

SGS FAMILY LINES

Kim Gunyou, editor

Genealogy Gems and News for Sunflower Genealogy Society



FALL KICKOFF MEETING TUES., SEPT. 23

It's RALLY TUESDAY already! I mean, let's all get together for our Sept. 23 meeting featuring Robert Wilbanks IV who will drive down to Tucson to discuss "United States Military Records." Robert has been a genealogist for 40 years and will give us an overview of records available from colonial America to the present day. The talk will be followed by a business meeting for all members. The board will ask for approval for the 2026 fiscal year budget (which starts October 1st). The budget is at the end of this email. Hope to see you on 9/23 at 2 p.m. in the Fiesta Room or via Zoom.

NEW SOUND SYSTEM IS HERE, SGS DONATION ACCEPTED

The new sound system in the Fiesta Room will be in use at our September 23. meeting. We are lucky that Larry Schierer, Tech Club past president, will be with us as he often is, to help with the A/V logistics. He does ask for patience, as he is still learning its ins and outs.

If you were at the May meeting, you heard Larry's explanation of the Tech Club's request of groups who use the Fiesta Room to make a donation for some of the "extras" needed in that room. The May meeting is on YouTube, accessible from our webpage at sunflowerliving.com. A donation of \$250 was approved by the membership. Other clubs such as the Tech Club and Social Club also contributed.

OFFICERS WANTED



Each fall, members have the chance to donate a bit of time and assume an officer role for a year. That relatively small effort will keep the Genealogy Society running, with fresh eyes and ideas.

To help with your decision, here is a brief summary of each position. Also, each new board member has easy access to past officers for any questions that arise. If you travel a lot or are a snowbird, that doesn't matter!

President: creates the meeting agendas. They lead the board meeting (first Tuesday at 10 am, on Zoom) and the general meeting (fourth Tuesday at 2 pm).

Vice-President: assumes President duties if they are unavailable for a meeting. They also write and send the Communicator and Sun Catcher articles to the front desk.

Secretary: records the minutes of the board meetings and general meetings, keeps them in a binder, sends to Web manager for posting online.

Treasurer: creates the annual budget, collects and deposits membership fees, maintains Excel spreadsheets, and the checkbook.

At-large officer: someone who wants to help with their ideas, maybe learn what the other four positions entail.

Committees:

Membership: distribute new member packets, help plan the booth at expo.

Library: keep the library organized and catalog new materials

Nominating: develop slate of officers in the fall

Zoom manager: run the computer at general meetings

Webmanager: keep the genealogy webpage at sunflowerliving.com up to date

Mentoring: field calls for mentoring session requests.

Newsletter: not a committee, but a job that this writer would gladly pass to an interested party!

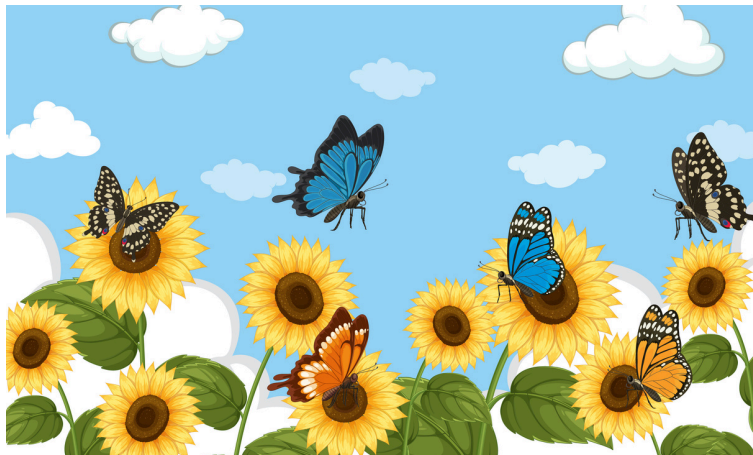
We'd love your help!

