

# E GENERATIONS

M.A.G.I.C. News for Members and Friends

**RSVP ASAP to this Saturday's December 2 Holiday Gathering!!!! See below!**

## **Happy Year End Holidays Fellow M.A.G.I.C.ians!**

Wishing everyone a joyous year end holiday season, no matter how you celebrate! Family. Good food. Great friends. Fellow M.A.G.I.C.I.C.ians!



### Event Information

#### **MAGIC's Monthly Meeting for December**

Vineyard Community Center. MAGIC is providing food for today's annual holiday gathering from Noon-2 p.m. **Reservations ARE REQUIRED** by contacting Virginia Flowers ASAP at [vflowers03@gmail.com](mailto:vflowers03@gmail.com) or 816.588.6001 (telephone preferred).

When?

**Saturday, Dec 2, 2023, 12:00 PM**

Where?

**4301 East 43rd Street, Kansas City, MO, USA**

## **Save the Date for a Spring Seminar**

The Midwest Genealogy Center is excited to announce a date for our annual Spring Seminar. They have it scheduled on March 16, 2024, with keynote speaker Blaine Bettinger. More in next month's eGenerations.



## Professor Vaughan

Have you heard of Prof. Vaughan? Below is from Miller County, MO Historical Society's Facebook page, courtesy MAGIC friend Dolores Rush:

"ol' man river

He jes' keeps rolling along"

[Lyrics from the musical "Show Boat"]

In the 1800's entertainers came up with the idea to take the theater on boats to the people near river towns that were too remote to be reached by traveling companies. The boat would fire a cannon as it neared a landing to let people know there would be a show. The cannon was later replaced by a calliope.

It was July 1892 and the Miller County paper announced that the steamer Frederick had arrived, towing Vaughan's Show Boat. The troupe on the show boat gave performances on Saturday and Sunday night.

The Kansas City Times had interviewed Professor Vaughan in May as he prepared to leave on the 1892 "catfish theater" season. "Professor Vaughan's Comedy Company was composed of the professor, his wife Mollie, their two little girls, two comedians - Charles Kelly and W. C. Clark, and a box of monkeys.

Prof. Vaughan had been working the rivers for 15 years. In the winter he built vessels for the next season with the help of the comedians. They built the boats along the Kaw River near Kansas City. 'We aim to start down the river about May and play at all the small landings where no railroad shows stop. The trip usually takes about seven months. The first two months are along the Missouri and Osage Rivers, the next two between St. Louis and Memphis, and the last three between Memphis and New Orleans. There ain't no money in the south until cotton pickin' and therefore we don't go there until the people have money to squander, never earlier than September.'

The boat would be sold when they reached New Orleans, winding up business for the year.

The boat built for the 1892 season was 40 feet long, large enough to carry the tent and scenery with sufficient room for bunks and a small quantity of household effects. It was propelled by electric motor power. (Once the boat came down the Missouri River to the mouth of the Osage, it would need to be towed upriver on the Osage. Thus, the need for the Frederick.)

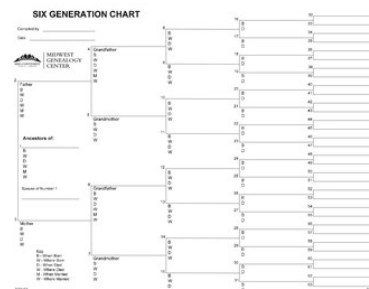
One of the men would act as an advance agent, preceding the boat in a skiff a few days before the performance. His job was to learn about the people and put up bills in the communities. There were a variety of performances to choose from and some landings had crowds with a tendency to throw eggs when the choice didn't suit their fancy. Some of the performances were 'Pygmalion and Galatea,' 'Ten Nights in a Barroom,' and 'Fogg's Ferry.' If the advance man might not be around when the boat arrived, he would leave a letter with the local postmaster so when the company arrived

someone could pick up the letter explaining which side out they should set the reversible scenery. The company used one set for all the plays." [Excerpts from the Kansas City Times, May 8, 1892] "As a little girl, my mother used to take me down to the show boats that used to come down the river. They had concerts, vaudeville, plays, melodrama, comedy, tragedy - every kind of amusement you can think of, and it was the delight of my life to go." [Mrs. David H. Kincheloe, St. Louis Globe Democrat, December 23, 1917]

Edna Ferber completed her novel "Show Boat" in 1926 and it was quickly adapted into a stage musical. The 1951 film version of the musical has become a classic.

## 5 Steps to Create and Share a Lineage Chart

Did you know you can create a printed, sharable lineage chart (showing your direct ancestors in a "tree" formation) with the snap of a finger? Well, at least in 5 quick steps that should take a minimum of 5 minutes each:



1) Create a free account at [familysearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org) (keep your user/password handy)

2) Enter basic info for yourself (all info for living people are ONLY viewable to YOU)

Enter what you know for 3) and 4):

3) Enter your parents birth and marriage (and death, if applicable) dates and places

4) Enter your grandparents birth and marriage (and death, if applicable) dates and places

5) At the bottom right of any person's screen, you'll see the "PRINT" section. While viewing YOUR PAGE, click on print and select "Family Chart." HAVE FUN with the different styles!

