

# MCGS NEWS

April 2020



MCGS 2020

## Board of Directors

President - Linda  
Morgan Clark  
Vice President - Karen  
Cookson  
Secretary - Debbie  
James  
Treasurer - Linda Stout

## Members at Large -

Sue Tolbert  
Jere Harris  
Sam Jarvis  
Mary Downing  
Collotta Cade-Bailey  
Crystal Murphy

The Board of Directors is now meeting online until further notice. The board meets the third Monday of each month at 5:00 PM. If a society member wishes to join the online meeting in listen only mode, please [send us an email](#).

## Virtual Meeting Thursday April 23, 2020 6:00 pm

### "New DNA Tools Analyzing Your Matches"

[Click here](#) to register

we will send you your link on Wednesday April 22<sup>nd</sup>



Our speaker will be **Elizabeth (Liz) Walker, APG, DAR**

Former columnist on Indian Territory Genealogy for the *In-Depth Genealogist*, Liz retired as Library Associate at the Tulsa City County Library Genealogy Center in 2019, where she worked for almost 20 years. In addition to assisting patrons in their ancestor research, Liz conducted classes at the Genealogy Center on a regular basis.

[www.apgen.org/users/elizabeth-liz-walker](http://www.apgen.org/users/elizabeth-liz-walker)

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## From the President

### Members and Friends

To say we are in times we've never seen in our own lifetimes is, at the very least, an understatement. We even have a new set of phrases and words to describe how we are to slow down the spread of this novel virus and "flatten the curve". But I've noticed there's one word from bygone days that's not being used much now - *quarantine*. Instead, we say, "self-imposed isolation", "social distancing", "stay-at-home", or "lock-down". Is there a difference? I'm not really sure, but as one who had scarlet fever in childhood, I well remember what *quarantine* was like.

Yes, I was quarantined. There was a sign posted on our front and back door that announced it to the world. My dad and older brother and sister had to go live in an apartment. My closed bedroom window was my only glimpse of the outside world and the only way I could see my dad and older siblings. My baby sister got to stay at home with Mother and me, but a turned over kitchen table chair formed the barricade placed across by bedroom door so she could not crawl into my room. When my quarantine was lifted the doctor took down the signs and told my mother to throw away all my books and the toys and games that could not be washed in hot water.

Why am I telling you all this? Because I recall that experience vividly, just like current generations will recall current experiences with the COVID-19 world-wide pandemic. These days will live in our minds and in the memories of our children and grandchildren. Hopefully, as family historians, we will take this time we have so much of on our hands right now, and document our current circumstances, experiences, and reflections.

Currently, we have no idea when the health care professionals will give us the "all-clear" and we can start living openly and restoring our physical connections. With that in mind, new video-conferencing technologies have become the latest tool in our communications toolbox! Our genealogy society leadership has embraced this technology. Our board meetings are now virtual. We've had our first virtual general meeting and are planning more. At a virtual lunch this week we crowd-sourced a research request using the resources of our own libraries, the internet, and our website because the public library is closed.

I and all the members of the board of directors, hope that you and yours are taking all the recommended precautions to stay safe and healthy. Yes, these are difficult and challenging times. But they have the potential to present us with new opportunities to try new things, even as we fall back onto relying on some of the basic things that make our lives more simple and fulfilling.

Remember: reflect, share, communicate, and document. Future family historians will be glad we did.

Linda Morgan Clark  
President

## *Looking for Things to Do While Social Distancing??*

### MCGS Virtual Meetings

Until it is safe for us to meet at the Muskogee Public Library again, we will be meeting virtually using Zoom meetings.

- Monthly meetings will still be on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday each month- Registration Required
- MCGS Board Meetings-3<sup>rd</sup> Monday each month
- Virtual Conversation – twice a month 30 minute genealogy related conversations
- Genealogy Lunch Bunch – MCGS Members only. Email us for an invitation.
- Study Groups – Our Virtual Study Group is wrapping up its first session on April 30<sup>th</sup>. A new session will start probably sometime in June. More info to come!

