

# FYI

## For Your Information



Volume 11, No. 2  
May, 2009

### Riley County Genealogical Society and Library

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#### Library Hours

Tues & Thurs 10 am to 4 pm  
Wed & Sat 1 to 4 pm  
Sundays May through Nov.  
2 to 5 pm  
Sundays Dec. through April  
by appointment

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## Upcoming Events

### Meetings

**Sunday June 14, 2:30 to 4:00**, Union Depot Manhattan. Lowell Jack speaker: "Fun Facts about Early Manhattan."

### President's Letter

Howdy from the RCGS President. I got home from northwestern Oklahoma. While there I visited my hometown and attended the annual high school Alumni Banquet. Our crowd of attendees is dwindling. It is always good to see if you are able to recognize classmates and old school mates. It helps keep the mind healthy.

So it is with staying in contact with your relatives and family. There are bound to be additions to the family that need to be catalogued. Also, there will be deaths that should be recorded. It will keep your mind active and record the changes in the family over time.

FYI did you know that for each generation back from you the number of rela-

### Tour

**Tues. Oct. 6**, Kansas City NARA Tour. These archives have original records of Federal Court cases from Midwestern states, mi-

crofilms of Revolutionary War, Civil War, WW I, WW II, Indian conflicts and much more.



### Thank you!

We would like to give a hearty thank you to all who joined Riley County Genealogical Society. We depend on your dues and contributions to keep the Library and all our services going.

If you have not visited the RCGS Library lately, stop by and see us. We have a knowledgeable librarian and a computer assistant on duty whenever our library is open. We would love to help you research your family tree!

tives increases at two raised to a power equal to the generation in consideration. (Example: consider the fifth generation, it has 32 persons or  $2^5 = 32$  to the 5th power.) This is where the term "the binary" family is derived from the fact that each family has two persons. I hope I haven't confused anyone! Well, that is the mathematics lesson for this time.

**We still have some openings for Volunteer Coordinators (Building & Grounds and Library). We need volunteers for these jobs.** Please leave your note about your willingness to serve at the Library, with the Duty Librarian or call the Library at 565-6495.

**Jim Bradley, President**

**Did you get this issue of FYI by email?**

We are sending *FYI* by email. If you got a paper copy, please send your email address to:

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We will keep your email address secure. We will not share your email with anybody else.

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## RCGS Library Purchases “New” Copy Machine

The old Library copier could no longer be repaired. Therefore, the Society purchased a used copier.

The “new” machine works faster and has several new features. You can print two pages of an open book at one time. It has a sleep mode that shuts

off after 30 minutes to save energy. The toner bottle is twice the size of the old one and is very clean to insert. It copies colored paper without a shadow. The top lid is easily removed for a bulky book. It holds a ream of paper.

This machine will help us serve you better!



**RCGS Board Meets Every Second Friday**

## We need YOU!

The RCGS Board meets every month at the Seniors Service Center in Manhattan. They work hard to provide a wealth of genealogical research services for you.

However, we need your help as a volunteer.

Board positions and will give you a unique opportunity to help others research their family roots. We also need people to serve as librarians, particularly on Sundays. We will train you.

We also need your donations and contributions:

### Volunteer opportunities:

- Building and Grounds Coordinator — somebody to keep our library building running smoothly.
- Library Coordinator: — somebody to play a leadership role in the day-to-day operations of our library.

These two positions are

- Paper products such as paper towels, etc.
- Office supplies such as copier paper, etc.
- Contributions to offset the cost of our “new” copy machine

Contact the Library to offer your services or donations.

### **Honor a friend or loved one.**

Recognize the work of a special person.

Make a memorial gift to the life of a deceased person through

Greater Manhattan Community Foundation

or

Riley County Genealogical Society

A gift to RCGS is a lasting tribute!

## What Is DNA Testing for Genealogical Research

### 1. What can DNA testing tell me about my ancestry?

The most useful of several tests is Y-chromosome testing, which can distinguish men who have the same surname into different groups descending from different (unrelated) ancestors. For example, is "Regier" the same name as "Regehr."

DNA testing can also tell, on your father's father's father's line (Y-chromosome) and on your mother's mother's mother's line (mitochondrial DNA) which of 30+ world

groups you fit into, correlating with large migrations of human populations over the last 100,000 years or so. These groups were before history was recorded, but can help you determine your ancestry in large ethnic groups. This can help tell, broadly speaking, if a person has Native American ancestry.