## CrowdSource Your Genealogy at FamilySearch.org

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/>

Create a FREE account. Remember your login; you'll use it OFTEN!

It's OPEN SOURCE is EASIER and BETTER SOURCED than Ancestry...and it's FREEEEEEEEEE!

Consider taking a FREE beginner's class:

<https://www.mymcpl.org/events/all-times/Using%20FamilySearch>

See David W. Jackson's February 2024 presentation below!

## Upcoming Programs by MAGIC Member David W. Jackson

November 28, 2023, 6:30pm

KC Garment District: Piecing Together the Past (Hybrid)

<https://www.mymcpl.org/events/88540/kc-garment-district-piecing-together-past>

Midwest Genealogy Center 3440 S. Lee's Summit Road Independence, MO 64055-1923

February 24, 2024 2:00pm



CrowdSourcing Genealogy (with emphasis on Black genealogy)  
<https://mymcpl.org/events/92989/crowdsourcing-genealogy-hybrid>

Midwest Genealogy Center 3440 S. Lee's Summit Road  
Independence, MO 64055-1923

Anyone else wish to publicize upcoming local history/genealogy programs?

### USE FindAGrave dot com

Create a FREE account at [findagrave.com](http://findagrave.com) and start making sure your relatives each have a memorial page! They may be there already; or, you can create memorials, too.

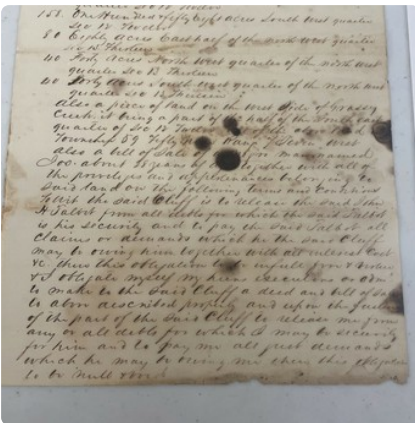
[Check out this one!](#) Notice how you can click on linked parents and GO BACK IN TIME!

## Greater Kansas City Black History Study Group-Facebook

Sign up for notices of monthly/regular meetings

## Black Kansas City History Study Group-Website

# African American Heritage Trail of Kansas City (click)



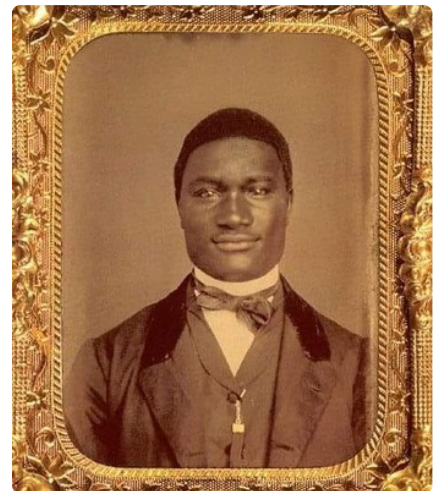
### MAGIC

Do you have random family images?



### COLLECTS

Care to share copies, even anonymously?



### IMAGES

Please send usable scans to [magickc.org@gmail.com](mailto:magickc.org@gmail.com)

## SUBMIT A HELPFUL LINK

Let us hear from you!

[magickc.org@gmail.com](mailto:magickc.org@gmail.com)

## Genealogy Helps for African Americans

### MAGIC Exchanges Newsletters

MAGIC is proud to share a newsletter exchange with the Midwest Alliance of Genealogical Societies! Look them up!

## MAGIC Website

### Renew (or Join) MAGIC Today :

Membership is \$20/year (Jan-Dec). Most of our expenses are clerical maintaining our website, email channel, and this newsletter support system. Pulling off events like Black History Month programming also takes a chunk of our finite budget.



Hopefully you know our volunteer board is frugal in its outlook and expenditures, and we value every membership contribution. We appreciate that you see the worthiness of our mission to join and maintain your membership with MAGIC.

Go to <https://www.magickc.org/membership.html> (choose your option; the first button allows you to make a donation in any amount...all TAX DEDUCTIBLE ;)



### Thoughts and Prayers

Please hold a moment of silence and send good thoughts to MAGIC members and friends.

Let's send a warm blessing of love and light to those who have crossed over in 2023.

Also, keep the spirits of your ancestors at the forefront of your daily life. After all, they each did at least one monumental thing in their life.....they had a child...that survived...through puberty. Otherwise, YOU would not be here ;)

In the 1997 Academy Award nominated motion picture, Amistad, there is a scene, "A Call to the Ancestors," when the lead African character, Cinque says of his ancestors, "I will call into the past, far back to the beginning of time, and beg them to come and help me...I will reach back and draw them into me. And they must come. For at this moment ... I am the whole reason they have existed at all."



## David Jackson

David is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