### *Other Things Virtual...*

- Keep up to date: Genealogy Conference Keeper <https://conferencekeeper.org/>  
- The most complete calendar and collection of genealogy events on the Internet
- Katherine R. Willson's Social Media Genealogy- Genealogy on Facebook List: <https://socialmediagenealogy.com/genealogy-on-facebook-list/>
- Legacy Family Tree Webinars – Live webinars are free for a week. Lots of others for a small subscription. <https://familytreewebinars.com/>
- Geneawebinars - <http://blog.geneawebinars.com/> - **information** about genealogy-related online meetings, classes, hangouts, seminars and webinars
- Virtual Genealogical Association – virtual meetings, conferences, webinars - <https://virtualgenealogy.org/> -small subscription
- GenealogyGuysLearn –online genealogy courses, videos, webinars - <https://genealogyguyslearn.com/> - small subscription

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## When in Quarantine

**PEOPLE** who are in quarantine are not isolated if they have a Bell Telephone.

The Bell Service brings cheer and encouragement to the sick, and is of value in countless other ways.

Friends, whether close at hand or far away, can be easily reached, because Bell Service is universal service.

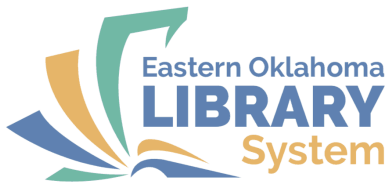


The Bell Telephone Company  
of Missouri

Commercial Department 1101 Locust Street

## Other Ideas to Help Keep You Busy

- How to Digitize Your Important Documents:  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/01/technology/personaltech/digitizing-important-documents.html>
- Try your hand at indexing records:  
<https://www.familysearch.org/indexing/>
- Indexing and Transcribing Volunteers:  
<https://conferencekeeper.org/volunteer/>
- Send MCGS an email and we'll set you up on one of our projects. [mucogeso@yahoo.com](mailto:mucogeso@yahoo.com)



*Looking for Other Free Research Resources? They are right in your "Back Yard"!!!*

You have free access to many good resources on our Muskogee Public Library's website!! Just go to: <https://eols.org/>. In the menu bar at the top of the page, far right, click on Research\*Learning. For many of these resources, you don't even need a library card. Others you do need a card so if you don't have one, call the library at 682-6657 and they will set you up with one. You can also message them on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MuskogeePublicLibrary/>

You'll be surprised at what is available to you FREE, even some subscription sites like Fold3 can be accessed from home.

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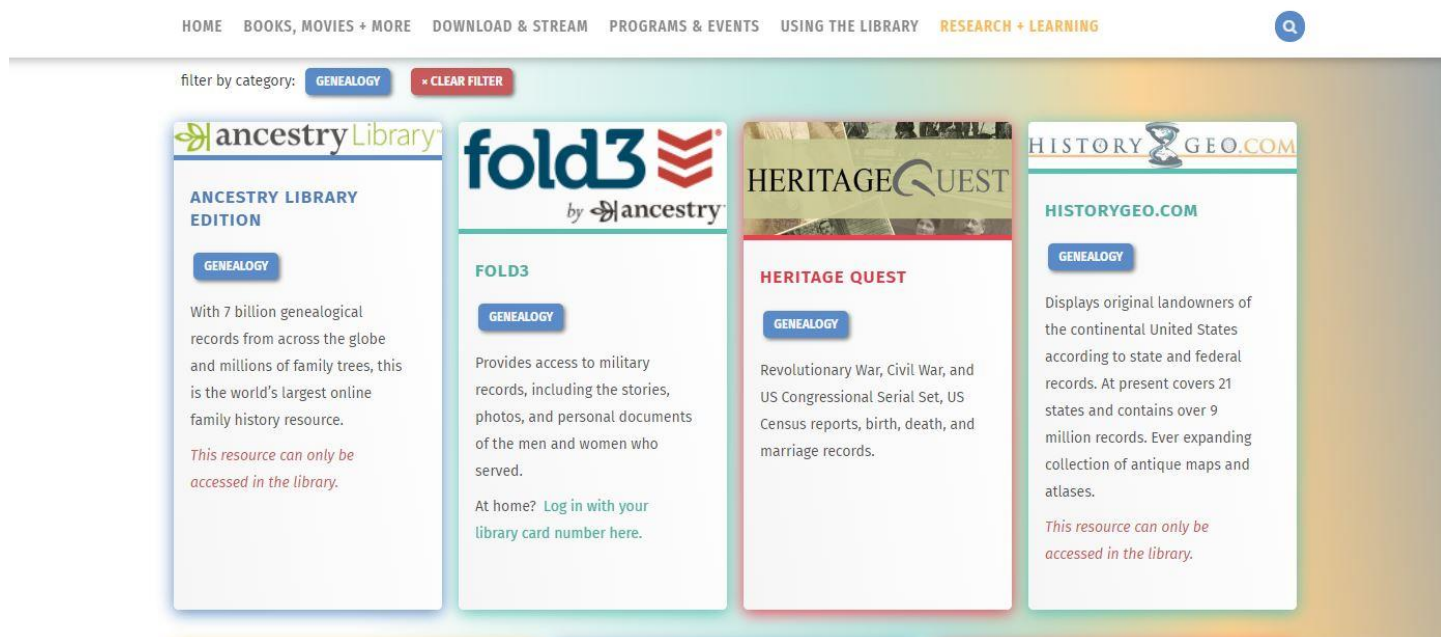
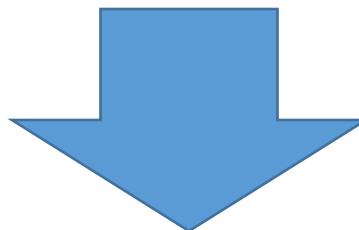
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# Muskogee Public Library is a part of the Eastern Oklahoma Library System

