

# FYI

## For Your Information



Volume 12, No. 4  
November, 2010

### 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

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## Upcoming Event

### Annual Meeting

Nov. 8, 2010, Dinner 6:30 pm, Zeandale Church. Business meeting and program follow the meal. Jim Sharp will talk on his experiences guarding criminals at Nuremberg.

Please mail checks to Riley County Genealogical Society, 2005 Claflin, Manhattan, KS, 66502 or stop by to pay in advance. Non-members are welcome.



*Remember to send in your Annual RCGS membership form!*

## Internet research available at RCGS

RCGS has subscription based internet research sites available for patron use at the library. Computer Assistants (CA) will help you research these sites or a computer is available for patrons who like to work on their own. Here are some tips to help you get more from your online research time.

- Do a little preparatory work before you come. Keeping a 3-ring binder with printed pedigree charts and family group sheets on hand

helps you recall information quickly. Include blank pages to make notes of ideas for new research strategies, sites to investigate later, etc.

- Determine what information you need. Most of us have a limited amount of time that we can spend surfing for ancestors so go over your research and decide what information you are looking for.
- Don't just search for census data. Take advantage of everything the web sites

offer. Web sites may find stories, pictures, family trees put together by other researchers, military records, etc.

- Don't just search for surnames. If you know your ancestors were from a particular location, find out all you can about their hometown or homeland. While learning about an area, you will often find clues that will open up new avenues of research.

- Keeping a research
- (continued on next page)

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log of sites visited, searches performed, and the results can save much duplicated effort. Also note where the information was found so you can return to that site at a later date. If a Computer Assistant is helping you, ask them to note the site for you.

- When you find a pertinent piece of information, **make sure you record the full**

### **bibliographic citation.**

Citing your sources is critical both online and off.

- Keep in mind that online resources are secondary sources at best, and may contain errors. There is often much more information in the original documents. Prove your findings by getting the source documents.

Do come visit our library and take a look at the resources available

to you. Don't forget to check our web site [www.rileycgs.com](http://www.rileycgs.com) for hours and publications available.

### **Need Help With Family Tree Maker Software?**

For those interested in learning more about Family Tree Maker software or need help with a particular problem, I would be happy to meet and work with you at the RCGS library. Call Patty Wadick, 539-6009 for an appointment.

### **Slate of Officers 2010**

President:

Dorothy Dickerhoof

Vice President:

Rebecca Rose

Treasurer:

Richard Phillips

Co-Treasurer:

Fred DeLano

Recording Secretary:

Nancy Williams

Corresponding Secretary:

Candace Pannbacker

Submitted by the Nominating Committee — Jim Sharp, Millie Combs, Darlene Hagen

## **Helen Long**



Helen Long

Helen Long was born in Tescott, Kansas. Her father was a High School teacher and coach. The family moved several times before Helen graduated from Ada, Kansas, High School in 1940. She was a schoolteacher during the World War II years. Helen graduated from Emporia State in 1949 with a degree in library science.

Helen's first job was reference librarian at North Central College in Naperville, Illinois. She moved on to Hagerstown, Maryland to work in the public library. There she met James W. Long her future husband of twenty-nine years. He was a steel fabricator and very interested in genealogy. Jim started Helen on her long-time interest in genealogy. Together they wrote church history books. Helen also did indexing of reference books. While living in Hagerstown, Maryland, Helen

was a librarian at a private high school, then the public high school. She was an active member and volunteer of Washington County Maryland Historical Society. Helen played the piano for church and Sunday school over 70 years.

In 1984, after the death of her husband, Helen moved to Manhattan to help care for her mother, Mrs. Mabel Ann Robinson. Helen also volunteered at Riley County Historical Society and RSVP where she currently is working with "Help us

### **New Email Address for RCGS**

[info@rileycgs.com](mailto:info@rileycgs.com)

Learn, Give us Hope."

Helen became a librarian for RCGS and later replaced Evelyn Brown as cataloger. RCGS's original cataloger was Mildred Loeffler. After becoming legally blind in 2002, with help Helen is still able to catalog. She was nominated to be a life member of our society several years ago due to her long time commitment and service to our library.

