

April 2003

April Seminar: The seminar went very well. Alan Perry, Archivist at the National Archives Center in Kansas City, gave a great presentation about preserving our records. He also gave handouts of what is available at the archives and invited us to make a trip to the archives. They are open on the third Saturday and through the week from 9 until 4.

At 12:30, Marty Patton, a local genealogist, gave an inspirational talk showing how she has organized her families into notebooks and created a timeline for each head of household.

(One of our members remarked that after listening to Alan and Marty, she went home and began looking at all of her folders and sleeves and realized that she needed to do a tremendous housecleaning!!)

There were about 25 people present. Members brought delicious food and everyone enjoyed eating and visiting together. A tremendous THANK YOU to everyone for helping make the seminar a successful event.

The May Meeting will be at the Mid-Missouri State Bank Community Room in El Dorado Springs at 10 a.m. (Carpooling from Nevada is available; be at the Library by 9:20 a.m.) The special program for the meeting will be **“Records at Risk.”** Are *your* genealogy records preserved?

It is now night and all is silent. I am here alone and in silence all my past friends with all my relations fall heavy on my mind. They all are gone, and I too must soon follow. To be laid in the dust in the silent grave and there to be forever forgotten makes the cold chills run over my whole body. I have a hope beyond the grave. That hope is that when I am consigned to my grave, someone on the earth might remember me.

From the Diary of Joseph Kemp, April 1, 1853:

100 years from now, will you be remembered?

The June Meeting will be a field trip for members to the Mid-Continent Genealogy Library in Independence, MO. This is the largest genealogy library in our region so start making your research list so you cover everything while there. Details on the trip to Mid-Continent will be finalized at the May meeting. Mark your calendars now.

Clip and Save Best Choice Labels: Clipping Best Choice labels is an easy way for our group to receive \$\$\$\$. Let's continue working together and get another check this year from Best Choice for redeeming labels!



From our Mailbox: (Corresponding secretary's report) This has been a busy month!:

- Responded to request for obit for Claus Tietjen who died Jan 9, 1891. None found, but I enjoyed reading the *old* newspapers.
- Wrote and faxed a radio spot to 10 area radio stations for publicity on our seminar.
- Designed and printed 30 cy of seminar info sheets and folder labels.
- Designed and printed a bookplate for books which the Society donates to libraries.
- Sent e-mail answering questions and requesting a complimentary copy of Claflin published genealogy work for Nevada library.
- Updated and posted Society information sheet at Nevada Library.
- Wrote and e-mailed a photo news story to the Nevada Daily Mail about our book donation to the Library and included info in the article about our upcoming seminar.
- Received request for a Cemetery Directory lookup on Edouard Blitz, d. Feb 10, 1915. E-mailed Deepwood Cemetery and birth/death info to requester and offered cemetery photo and obit search for nominal fee.

- Received and posted flyer on Nevada Library Genealogy Bulletinboard: **“Grand Lake Ancestor Fair,”** Grove Community Center, Grove, OK, May 3, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. \$20. “The Story of Indian Territory” and “Finding Records of Non-Indians in Indian Territory” by Barbara Becker Meehan, CGRS, FTGS. “The Trail of Tears” and “The Dawes Commission Enrollment of the Cherokees” by Jack D. Baker, citizen of the Cherokee Nation, Pres of the Nat’l Trail of Tears Assoc. Sponsored by the Delaware County Genealogical Society, Grove, OK.
- Received and posted flyer on Nevada Library Genealogy Bulletinboard: **“Researching Your Irish and Scots-Irish Ancestors,”** May 3, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., \$25, at Schweitzer United Methodist Church, Springfield, MO, by the Ozarks Genealogical Society. Featuring Dr. Brian Trainor, Research Director, and Mr. Fintan Mullan, Executive Director, Ulster Historical Foundation, Belfast, Northern Ireland.
- Wrote letter requesting additional information in response to request for obit for Elmer Munsterman who died 1903-1905.
- Received \$25 contribution for photos of Willhite and Rathburn gravesites in Sheldon Cemetery (ref: Feb newsletter).
- Received \$5 contribution for copies of Gragg obits copied/mailed (ref: Mar newsletter).
- Added our Society to a listing of Missouri genealogical societies.
- Responded to e-mail request regarding upcoming research visit to Nevada Library and area cemetery. Names being researched: James Henson family, Kelly, and McCulley.

Research for Hire: Do you conduct research for hire? The society is compiling a list of members who conduct research for others on a fee basis. If you would like to have your name and contact information included on this list, please let the society know. The list will be provided to individuals who contact the Society looking for research beyond what we do for a nominal fee.

TIPS and TIDBITS

What is the standard lifetime of the following types of records or objects before they seriously deteriorate?

1. Newspaper clippings (A few years)
2. Computer printer paper (5-10 years)
3. Modern book paper (50 years if properly housed)
4. Bond, high rag content papers (50 years or more)
5. Magnetic (press down) page photo albums (4 years)
6. Color photographs (20 years)
7. Slides (15 years or more)
8. Polaroid, instant-print photographs (2 years)
9. Scrapbooks made with rubber cement (10-15 years)
10. Video cassette (10-20 years)
11. Audio cassette (10 years)

Preparing for a research trip:

- Pedigree charts for those being researched.
- Family Group Sheets for those being researched.
- Research records – of what you have already done, so you don't waste your time on repeating something you've already tried.
- A "surname file" with copies of other relevant information on the people you are targeting for this visit.
- Pencils - even if you are a devoted pen user, make sure to take pencils because Mid-Continent does not permit use of pens (due to the possibility of a stray mark on a record).
- Paper and plenty of copies of any forms you use for abstractions. If you hit a "goldmine" of information, you want to be ready!
- A magnifying glass is often handy and can help decipher when transcribing a document which can't be copied, or determining if the document is really the one you want to have copied.
- Your computer, with your most up-to-date data on the target families, and any other computer tools you use, i.e., forms for abstractions, spreadsheets for logging research, etc. It's a good idea to have the power cord and an extension cord too, in case you get on a roll, you don't want to run out of battery power!
- Plenty of nickels and dimes for making copies.

*Hope to see YOU on May 10 in El Dorado
for “Records at Risk” !*