

November 20, 2023

Hello Family Historians,

Several people have asked me recently, "What can I do to help?" There are so many things that go on behind the scenes of Tri-State Genealogical Society, that sometimes it is hard to explain to others what needs to be done. In my letter this week, I will attempt to explain some of the things that we do and want to do in the future. I'm going to give you four things in each of those categories.

Some of the things we do:

1. Print the yellow tri-fold which has all of the info about our society and the member signup form. After these are printed they have to be folded and taken to Willard Library where they are divided between the downstairs desk and the upstairs genealogy floor. We keep some with us to hand out at the next program.
2. Attend a board meeting once a month to plan what's coming up. We have a recording secretary that takes notes as to what was discussed. Each officer gives a report of what has happened since the last meeting, e.g. President, program chair, treasurer, IT coordinator.
3. Keep a database of members, add new members and their info when new members are added, send the welcome letter with the password for the members only section of our website. Pick up mail at Willard Library to keep up with new members and publications we receive.
4. Write this presidents letter each week and come up with a new poll question. Next, I send it to our IT person, and she uploads all of this to the website. I also submit new vital records, stories, obituaries, etc. for the website. The Facebook page is also my responsibility. I try to share things each day so it stays fresh and interesting.

Some things we want to do in the future:

5. Have shirts made for our society with our logo. We'd also love to have pens, and bags to carry all of our "stuff."
6. Have a Saturday all day seminar.
7. Have a Saturday all day scanning event. You bring items like vital records, obituaries, funeral cards, pictures, and the like, and we scan them for you and then share them on our website (with your permission, of course). If you bring a flash drive you can have them put onto your drive to keep, in case you don't have a scanner at home.
8. Take a bus trip to somewhere historic for the day, or to Ft. Wayne to the Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center.

We'd love to see you all in person very soon. Consider coming to our December 12th meeting if you're able. It's so nice to talk with others who share the same passion for family history! Maybe you'll even decide you want to join in and be a part of our society. :)

Talk to you next week and Happy Thanksgiving!

Kim Van Vorst

President TSGS