Thank you Helen!

## RCGS presents Life Membership to Sy Ekart



Riley County Genealogical Society named Sylvester Ekart a lifetime member of the Society on October 17 for his outstanding service. He has written over 50

indexes of Births, Marriages, and Deaths for Riley County Newspapers.

Sy has donated all these publications to the genealogy library and also given the Society the rights to sell his books. These indexes are a valuable resource for people searching for family history or information about their rela-

tives published in newspapers.

In 2010, Sy has also written two histories of local interest. Elbo Community and Blue Township and St. Patrick's Church and Cemetery, Pottawatomie County, Kansas Vol. III and History of the Founding of St. Joseph's Cemetery, Flush, Pottawatomie County, Kansas, and Obituaries

of the Individuals Buried There During the Period of 1858-2010, Vol II.

These books are for sale at the new online store:

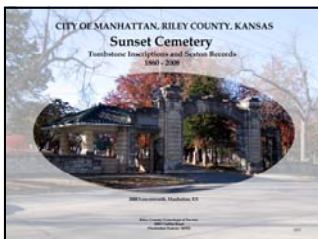
[http://www.rileycgs.com/store/store\\_sub.cfm?Category\\_ID=3](http://www.rileycgs.com/store/store_sub.cfm?Category_ID=3)

### Lost and Found

Ladies sunglasses, black frames. Call the RCGS Library to claim. (785) 565-6495

## Thanks, Jean Johnson

One of the major accomplishments of the RCGS Publications Department in 2010 was the completion of the Sunset Cemetery Tombstone Inscriptions and Sexton Records 1860-2008 book. Jean Johnson typed the entire book and helped with many of the corrections. Our thanks to Jean! Without her hard work, this publication would not have been finished.



### FOR SALE

Your library has books and CDs for sale.

- Wertemberg Emigration Index Volumes 1, 2, 3, 4 have many names for you with German ancestors. (\$9 each)
- If you have Finland, Denmark, Sweden or Norway in your background, you may buy for \$35 a seven disc set titled Scandinavia Vital Record Index.
- Anyone from Woodbine, KS? We have the 1887-1987 Centennial book for \$10.
- Interested in old photos? Arlene Eakle wrote Photograph Analysis just for you. \$10.

## RCGS joins facebook

Do you want to keep track of upcoming events at Riley County Genealogical Society? Our new facebook page will help you do this. Visit us at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Riley-County-Genealogical-Society/117790408278007?ref=sgm#!/pages/Riley-County-Genealogical-Society/117790408278007?v=wall>

If you are on facebook, go to the RCGS page by following the above link and click on the "Like" button.



Dr. William Keel speaks on "German Heritage in Kansas" on September 19.

## 2010 Annual Report

### President

**Dorothy Dickerhoof:** As I finish the first year of my second tour as president of this Society, I hope that you feel as amazed at this group as I do. We have made our Society more computer friendly with the new web site and it is already showing a positive impact for us. Our budget has been met and we continue to have enough volunteers to staff the library when needed, although at times it isn't easy. We have welcomed some new members this year and hope that they find joy and fulfillment in their membership. We have had several very interesting programs throughout the year on a variety of topics. Our annual meeting is announced in this issue of FYI with Jim Sharp speaking to us on a very different topic, one that he witnessed in person. You will not want to miss it. Thank you to all of you who serve on our board and all of you who volunteer for any number of other jobs – you are wonderful! Keep up the good work.

### Membership

**Ted Hopkins:** RCGS has 149 active members for this year, somewhat down in numbers from last year. Active members include both members with paid up dues and life members. Members can reactivate their memberships by paying current dues. We have gained several new members this year with five joining recently while taking the genealogy class taught by Le Juan Shrimplin. This appears to be an excellent way to get the message out about RCGS and attracting new members. Members are also able to renew online at the updated RCGS website.

