

# EDMOND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



[www.edmondgensoc.org](http://www.edmondgensoc.org)  
[www.facebook.com/EdmondGenSoc](https://www.facebook.com/EdmondGenSoc)

## Monday, March 17, 2025 Meeting **OUTLAWS, BLACK SHEEP, and LAWMEN IN OUR FAMILY TREES**



15700 N. Pennsylvania



This month's meeting will be presented by fellow EGS members, revealing stories they have discovered about their ancestors who were either Bad Guys, Good Guys or somewhere in between.

Come join in the fun as we discuss the black sheep in our family trees!



### **EGS meeting location**

*Entrance is at both the east and the south doors for all attendees. The **SOUTH** door is much easier for those of us unable to climb steps!*

EGS monthly meetings are held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 15700 N. Pennsylvania, Edmond.

**MASKS ARE RECOMMENDED** but not required.

*If you're experiencing signs of illness, please stay home!*

The Edmond Genealogical Society meets on the third Monday evening of each month, except December. Meetings begin at 6:30 pm and last approximately one hour.

**Our Genealogy Library has had several requests to open on Saturdays, which is the only day that many people who work full-time can come in. Therefore, we would like to begin opening one Saturday afternoon each month.**

**If you can volunteer for Saturday, or any other day, please contact**

**Sara Memmott at**  
[simemmott@gmail.com](mailto:simemmott@gmail.com)

## GENEALOGY TIP

### HOW TO WRITE YOUR OWN OBITUARY, PART 2

Credit: Legacy.com

In last month's newsletter we learned that it is perfectly okay to write your own obituary, or at least list a few things that you would like included in your obituary. This month we will discuss guidelines for writing your obituary.

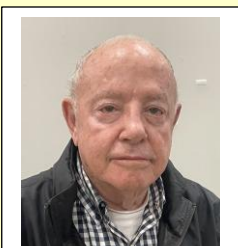
#### SUGGESTIONS FOR WHAT TO INCLUDE:

- Your full name, date of birth, list of loved ones: spouses, romantic partners, children, grandchildren, parents and siblings are most common, though you can include long-time friends, beloved pets, etc.
- Education and Career highlights, Military service and rank, Accomplishments: Discussing the major accomplishments in your life is not boasting. Many of these successes define you: becoming the first in your family to go to college, skydiving for the first (and last) time, finally finished restoring that 1966 Corvette, etc.
- Hobbies (*such as genealogy!*), membership in organizations, special interests, places you've visited, things you like to collect, even favorite movies and books.
- People who inspired you (*favorite teacher, the grandmother who raised you, etc.*)
- Unforgettable moments: your grandfather letting you drive the tractor, family vacations, holding your baby for the first time, etc.
- Lessons learned: this is an opportunity to share your wisdom, such as "listen more than you talk," "always say Bless Your Heart instead of What a bunch of hooley," "Don't spend your seed corn," etc.
- Your place in history: perhaps you were in WWII or Korea, or maybe you joined a Peace March in the 1960's, saw Grateful Dead or John Denver in concert. Think about all the changes you have seen in your lifetime, from nickel pay phone calls, to man setting foot on the moon, to home computers. Hopefully it has been a long life and deserves a review.

Next month will conclude this series with what NOT to include and examples of real self-written obituaries.

#### GET TO KNOW YOUR FELLOW EGS MEMBER:

##### LEONARD LIPPS



Leonard was born in Ohio and grew up in Kentucky. After graduating high school in 1956 he entered the Air Force and while on assignment to Travis AFB in California, he met a young WAF from Oklahoma City. After they were both discharged in 1961 they got married and eventually moved to OKC. In 1972 they moved to Edmond and raised four sons who attended Edmond Memorial, High School, where Leonard helped with coaching.

Leonard has 47 years of government service, including 4 years active duty Air Force, 35 years at Tinker AFB as a civilian, and 8 years as a contractor. Leonard became a member of the "National and Retired Federal Employees Association" (NARFE) in 1997. Also, while working at Tinker his wife and he owned and operated a video store from 1984-1992 at Hefner & Pennsylvania in OKC.