<https://eols.org/> Click on Research \* Learning



Some of the resources you can find there:

**Newsbank** -A comprehensive collection of news sources covering a wide array of topics and issues

**Credo Reference** - Quick reference specialty encyclopedias and dictionaries on topics such as art, biographies, business, geography, grammar, history, legal, medical, music, psychology, quotes, religion and science

**EBSCOhost** - Full text scholarly magazines and journals, covering nearly every area of academic study including: technology, education, engineering, physics, chemistry, language, arts and literature, psychology, religion and more.

**Explora** - Search full-text articles for a wide range of subjects including art and music, literature, geography, history, world cultures, science, technology, engineering, mathematics, health and sports.

**Fold3** - Provides access to military records, including the stories, photos, and personal documents of the men and women who served.

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**HeritageQuest** - Revolutionary War, Civil War, and US Congressional Serial Set, US Census reports, birth, death, and marriage records.

**History Geo** - Displays original landowners of the continental United States according to state and federal records. At present covers 21 states and contains over 9 million records. Ever expanding collection of antique maps and atlases. Access in library only.

**Hoonuit** - Provides on-demand computer training needed to develop technology skills. Learn to use Microsoft, Apple, Adobe and Google software like Prezi, PowerPoint and more.

**Digital Archives of Eastern Oklahoma** - Collection of digitized microfilm from local newspapers across our six counties. Content is very limited but ranges from late 1800s to 2012. Newspapers are fully searchable by keyword and date, making it easy to quickly explore.

**Oklahoma Digital Prairie** - Unique digital content spanning more than 100 years of rich, vibrant history from our State. Includes documents, photographs, newspapers, posters, maps and more.

**ProQuest** - Historical archives of the Chicago Defender, Nashville Tennessean and The New York Times.

**ProQuest History Vault** - Digitized letters, papers, photographs, scrapbooks, diaries and more primary sources from the University Publications of America (UPA) collection.

**ProQuest Statistical Abstract of the U.S. 2017** - Comprehensive summary of statistics on the social, political and economic conditions of the United States.

**World Book** - Timelines, science and biography articles, science fair projects and Spanish language section.

**OCLCWorldCat** - Connect to the collections of more than 10,000 libraries worldwide. See what you can Interlibrary Loan.

**NEWSPAPERS** - Tahlequah Daily Press, The Oklahoma Archives (Sept. 1901-present), Ft Gibson Times (2009-2014), The Grove Sun (2008-today), MuskogeePhoenix (2004-present), Tulsa World (1989-present),

**Universal Class- Genealogy Education - Genealogy 101**, creative writing and much more - over 500 continuing education courses. (FREE)

The Genealogy Page has information about the Local History and Genealogy Department including links to online books of interest. Scroll to the bottom of the Library's main page and click on Genealogy.