### Publications

**Judy Regehr:** We have published 15 new books in 2010 to date. Our authors are Sy Ekart, Imogene Farley, Janeice Crossan, plus all the volunteers who compiled the beautiful new 2010 Sunset Cemetery book. Nancy Webb has taken the place of Carol Regehr for Publications Distribution. She fills all book orders. We have a new

online bookstore on the RCGS website, which already has customers.

We continue to save considerable money by sending the FYI newsletter by email.

### Computers and Technology

**Patty Wadick:** The technology department has concentrated on designing and implementing a new web site for the society. The site is designed to provide more genealogy information and services along with the ability to accept credit cards.

Here are some things you can do on the web site:

- Buy publications at our online bookstore
- Join RCGS or renew your membership
- Order personalized genealogical research
- Pay with a credit card
- Find current and past copies of this newsletter
- See a list of our current classes and events
- Check the RCGS Master Calendar

We have had good success with the credit card feature, especially in the personal research area. Publications has received substantial orders and we have gained 4 new members through the use of credit cards in the short 3 months of operation.

Search features are vital to a good genealogy web site. In the coming year we are planning to add an obituary index. We have obituaries from 3 area newspapers for the years through 1975, 1976 and continuous through years 1993 to 2009. Persons finding a name from these indexes can request a copy of the matching obituary for a small fee. As time progresses other indexes and sources of research will be added.

Volunteers have provided the means to create these indexes and we give thanks to those dedicated people. They are the life blood of the society for without an index, how would anyone find anything? Members interested in volunteering for this type of work are needed for the upcoming projects. The work is not hard and can be done at home.

## Education

**Rebecca Rose:** This year RCGS has had 8 general meetings open to the public: Rhonna Hargett, reference librarian, addressed "Genealogical Resources." Pat O'Brien, local historian and writer, spoke on "Tracing the Jewish Community in Manhattan." Jim Morrison, attorney, explained "Legalese in Wills and Probate." Linda Glasgow and Cheryl Collins, curator and director of Riley County Historical Museum and Library, presented "Genealogical Resources at the Riley County Historical Society." William Keel, Kansas Humanities speaker, spoke on the "German Heritage in Kansas." Charlotte Shawver, retired Riley County Register of Deeds, spoke on "Research Tidbits in the Courthouse." The annual meeting and dinner features Jim Sharp, local historian, relating "Eyewitness at the Nuremberg Trial." Patty Wadick held two workshops on Family Treemaker 2010-2011 software. Le Juan Shrimplin held a beginning genealogy workshop in September and October and followed with individual technology sessions. Le Juan also offered individualized demonstrations on AniMap and Clooz software for those requesting it.

A follow-up to Le Juan's past "Gatherings" instructional meetings, developed into a monthly "Roundtable" for those members actively researching. This provides a venue for sharing ideas and methodology and solving problems by brainstorming. It meets the third Friday of the month at 10 am. Check the RCGS home page for location as it varies.

## Buildings and Grounds

No Report

## Treasurer

**Dick Phillips:** The Riley County Genealogical Society is chartered as a Kansas non-profit corporation with officers and staff who serve without compensation. The Society has a Kansas tax exemption ID good through 11/10/2014, and a Federal ID. Total assets are valued at just over \$250,000, excluding the Platt House building,

which is owned by Riley County. Library books and reference materials represent the major portion of assets (63.7%), followed by computers and related equipment (17.8%). Total annual cash flow is about \$13,500. Major sources of income are annual family memberships (30.7%), donations (28.5%), and sales of publications (22.2%). Major expense categories are utilities (22.2%), internet connection and service (13.7%), printing and mailing our quarterly publication, "Kansas Kin," to members (9.3%), and annual insurance premium (9.0%).

## Financial Advisory Committee

**Shirley M. DeLano:** I went to the Riley County Board of Commissioners and received \$3083 for the coming year.

## Library

**Wann Towers:** Library Coordinator's responsibility is to keep about 25 volunteers informed so the Library runs smoothly and efficiently. We also do indexing and organizing of material. Due to the increased need for shelf space for Pottawatomie and Riley County materials, the hard copies of our Federal Censuses were moved to the Eyestone Room. Now the Kansas Room is entirely Kansas books. We are always happy to increase our Kansas counties resource material and new we have more room.

