names of engines, which carried colorful monikers such as Tornado, Volcano, and Stonewall, and even mythological names such as Hercules, Romulus and Remus. Often the manufacturer and date of the engines can be found as well.

Much material comes from transcribed 1860s documents that would take considerable effort to locate. New material is added periodically, so be sure to bookmark the site and check back.

### Finding Fonts

Would you like to match a style of type from an historic poster, advertisement, or flyer? WhatTheFont, at [www.myfonts.com/WhatTheFont](http://www.myfonts.com/WhatTheFont), is a special service that identifies the type style of scanned sample images of text. It’s a service of MyFonts.com, a vendor of type fonts.

You can upload a small scanned sample image of printing, preferably with each letter at least 100 pixels high, and as straight as possible. The letters should not be touching each other. After the sample is received, you are asked to verify the letters in it. Then, in a couple of seconds, you get one or more suggestions for matching fonts. This makes it easy to produce family greeting cards, flyers, announcements and other documents with an eye-catching “retro” look.

If you don’t have the particular type style on your computer, you can purchase the font for downloading, as well as any one of thousands of other distinctive decorative type fonts.

### MAPS AND MORE MAPS

A Vision of Britain through Time, at <http://visionofbritain.org> has a treasury of maps, census statistics, election results, and other information on Britain. For genealogists, the highlight may be the collection of hundreds of historic maps from the 19th century and later, including the beautifully detailed Ordnance Survey Maps. You can choose a map set, and navigate to zero in on a section you want to see in detail. You can magnify your view, and for each spot, there’s an option for opening a new window with the entire original map sheet.

The early maps can be informative if you had ancestors from Britain and know the place they came from. Urban growth of London and other cities has swallowed up countless farms and villages, which still exist through these old maps. On the Ordnance Survey Maps, the terrain is described through delicate crosshatching that gives such a three-dimensional effect that viewers can almost feel like they are flying over the countryside of 200 years ago.

## PERSI'S New Home

Carol Richey in the *Internet Genealogy* magazine update us on the PERiodical Source Index.

A partnership has been formed between the Allen County Public Library (ACPL) Genealogy Center and findmypast.com. ACPL's PERiodical Source Index (PERSI) — the world's largest subject index to genealogy and history articles, with 2.5 million subject entries for articles in thousands of periodicals dating back to 1800—has a new home at findmypast, <http://search.findmypast.com/search/periodical-source-index>.

Created by the Allen County Public Library Foundation and ACPL's Genealogy Center, PERSI is a subject index that can help you find information by surname, location, or keyword search. While it is not an everyname index, PERSI is a useful research tool for finding genealogical and historical information which might not be online or in print elsewhere. You may find additional records from local sources, such a cemetery surveys, Bible records, marriage notices, obituaries, deeds, and wills.

You can also search for how-to articles to help you in your research. For example, the search results for Greenville, South Carolina, where many of my husband's ancestors settled, including articles on researching Civil War records at the Greenville County Library, online research tips for Greenville County Historical Records, researching South Carolina colonial land records, and South Carolina historical background for genealogy research.

For the first time, PERSI now includes digital images of original articles. At present, links are available to digital images from the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, 1870-1920, with more images forthcoming: findmypast has also partnered with Federation of Genealogical Societies to help its member societies digitize and provide online access to their publications. If a digitized image of the article you find isn't available in a library or repository near you, contact the publisher to obtain a copy, or for a small fee, request a copy from the Genealogy Center by using its article fulfillment form, [www.genealogycenter.org/Services.aspx](http://www.genealogycenter.org/Services.aspx).

The enhanced version of PERSI also has more search options. You can narrow your search results with various filters: last names, country, state, county, town/city, subject, article keyword, periodical, publisher, and publication year. You can also limit your search results to one or more of 23 record types, ranging from biographies and church records to directories and history, and many other records. The best way to learn how to conduct successful searches is to simply explore the database, using different search terms and filters and comparing your results.