PROPOSED 2025-26 BUDGET

We will discuss and take a vote on this budget at the Sept 23 meeting. As mentioned in prior years, the HOA board requests that charter clubs limit their balances to under \$2000.

draft 9/1/25													Total Budget
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
Beginning Balance	\$ 1,786.50	\$ 1,656.50	\$ 1,731.50	\$ 1,771.50	\$ 1,921.50	\$ 1,736.50	\$ 1,701.50	\$ 1,701.50	\$ 1,701.50	\$ 1,701.50	\$ 1,701.50	\$ 1,701.50	\$ 1,786.50
Income:													
Member Dues		\$ 165	\$ 90	\$ 150	\$ 30	\$ 15	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 450.00
Other*													
Total Income	0.00	165.00	90.00	150.00	30.00	15.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$ 450.00
*donation income is not assumed in budget													
Expenses:													
Presenter	(\$80)				(\$65)								\$ (145)
Subscriptions (Tech club, MyH, FTM)	(\$50)				(\$120)								\$ (170)
Library					(\$30)							(\$20)	\$ (50)
Marketing		(\$60)											\$ (60)
Office		(\$30)											\$ (30)
Other (party)			(\$50)			(\$50)							\$ (100)
Total Expenses	(\$130)	(\$90)	(\$50)	\$0	(\$215)	(\$50)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$20)	\$ (555)
Ending Balance	1656.50	1731.50	1771.50	1921.50	1736.50	1701.50	1701.50	1701.50	1701.50	1701.50	1701.50	1681.50	\$ 1,681.50
	Library -pd 2 yrs of FTM in '25 - save \$25 subscription this year												

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On a PC, press CTRL and tap the + sign



FAMILYSEARCH NEWS

From FamilySearch:

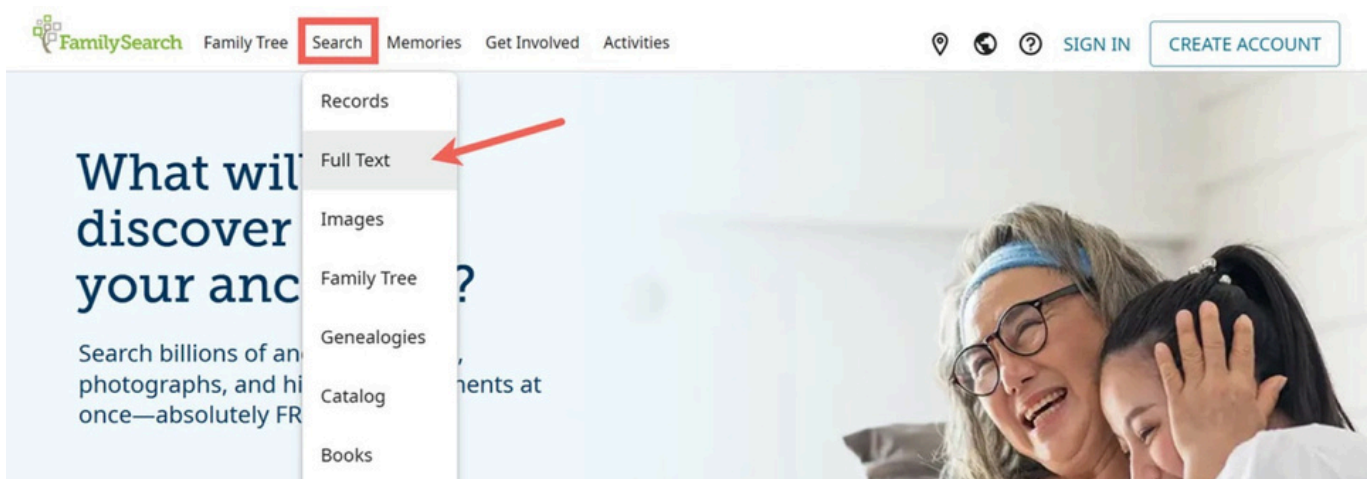
FamilySearch is thrilled to announce that Full-Text Search is now part of its standard search tools. Since its initial release in FamilySearch Labs during RootsTech 2024, the feature has undergone numerous enhancements to improve its power and usability. These improvements are already helping users make exciting discoveries and breakthroughs in their family history research.

What Is Full-Text Search?

FamilySearch hosts billions of digitized historical records, but only a fraction are indexed and searchable. Advancements in artificial intelligence and handwriting recognition are making records searchable much faster than ever before.