### 2. What won't DNA tell me?

DNA testing cannot provide you with actual individual ancestor's names. It might give you a good idea, or it could give you at least a

cluster of related people you can focus your research on.

### 3. Will DNA testing show any medical weaknesses I might have?

Most DNA testing is done on markers in the areas of your chromosomes called "junk DNA." These regions do not have medical significance. They are just used for identification. For example, the marker called DYS393 on the Y-chromosome is a spot on the chromosome where all men worldwide have the molecular string "AGAT" between 9 and 17 times. If

some medical problem had been associated with this, we would have seen this medical problem in millions of men worldwide already.

### 4. Will my privacy be invaded in any way?

In order to compare your results with other men who share your surname, or people who share your mitochondrial DNA, you can choose whether to share the information or not.

*Attached to the newsletter email is DNA reference sheet. Click on it to download.*

## Imogene Farley Compiles Obituaries for the RCGS Library

*Here is Imogene's story:*

I, Imogene Block Colsky Farley, was born Nov. 6, 1923, in Wamego's General Hospital, the daughter of Foster R. and Margaret E. Colwell Block Colsky. Crossing Wamego's first bridge over the Kaw to the rented farm of the Alsip owner, just east of Maude Mitchell farm.

March 1, 1924, my parents bought the Washington farm, one mile east of Zeandale with Robert, Ruth, William and Donna joining the family. In January, 1936, Foster died.

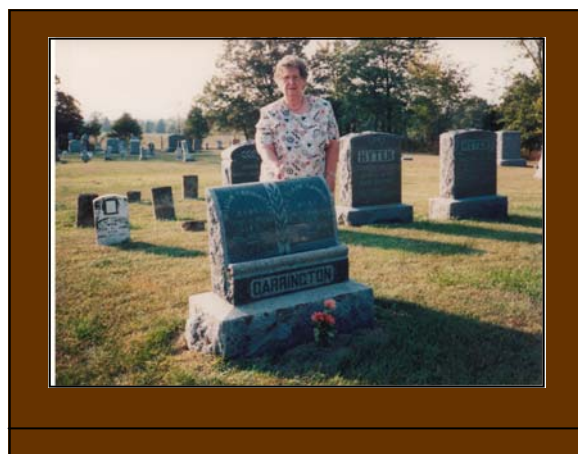
I attended Zeandale eight grades and St. George High School, adult years belonged to Wabaunsee and Riley County Extension units and was in 4-H both counties.

I married Dec. 6, 1942 to Ira Leroy Farley, my high school sweetheart. We had a

son and a daughter, Michael Lee, 1945 and Judy Kay, 1948. Our marriage dissolved after near 30 years and his death occurring in Oct. 1976, Anchorage Alaska.

A second cousin and I drove to Knoxville, Iowa to study the Colwells, etc. An elderly gentleman at the public library assisted us with books of published obituaries and in a few hours get a big lot of our kins leaving there to Leon Iowa, we found family in cemetery also the genealogy library open and glad to help there, copied a book quick and their address for more history by mail.

People ask me, Where to you get all those obituaries? The city library here, and Wamego's library with their old machine gave me white letters on black, my 1993 or 1994 books may contain a



few. The many obituaries come from my setting Manhattan's machine for small copies, while getting on needed going to Staples to enlarge to within 2 ½ inches. I never throw away an obituary until it's in a book.

Pauline Streeter had most influence of genealogy on me. Was it 1989 is best I can say. **Imogene**

This fall, Riley County Genealogy Society will offer "What to do? A Basic Genealogy Class." The class will consist of several sessions and will be held at the Riley County Genealogy Library. Members and nonmembers are welcome. If you would like class information, please call the library at 785.565.6495 or Le Juan Shrimplin, 785.776.5904, [ljuan@kansas.net](mailto:ljuan@kansas.net)

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**Elected Officers:**

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Patty Wadick

*FYI* is published periodically and available to RCGS membership.  
RCGS members are invited to submit articles for publication.

RCGS strives for correctness and regrets any errors, but assumes no responsibility for errors of fact or opinions expressed by contributors.

Contributors to articles in this issue of *FYI* include Jan Wichman, Darlene Hagan, Imogene Farley, Wann Towers, Jim Bradley, Le-Juan Schrimplin, Carol Regehr, Judy Regehr.

**Riley County Genealogical Society**



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