First published as printed volumes, then made available on CD-ROM, and now as an online database with direct links to digital images, PERSI continues to evolve as technology improves. Since the project first began in 1986, it has become and will remain an important resource tool for genealogists. Take some time to visit PERSI at its new home on findmypast and see what new information you can discover.

I can remember the excitement at the Hutchinson Family History Center when a box containing microfiche copies of PERSI arrived. If you haven't used PERSI do so now.

## **Forgotten Settlers of Kansas**

Many of the early pioneers who have helped make Kansas a great state have been lost in history because information about them existed only in family records. In order to gather information on these pioneers, the Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies has an ongoing project of issuing a certificate to any person submitting evidence that his ancestor was in Kansas before 1901. We have had many responses.

### Is Your Ancestor a Forgotten Settler of Kansas? Could you receive a Territorial, Pioneer, or Early Settler certificate for your ancestor?

To receive our certificate, submit your application, the fee of \$13 (see below) and proof that your ancestor was indeed in Kansas prior to 29 January 1861 (Territorial), between 29 January 1861 and 31 December 1880 (Pioneer) or between 1 January 1881 and 31 December 1900 (Early Settler) and you will receive a certificate suitable for framing. You may request an application, with complete instructions, by writing to: Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies, Box 3858, Topeka, KS 66604-6858 or visit our website at <<http://skyways.lib.ks.us/genweb/kcgs/index.html>> Free applications are also available at our conferences and at your local genealogical library.

The information you send will be placed in the manuscript department of the Center for Historical Research at Topeka, Kansas. This information will be available to others.

KCGS has published, to date, 27 volumes containing the application and pedigree charts of those individuals who qualified for one of those certificates. Some are still available in a soft bound volume, 8 1/2" x 11" and others are in CD format. The CD comes with permission to make one hard copy for your library shelves, if desired. Each Volume contains the names of approximately 100 Kansas Pioneers.

Each application contains the name of the pioneer, birth date and place, death date and place, date and place of settlement in Kansas, pioneer's father's name, mother's maiden name, and spouse's names as well as the names of the parents of the spouse.

The individual making application for a certificate also sends in his/her pedigree chart. Each volume is fully indexed and contains 200-300 pages.

In addition, all names are available in two Master Index books. Book one contains all the surnames found in Volumes 1-10 and Book 2 contains all the surnames in Volumes 11-20. Copies of these volumes are also available for purchase.

**Certificates** are \$13 + \$4 p & h + applicable taxes.

**Books** are \$25 + \$5 p & h + applicable taxes.

**CD's** are \$15 + \$3 p & h + applicable taxes.

Send check or money order. to Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies, P O BOX 3858, TOPEKA KS 66604-6858

**Please add sales tax onto the total amount for your locality (state+county+city tax, if applicable.)**

### **Order form (please copy)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Circle volumes ordered: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

## THE KCGS PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

As a member of the Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies, the Reno County Genealogical Society is able to offer an exciting award package to our members that involves not only recognition RCGS (your local Society), State recognition from the Kansas Council, and National recognition through KCGS from the Corporation For National & Community Service and the Points of Light Foundation.

Award Levels are based upon AGE and ANNUAL VOLUNTEER HOURS:

### LOCAL STATE PRESIDENT'S AWARD

#### AGE AWARD BRONZE SILVER GOLD

5-10 yrs 1 12 26 50 75

11-15 yrs 1 12 50 75 100

16-25 yrs 1 24 100 175 250

26 + yrs 1 24 100 250 500

### Hour Hours Hours Hours Hours

You must log your volunteer service hours. RCGS will distribute forms you can use for this purpose. All volunteer hours must be generally related to the collection, preservation, transcription, organization, and helping others in using genealogical or historical records; basically, serving in a volunteer capacity in genealogy or history-related activity. Attending Society meetings, helping with projects, and contributing to Find-A-Grave, BillionGraves, etc., as well as your personal family research that you will freely share with others, all meet the volunteer service requirement. You can count conference and other educational time IF you reasonably believe you will have opportunity to potentially use the information you learn to assist or share with others in any volunteer capacity. You will turn in your log to the designated coordinator at the Reno County Genealogical Society, either quarterly or annually as requested. This is not to "keep tabs" on you but we are required to certify that to the best of our knowledge we believe the hours turned in are reasonable and accurate.