Full-Text Search uses AI-generated transcripts to search unindexed record collections in seconds. By entering keywords, names, places, and dates, users can now search almost 2 billion genealogically significant records, most of which were previously accessible only as images.

Unlike traditional indexed searches, Full-Text Search scans the entire transcript of a record, allowing users to find matches in any part of the document. This capability is helping thousands of users uncover relatives and evidence about them in records they may never have considered before.



CONTINUING EDUCATION



Legacy Family Tree webinars is celebrating “Webtember”, offering free webinars each wednesday, live. For 9/17, they have talks through the day on My Heritage DNA, and on 9/24 there are talks about the AGBI (American Genealogical and Biographical Index), School Censuses, Gravestones, and the WPA (Works Progress Administration). You can register here [Legacy Family Tree Webinars](#)

As always, **Conferencekeeper.org** has a plethora of programs every day. You can look at only the virtual programs if you want, or check out just the free ones, etc. I found a virtual, free program next week in St. Louis, MO on finding Polish ancestors. Take a look at their virtual schedule [here](#)

From Sue Cerri, SGS Past-President, a reminder that **RootTech 2026** registration starts 9/26. She always seems to meet a few new cousins each time she attends! In the words of FamilySearch, its host since 2011, RootsTech is “a family history conference. An on-demand learning library. A way to grow closer to the people, places, and stories that matter most. RootsTech is all that and so much more. Join us as we celebrate together the joy of connection.” Since 2020, online attendance is free. Take a look at its offerings coming March 5-7 2026: [learn more about RootsTech](#)

Finally, let’s not forget to log into our SGS website under Extra Extra News for the latest newsletters, and peruse the library cabinet in the Tech Room and check out a book or periodical! it’s all for your use.



Image by Freeimages.com

SUMMER FINANCIAL REPORTS

May 2025 Treasurer's Report

	Current Month	Fiscal Year to Date	FY 2025 Budget
Memberships			
Renewals	0	25	25
New Members	2	4	5
Total	2	29	30
Beginning Balance	\$2,134.52	\$2,062.58	\$2,062.58
Income:			
Member Dues	\$30.00	\$433.50	\$450.00
Other	\$0.00	\$255.00	\$0.00
Total Income	\$30.00	\$688.50	\$450.00
Expenses:			
Presenter	\$0.00	(\$215.00)	(\$330.00)
Subscriptions	\$0.00	(\$168.90)	(\$260.00)
Library	\$0.00	(\$59.96)	(\$50.00)
Marketing	(\$13.02)	(\$63.02)	(\$100.00)
Office	\$0.00	(\$7.59)	(\$30.00)
Other	\$0.00	(\$85.11)	(\$50.00)
Total Expenses	(\$13.02)	(\$599.58)	(\$820.00)
Ending Balance	\$2,151.50	\$2,151.50	\$1,692.58



SUMMER FINANCIAL REPORTS, CONT.

June 2025 Treasurer's Report

	Current Month	Fiscal Year to Date	FY 2025 Budget
Memberships			
Renewals	0	25	25
New Members	0	4	5
Total	0	29	30
Beginning Balance	\$2,151.50	\$2,062.58	\$2,062.58
Income:			
Member Dues	\$0.00	\$433.50	\$450.00
Other	\$0.00	\$255.00	\$0.00
Total Income	\$0.00	\$688.50	\$450.00
Expenses:			
Presenter	\$0.00	(\$215.00)	(\$330.00)
Subscriptions	\$0.00	(\$168.90)	(\$260.00)
Library	\$0.00	(\$59.96)	(\$50.00)
Marketing	\$0.00	(\$63.02)	(\$100.00)
Office	\$0.00	(\$7.59)	(\$30.00)
Other	\$0.00	(\$85.11)	(\$50.00)
Total Expenses	\$0.00	(\$599.58)	(\$820.00)
Ending Balance	\$2,151.50	\$2,151.50	\$1,692.58

Fiscal Year is 10-1-24 to 9-30-25 to match HOA reporting.

"Fiscal Year to Date" is cumulative beginning 10-1-24.

FY 2025 Budget is board-approved budget.

