

Genealogical Society to host program on grant writing

The Choctaw County Genealogical Society (CCGS) will hold its monthly program and meeting at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 6, 2017 in the Choctaw County Library. Society members are excited to have Linda Humphrey from Atoka speak to the group on grant writing. Mrs. Humphrey is an experienced grant writer and we are excited to learn how we can get started. If your organization has a need of a grant, come join us.

January was a quiet month for the society. Danny Groat gave an interesting program at last month's meeting on the German Hessian's and how they came to America. The Hessian's were "soldiers for hire" during the 1700s. It was interesting to hear how politics of that period played

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a role in many of the soldiers remaining in America after the American Revolutionary War.

Our January cemetery workday was rained out. But we have enough work to keep us busy. We continue to work on adding pictures of Doaksville/Fort Towson headstones to Findagrave.com. As we work through a couple thousand photos, we find pictures that need to be re-taken, so we are still visiting the cemetery. Our February cemetery workday will be on Feb. 12. Weather permitting we will be visiting Swink, Sobol and Choctaw Academy Cemeteries on the east side of the county. If you have a camera and like walking in cemeteries, come join us. See the CCGS website for the latest information on our cemetery workdays.

Our February updates to the Okchocta website will include adding more obituaries. We are evaluating our work with the obits and trying to see how we can speed up this work. Hopefully during the next few

months we will solve this and be able to get more of them added to the database. We sure have a lot to do!

Also in February, we are launching a brand new searchable database for marriages. We will have marriage information from Choctaw County Court House Marriage Books 1 and 2, available for online searching. These books contain marriages from late 1907 through late 1911. At this time, we will only have the marriage information available. We do have pictures associated with the marriages and will be adding them in the near future. Stay tuned.

Here are the various ways you can keep up with what we are doing through out the month:

- On Facebook: OKCHOCTA and/or Choctaw County Genealogical Society (Hugo, OK).

- Websites: CCGS at <http://okgenweb.net/~ccgs2/> and/or OKCHOCTA at <http://okgenweb.net/~okchocta/>.

We are staying

busy. Watch for our update next month. Enjoy hunting for your family.

CCGS Directors:

- Director of Operations: Danny Groat.

- Director of Records: Billie Heath.

- Director of Communications: Sydney Groat.

- Director of Finance & Acquisitions: Cindy Burkhalter.

- Director of Publications: April Mak-erney.