Requirements for the National President's Award also include:

- \* Recipient(s) must be a United States citizen or a lawfully admitted permanent resident of the United States.
- \* Awards are issued for volunteer service only; additional levels of participation with the organization (i.e., charitable support) are not a factor considered for the award.
- \* Court-ordered community service does not qualify for the award.
- Volunteer Service must be with projects directly or indirectly connected to the overall purpose of your local Society or Museum, or in achievement of the purposes of the KCGS; primarily, in promoting genealogy and family history research, collection and preservation of genealogical and historical records, assisting others in their research, educating others in any aspect of family history, etc.

## **Track Your Time!**

The mission of the Reno County Genealogical Society is only achieved by the dedicated service of many volunteers. We are excited to announce that we have joined with the Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies to offer the KCGS President's Volunteer Service Award in order to honor our member volunteers.

Simply keep a log of your volunteer service to the RCGS and other genealogical and historical projects which promote the education, research, usability, and preservation of information and documents. Any volunteer hours you spend in volunteer service related to our overall purpose and mission will qualify! Your service logs may be turned in quarterly or at the end of the year - not to "watch" what you're doing but to document and certify to Points of Light and the Corporation for Community & National Service that the volunteer service hours reported meet the qualifications for the National Award.

If you perform at least 24 hours of volunteer service in 2015, you will receive an award certificate of honor from the President of the Kansas Council of Genealogical Societies. In addition, for a minimum of 100 volunteer hours through the year (that's just 2 hours a week!), you will receive a Certificate of Achievement and a Letter of Appreciation signed by the President of the United States, along with an official Bronze level award pin. Silver and Gold levels are also available. All of your hours for the year will count towards the President's Lifetime Achievement Award for volunteer service.

These are prestigious awards which we are excited to offer to you in recognition of the service you perform for us and for the genealogical and historical community overall, and is one way we can say a very special "thank you" for all that you do.

To get started, pick up a paper copy of the log or email [RenoCoGenSoc@gmail.com](mailto:RenoCoGenSoc@gmail.com) to receive an attachment for a paper log or an Excel 2007 electronic version which will automatically total your hours for you. Instructions and guidelines are included. Then just volunteer! Indexing, transcribing, compiling, writing, helping others with research, getting involved in other genealogy or historical projects, and working with us on a variety of specific projects all count toward the award.

Thank you for all you do as a member of the Reno County Genealogical Society!

The following is part of a program given by Karen Burgess at a recent Reno County Genealogical Society meeting.

### The Cloud and Genealogy

The Cloud is just a catch name for the “internet”. The Cloud is a monstrous collection of computers and computer accessories that include routers, switches, hubs, and miles and miles of cabling. You use the cloud every day when you use your email service. Your emails and the folders you keep your emails in, are not on your computer, they are kept in the cloud, on a server (computer), and chances are, not on just one server, but on many servers located all over the world. You can lose your smart phone or home computer could crash, but all you have to do is get another device, log into your email service and all your mail will still be there. That is the cloud.

In genealogy, the cloud is primarily used for two things: **Storage** and **web applications**.

**Cloud storage** allows you to backup or sync files from your computer.

Examples of cloud storage:

- Back up storage—Backblaze, Carbonite, Crashplan, and Mozy.

Most backup services are characterized by the following—

They are paid services.

They backup your entire computer.

If your computer ever crashes, everything can be restored by using a backup service.

Typically, if you want to restore an individual file from the server, you will have to navigate through a program or web interface and manually restore the file.

- Syncing storage—Dropbox, Sugar Sync, Mozy Stash and Skydrive.