## Greater Manhattan Community Foundation

GMCF serves as a legal vehicle for charitable investments for our community. RCGS, as an affiliate of GMCF, has established two funds to assist in providing support for the future of the RCGS Library. **The Endowment Fund** is a permanent fund providing annual income to the Organization Fund. **The Organization Fund** is used for special projects and capital improvements. Thank you for your past and future support.

## Evening Round Table?

Can't come to the morning Round Table? How about having one in the evening, once a month? It would be held at RCGS library.

The Round Table is a gathering of genealogists who would like

assistance in "breaking down a brick wall," need guidance in their research, and want to share a find.

If you would be interested in attending or would like more information, please contact

Le Juan Shrimplin at 785-776-5904 or email [lejuan@kansas.net](mailto:lejuan@kansas.net).

What evenings, Monday through Thursday, would work for you? What suggestions do you have?

### Winter Library Hours Start Dec. 1

Tues & Thurs 10am 4pm  
Wed & Sat 1 to 4 pm  
Sundays December through April by appointment only

## 2010 Basic Genealogy Class Held This Fall

Eleven people enrolled in the Basic Genealogy Class held this fall. The class was held at the RCGS library on Wednesday evenings. Five lessons concentrated on analyzing documents, answering questions such as, "What useful information is in the document?" and then,

"What to do now?" Areas covered were vital records, censuses, newspapers, and cemeteries. The last two lessons covered "Free Sites" and "Fee and Free Sites."

Guest speakers were Wann Towers, Library Coordinator; Ila Morrill, Director of the

Manhattan LDS Family History Center; and Dorothy Dickerhoof, President, Riley County Genealogical Society.

If you would like to be on the contact list for the next class, please contact Le Juan Shrimplin at 785.776.5904 or e-mail [lejuan@kansas.net](mailto:lejuan@kansas.net).



Ila Morrill



Janet Benson, Vicki Holverson, Jim Fuller



Le Juan Shrimplin ready for a cemetery visit. Go Le Juan!



Janet Armstead, Marcia Fox, Theresa Wilson, Eunice Bradley, Betty Kandt

## Genealogists in action....



Society President Dorothy Dickerhoof, Janet Armstead, Marcia Fox, Basic Genealogy Class



Charlotte Shawver speaks to genealogists



Wann Towers is in charge of the library. Here she is teaching a Basic Genealogy Class.



Millie Combs is ready to help you (as are all our librarians)

## Genealogy resource on the web

The Allen County Indiana Public Library has a new website for their Genealogy Center. Check it out at:

[genealogycenter.org](http://genealogycenter.org)

- The “Internet Archive” link offers the complete US Federal Census records from 1790 to 1930. You may select the state and county and browse through the pages online.
- The “Family History Archive” link leads to a collection of published genealogy and family history books that you may read online. Your family may be included. If not, you can donate information to the collection.
- The “WeRelate” section is a genealogy Wikipedia for genealogists.

These links are located on the Home page under “Family History Archives.”

**Riley County Genealogical Society Officers:**

**President** Dorothy Dickerhoof 537-0224  
**Vice President** Rebecca Rose 785-537-8495  
**Treasurer** Richard Phillips 785-537-7735  
Fred Delano 785-776-4845  
**Recording Sec.** Nancy Williams 785-537-4390  
**Corresp. Sec.** Candace Pannbacker 776-8769  
**Past President** James Bradley 785-457-3579

**Library:**

**Lib. Coordinator** Wann Towers 785-776-3128  
**Computers** Patty Wadick 785-539-6009

*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 Sherry Butler, Shirley DeLano, Dorothy Dickerhoof, Ted Hopkins, Dick Phillips, Judy Regehr, Rebecca Rose, Le Juan Shrimplin, Wann Towers, Patty Wadick

**Riley County Genealogical Society**

Phone: (785) 565-6495



**Annual Meeting**

Monday, November 8, 6:30 pm

Zeandale Church

Good food! Great program!

**Riley County Genealogical Society**  
**2005 Claflin Road**  
**Manhattan, KS 66502-3415**