Seven times between 1970 & 1995 Leonard coordinated groups of coworkers and family to hike with him to the bottom of the Grand Canyon! Did you know that less than 1% of visitors to the Grand Canyon venture to the bottom?

Leonard has been a member of Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) since 1976. He is the 8<sup>th</sup> generation of Lipps in the United States. Leonard has also been a member of the Edmond Genealogical Society since 1990 or before,

He enjoys country music, especially the banjo. He attends country dancing in El Reno every Saturday night, and has volunteered many years at the Guthrie Bluegrass Festival. Leonard was also the best friend of the late Dick Cypher!

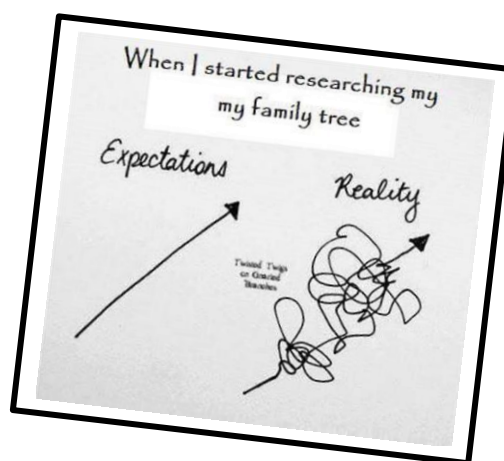
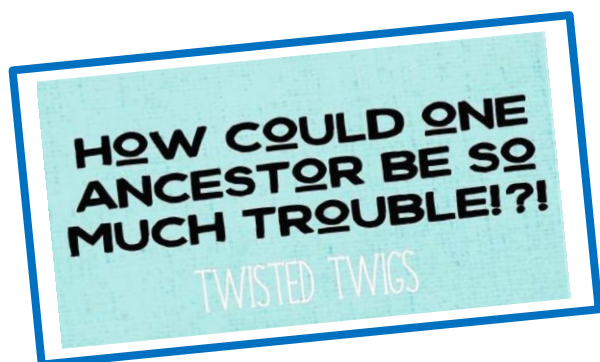
***Be sure to say hello to Leonard at our next EGS meeting!***

# UPCOMING PROGRAMS and EVENTS

Mar. 19 10 am	OHCE Genealogy Group <b><i>"The Oklahoma Boomer Movement,"</i></b> presented by Michael Williams. Held at Okla. County Extension, 2500 NE 63rd St., OKC. For info: <a href="http://www.ohcegenealogy.com">www.ohcegenealogy.com</a>
Mar. 22 10 am-3 pm	Oklahoma Historical Society <b><i>"Vietnam War Veterans Commemoration Ceremony"</i></b> Held at the Devon Great Hall at Oklahoma History Center, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr., OKC For more info go to <a href="http://okgensoc.org">okgensoc.org</a>
April 2 3 pm	Oklahoma Historical Society <b><i>"Commemorating 100 Years of the Oklahoma State Flag"</i></b> Held at Oklahoma History Center, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr., OKC For more info go to <a href="http://okgensoc.org">okgensoc.org</a>
April 7 6 pm	Oklahoma Genealogical Society <b><i>"The Oklahoma Land Run"</i></b> presented by Michael D. Williams, Director of the Oklahoma Territorial Museum. Held at Musser Learning Lab in the Research Library at Oklahoma History Center, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr., OKC For more info go to <a href="http://okgensoc.org">okgensoc.org</a>

## RECURRING MEETINGS

Logan County Genealogical Society meets the 3rd Saturday at 1:00 pm at the Oklahoma Territorial Museum in Guthrie. For more information visit: [www.sites.rootsweb.com/~oklclgs/](http://www.sites.rootsweb.com/~oklclgs/) or contact Nelda Brown at [LCGS1419@gmail.com](mailto:LCGS1419@gmail.com)



## NO NEW NAMES ON THE SURNAME PROJECT

Many (but not all) EGS members have submitted their family surnames to be added to the SURNAME PROJECT spreadsheet, bringing us up to 337 surnames so far! This project will help you and fellow members who may be researching the same family lines or have a research dilemma. This is your opportunity to pay it forward to everyone in our great genealogical society!