Most have free versions with smaller amount of storage.

- They backup a small portion of your files, unless you pay for more space.
- They allow one user to sync their files to multiple computers and smart devices.
- They typically allow you to share folders with other users.
- When a shared file is changed, the updated version is automatically downloaded to every machine that has a copy.

**Web applications** typically come with some storage and they allow you to edit documents, or perform many other functions that previously required an installed program.

Examples of web applications:

### **Document Editing** - Google Drive, Microsoft's Web Apps

- Google Drive provides a word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation applications very similar to Microsoft Office utilities. The difference is that in Google Drive, all of the programs as well as the data, are stored in the cloud. Just open a web browser and there is your program and data/
- Microsoft now offers some similar application so you don't have to download the programs to your computer.
- These applications make it possible to do tasks on tablets and smart phones that typically have very small drives.

**Genealogy Wikis** — First lets explain what a Wiki is, it is a website which allows its users to add, modify or delete information via a web browser. Wikis are designed to let users collaborate and share their knowledge.

Examples of Genealogy Wikis

- Ancestry's Public Member Trees, FamilySearch's Family Tree, Geni, and MyHeritage.

Where in the past we had to buy a genealogical program to install on your computer, now we can access our family tree by using one of these applications. We are storing our family tree in the cloud, for others to see and use. And, once you put your information in the cloud, it should be there for a long time, as with any cloud service, your data will be stored on many, many servers.

All of these applications have different capabilities, check to see which is best for you.

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## TECH SOS

Need help with your iPad, iPhone or Samsung Galaxy S5? AARP teamed up with tech publisher Que to create how-to-guides that respect your smarts without assuming you're a techie. Step-by-step instructions show how to get your device up and running, and troubleshoot problems that may arise later. Check out the My...for Seniors series at [aarp.org/TekBooks](http://aarp.org/TekBooks) or online bookstores.



## BOOKS THAT HAVE CAUGHT MY ATTENTION

### Complete iPad for Seniors

BMD Senior Series. 162 pages. © Black Dog Media 2014.

- The iPad manual especially for mature users.
- Jargon-free guides written for seniors.
- Apps, internet, email and more explained.
- Play games, music & movies on the iPad.
- All your questions answered inside.

### Beginners' Guide to Windows 8

BMD Desktop Series. 145 pages. © Black Dog Media 2014.

- Out of the box set-up.
- Delve inside Windows 8.
- Only the most essential Apps.
- Jargon-free guides.

### TOO GOOD TO KEEP

A view of the century from the pages of **Capper's Weekly**

Compiled and edit by Rosanna M. Thompson. © 1979 by Stauffer Communications, Inc. Topeka, Kansas 66607. Library of Congress Card Number 79-64193.

- **Capper's Weekly** — How It Came To Be by Dorothy Harvey, Capper's Weekly Editor
- Material in this book has been collected solely from the newspaper-magazine we know today as **Capper's Weekly** and its predecessor weeklies beginning July 10, 1879 with the first issue of **The Weekly Capital**.

The following caught my attention as I was going through the book. **A Serious and Widespread Outbreak of the Spanish influenza Has Materially Interfered With the Shipment of Troops** (Oct 12, 1918). My father was detained in New York City when he was sick with the flu and didn't get to board ship with the rest of his group. This is an interesting addition to the story about my father's life.

Scattered throughout the book are sketches of women's fashions, stories about the effects of the dustbowl, and many humorous tales. ie. Belle Plaine, Kan., has been shipping several car loads of tom cats to Hugo, Co., a town overrun with rats. It is a cold day when Kansas fails to meet and emergency. (Feb. 16, 1888).

### Dust Storm Days and Two-Holers

A Living History of Southwest Kansas. Tales from the Good Old Day in Southwest and South Central Kansas. © 2014 by Hometown Memories, LLC and by the individuals who contributed to this work.