[HOME](#) [BOOKS, MOVIES + MORE](#) [DOWNLOAD & STREAM](#) [PROGRAMS & EVENTS](#) [USING THE LIBRARY](#) [RESEARCH + LEARNING](#)



## Genealogy & Local History



### PRESERVING THE HERITAGE OF THE COMMUNITY

Covering six counties, we have a lot of local knowledge to share.

Dig deeper into your past by exploring the databases and websites recommended below for a wealth of information.

### GENEALOGY CLASSES

**Beginning Genealogy** – First Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm

**Beginning Internet Genealogy** – First Thursday of the month at 7:00pm

All classes held at [Muskogee Library](#).

To reserve a seat contact the Genealogy Department at 918.682.6657 (ext. 3).

### SPECIAL LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

The [Muskogee Public Library](#) offers a specialized genealogy and local history collection.

## EXPLORE FREE LOCAL HISTORY BOOKS ONLINE

[The Formation of the State of Oklahoma 1803-1906 \(1917\)](#) by Roy Gittinger

[Oklahoma: A Guide to the Sooner State \(1941\)](#) from the WPA

[Oklahoma Red Book Volume I \(1912\)](#) compiled by W.B. Richards

[Oklahoma Red Book Volume II \(1912\)](#) compiled by W.B. Richards

[Oklahoma Illustrated \(1894\)](#) by O.C. Seely

[A History of Oklahoma \(1908\)](#) by Joseph B. Thoburn and Isaac Mason Holcomb

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*We hope you will join us as an MCGS MEMBER!*

### Member Benefits

- Virtual Meetings
- Virtual Chats and Study Groups
- Member Discounts
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Members Only Area on Our Website
- Research Assistance
- Records Indexes
- FGS FORUM
- And MORE

Check out the Membership Page on Our Website:

<https://www.muskogee-county-genealogical-society.org/membership.html>

The screenshot shows the website for the Muskogee County Genealogical Society. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: HOME, CALENDAR, MEMBERSHIP (highlighted in green), RECORD INDEXES, RESEARCH, SUBSCRIBE TO E-NEWS, ABOUT US, BLOG, VIRTUAL EDUCATION, and MORE... A Facebook icon and the text 'Visit us on Facebook!' are in the top right corner. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column is titled 'Become a Member or Renew Your Membership' and contains text about membership fees and benefits. Below this text is a button 'JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE' and a 'Pay Now' button with a dropdown menu showing '\$20.00 USD' and logos for VISA, MASTERCARD, AMERICAN EXPRESS, and DISCOVER. The right column is titled 'Member Benefits' and lists various perks like access to the Members Only area, member surnames, and meeting minutes. At the bottom right of the page is a 'MEMBERS LOGIN' button.

*Muskogee County Genealogical Society*

Visit us on Facebook!

HOME CALENDAR **MEMBERSHIP** RECORD INDEXES RESEARCH SUBSCRIBE TO E-NEWS ABOUT US BLOG VIRTUAL EDUCATION MORE...

*Become a Member or Renew Your Membership*

Membership in the Muskogee County Genealogical Society is open to anyone promoting the purposes of the Society. Individual or Family membership is \$20.00 per year. Monthly programs are free for members and non-members alike, but we encourage you to join! Your membership dues help us to provide more and better resources for the genealogical community of Muskogee County and Northeastern Oklahoma.

**All 2020 Memberships expire December 31, 2020**

*Member Benefits*

You must have a password to access the Members Only area. If you are a MCGS member and have not received the password or forgotten it, [send an email](#) and we'll send it.

The Members Only area includes:

- Member Surnames
- Board Meeting Minutes
- Discounted Research Services
- Syllabi and Handouts of Presenters
- Federation of Genealogical Societies Quarterly

All members are welcome to attend the monthly meeting of the Board of Directors.

Also, Join Us on:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1690514490987111/>

Pinterest: <https://www.pinterest.com/mucogeso/boards/>

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