If you haven't already done so, (or if you would like to add more of your family surnames), please fill out a sheet listing the family surnames you are researching and their locations, dates and other pertinent information. Such as: "Jenkins in North Carolina in the 1800's." ***VOLUNTEERS ARE INDEXING THIS INFORMATION AND IT WILL SOON BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE!!***

**A BLANK FORM IS INCLUDED AS THE LAST PAGE OF THIS NEWSLETTER.**

Use as many sheets as you need. Please return them to any board member at our meetings, or mail to:

EGS, c/o Edmond History Museum, 431 S. Boulevard, Edmond, OK 73034

*In case you missed our February meeting:*



**Genealogical Library at  
Edmond History Museum**



**EGS BOARD MEMBERS 2024-2025**

*Standing, left to right:* Joyce Gendill, Karen Blagg, Jay Cress, Sara Memmott, Jan Beattie

*Seated, left to right:* Iris May, Edie May Parmeter, Libby Holshouser

**EDMOND  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
Officers 2024-2025**

**Jan Beattie:** President

**Iris May:** 1st Vice President/Programs and Publicity Chairman

**Karen Blagg:** Treasurer

**Sara Memmott:** Past President, Museum Liaison/ Genealogical Library and Research Center Chairman and Recording/ Corresponding Secretary

**Libby Holshouser:** Hospitality Chairman

**Edie May Parmeter:** Surnames Project Chairman and Membership Committee

**Jay Cress:** Webmaster

**“Researching Oklahoma”** *Presented by Nancy Calhoun*

*“Researching Oklahoma can be like falling into a black hole --- but if you know where to shine a light you can find a lot!”*

**Most Oklahoma genealogy research begins in 1889 with the Land Runs**

**Nancy’s Favorite Places for Oklahoma Genealogy Research:**

- **OK2explore** (*you can even do a wild card search using \* in place of unknown spelling letters*)
- **Census:**
  - 1885 Choctaw Nation census,
  - 1890 census is available for “Oklahoma Territory”
  - “Indian Territory,” and Cherokee Nation Census
- **Oklahoma Historical Society Website** ([okhistory.org](http://okhistory.org)) includes divorce records for Oklahoma county, 1933-19355 Unemployed Relief Census with 100,000 names, and: Newspaper Collection, Records of state government, Index to Confederate Pensions as well as images of the applications, Online Digital Prairie is historical photos from Oklahoma and other states
- **Indian & Pioneer Papers** (Google “Oklahoma Indian & Pioneer Papers”): this was a WPA project, conducting interviews all over Oklahoma. Available online through OU.
- **University websites:** OU has the Western History Collection; OSU also has historical data
- **Military Service:** Draft cards often contain birth place, may list parents or siblings, etc. Available on Ancestry.com and other sources
- **Four Largest Genealogy Collections in Oklahoma:**
  - Oklahoma Historical Society
  - Muskogee Public Library
  - Tulsa City-County Libraries
  - Lawton Public Library
- **Land Records**
- **Vital Records**
- **Familysearch.org:** school census records, probates, land allotment applications
- **Prison records**
  - Okla. Historical Society: McAlester prisoner cards with photos, through 1940
  - Ft. Smith prison records are at the National Archives
  - Leavenworth prison records are at the National Archives
- **Lineage organizations** such as First Families of the Twin Territories, The Settlers & Builders of Oklahoma, etc.

**For questions you may contact Nancy Calhoun at [ninnnac@yahoo.com](mailto:ninnnac@yahoo.com)**