In January 2014 folks in Southwest and South Central Kansas were asked to share their memories of the "good old days." To encourage participation, the publisher offered cash rewards to the contributors of the most appealing stories. Two of the winners Doris Schroeder & Cecil A. Unruh of Hutchinson.

The stories that I have read remind me so much of my life when I lived on the farm. Two-holers were always a target on Halloween. Playing in the holes the cattle had cut out of a stack of hay. Later using hay bales (not the large ones found today) to build a playhouse/fort.

You will enjoy reading about the adventures written by your friends and relatives.

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The following is a reprint of an article written by Keith Burgess.

## WHAT DOES THE JUDGE LOOK FOR AT THE KANSAS STATE FAIR COMPETITION?

First, read the rules! Again, READ THE RULES!!

The most common mistake is entering your genealogy in the wrong class.

A genealogy in a ring binder is **NOT** a published genealogy. The published genealogy would be printed by a professional and bound using a standard binding or even spiral-type binding, again, **NOT** a three ring binder. The unpublished could be exhibited in a three ring binder or such but would not qualify for the published category.

The line farthest back in time is calculated only to the point that the fact or data has been documented. IF your documentation goes back into Europe in a foreign language, the fact is considered to the point where it can be verified (such as a date). A translation from the original language into English would help to advance the date back. Both must be shown in the document of the same page of the genealogy for comparison.

Some things to consider:

Other than census and other official records, the information found on Ancestry.com should NOT be considered as factual. These should be considered a starting point to verify the documentation.

Even with the Family History Center consider the data as a starting point. Verify the original document, get a copy and use as primary documentation. They do have data that is incorrect! **VERIFY**

Differentiate from family legend-lore and that fact. "Aunt Tilly said," is not a fact, it is lore. IF it can't be documented and verified, it is probably lore or family legend.

Hopefully this has given you an insight into what the judge is looking for.

Good Luck and make the judge earn his pay! Enter a genealogy in the Kansas State Fair!!

Editor's note: Keith mentioned at a recent meeting that a newspaper citation should include the name of the newspaper, city of publication, date published, page number, & column number of the cited article.

Do You Have a Story to Tell About a Grave That You Found?

When I first started exploring graves at the Vansburg Cemetery near Brownell, Kansas I discovered a limestone grave marker that had eroded to the point that only the letters "ele" were visible. Knowing the family, I wrote a distant cousin and inquired about the person that was buried in the grave. I did get the name of the person, birth and death date and circumstances regarding the death. The baby was a stillborn girl and finances prevented a more permanent marker.

The next Memorial Day, as I toured the cemetery, I was surprised to find a grave marker with the name and birth and death years of the baby on it. I was very happy that I took the time to write the letter.

What is your story?.....

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RENO COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
P. O. BOX 5  
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P.O. Box 387  
North Newton, KS 67117-0387

**Be sure to visit our blog for events & news : [renocogensoc.blogspot.com](http://renocogensoc.blogspot.com)**

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|---|----------|
| Births - Recorded Early Births of Reno Co.<br>1890-1911 & Index             | \$5.00   |
| Cemetery Book of Reno County, 1865-1978                                     | SOLD OUT |
| Cemetery Records of North Inman,<br>Superior Township, McPherson County, KS | \$5.00   |
| Deaths - Recorded Deaths of Reno County<br>4 volumes, 1890-1911 & Index     | \$5.00   |
| Homestead Records of Reno County<br>Name, location & file date 1875-1945    | \$10.00  |
| Marriages of Reno County, 1872 - 1913                                       | \$15.00  |

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Naturalization Records of Reno County<br>Index 1875-1955 filed at courthouse | \$8.00  |
| Teachers of Reno County, 1884-1966 — CD                                      | \$7.50  |
| <i>The Sunflower</i> Back Issues - CD ONLY                                   | \$10.00 |
| Harper's Weekly 1888 - City of Hutchinson<br>featured supplement - PDF on CD | \$5.00  |
| Plat Book of Reno Co. 1902 - PDF on CD                                       | \$10.00 |
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