All data are reported on a cash basis.

SUMMER FINANCIAL REPORTS, CONT.

July 2025 Treasurer's Report

	Current Month	Fiscal Year to Date	FY 2025 Budget
Memberships			
Renewals	0	25	25
New Members	0	4	5
Total	0	29	30
Beginning Balance	\$2,151.50	\$2,062.58	\$2,062.58
Income:			
Member Dues	\$0.00	\$433.50	\$450.00
Other	\$0.00	\$255.00	\$0.00
Total Income	\$0.00	\$688.50	\$450.00
Expenses:			
Presenter	\$0.00	(\$215.00)	(\$330.00)
Subscriptions	\$0.00	(\$168.90)	(\$260.00)
Library	\$0.00	(\$59.96)	(\$50.00)
Marketing	\$0.00	(\$63.02)	(\$100.00)
Office	\$0.00	(\$7.59)	(\$30.00)
Other	(\$250.00)	(\$335.11)	(\$50.00)
Total Expenses	(\$250.00)	(\$849.58)	(\$820.00)
Ending Balance	\$1,901.50	\$1,901.50	\$1,692.58

Fiscal Year is 10-1-24 to 9-30-25 to match HOA reporting.

"Fiscal Year to Date" is cumulative beginning 10-1-24.

FY 2025 Budget is board-approved budget.

All data are reported on a cash basis.

Note: There was a vote at the May general meeting in response to a Tech Club request to Clubs that use the Fiesta Room for a one-time donation to assist with the new sound system. This is the \$250 in the "Other" category.

FINALLY, AUGUST!

August 2025 Treasurer's Report

	Current Month	Fiscal Year to Date	FY 2025 Budget
Memberships			
Renewals	0	25	25
New Members	0	4	5
Total	0	29	30
Beginning Balance	\$1,901.50	\$2,062.58	\$2,062.58
Income:			
Member Dues	\$0.00	\$433.50	\$450.00
Other	\$0.00	\$255.00	\$0.00
Total Income	\$0.00	\$688.50	\$450.00
Expenses:			
Presenter	\$0.00	(\$215.00)	(\$330.00)
Subscriptions	\$0.00	(\$168.90)	(\$260.00)
Library	\$0.00	(\$59.96)	(\$50.00)
Marketing	\$0.00	(\$63.02)	(\$100.00)
Office	\$0.00	(\$7.59)	(\$30.00)
Other	\$0.00	(\$335.11)	(\$50.00)
Total Expenses	\$0.00	(\$849.58)	(\$820.00)
Ending Balance	\$1,901.50	\$1,901.50	\$1,692.58

Fiscal Year is 10-1-24 to 9-30-25 to match HOA reporting.

"Fiscal Year to Date" is cumulative beginning 10-1-24.

FY 2025 Budget is board-approved budget.

All data are reported on a cash basis.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Happy fall to you! I apologize for not sending newsletters out this summer. I didn't think I had any material worth passing along, and I didn't want to populate your inboxes unnecessarily.

My husband and I also sold our Minnesota house and moved to a one-level living townhouse just four miles from our prior place up in the Twin Cities metro. The Sunflower home is just so fantastic for our aging legs, we had to make the decision up North to find one-level living. We are finally enjoying the new digs, but the exhaustion involved with cleaning, unpacking, and hanging pictures, etc. is still ongoing.

Please read the enclosed info about the donation to the sound system, and the appeal for officers. For a little effort, you can make this genealogy society keep going and better than ever.

Lastly, I know there's been a firehose of bad news nationally, and we have had our share of tragedy in the Twin Cities, specifically. I think it's good to maintain and grow friendships, and I look forward to my return there in mid-October. I am enjoying getting back into doing some genealogy and cross-stitch this fall. I look forward to seeing you all when we get back together! *kg*

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SUNFLOWER GENEALOGY SOCIETY

LOGIN REPORT

MONTH	# of LOGINS	# of users
JAN	3	1
FEB	3	2
MARCH	5	3
APRIL	2	1
MAY	4	3
JUNE	5	3
JULY	1	1
AUGUST	0	0

In the past calendar year, 16 different IP addresses have accessed the database!