

The Tri-County Genealogical Society
(Vernon – Cedar – St. Clair Counties)

P. O. Box B
Nevada, MO 64772

May 2003

TriCountyGenealogy@starband.net

May Meeting: The May 10 meeting was held at the Nevada Library with 17 persons present. Dorothy Foster conducted the meeting in Neoma Foreman's absence. Joanne Saathoff, Norma Fancher, and Rick Williams were welcomed as new members (see their personal information below). It was agreed that a genealogy seminar would be held again next year and planning could begin earlier. Dorothy Foster reported that because of expansion at the Mid-Missouri Bank building in El Dorado Springs, the Society would no longer meet at that location. She will contact other venues in El Dorado Springs. She distributed copies of literature that the Society had received in quantity (a copy of each having been posted on the bulletinboard at the Library).

"Records at Risk" was the video program. It discussed ways to preserve our individual research records. The program also stressed the need to let family members know the importance of your genealogy research and what should be done with your materials, so years and years of research would not be tossed out by unknowing family members. In discussion following the video, a show of hands indicated that none present had published his/her research, and everyone was urged to place a copy of their research in our local library for both preservation and the benefit of other researchers. This copy could be updated every few years as more research is completed. A few members had distributed copies of their research to other family members. Members were also encouraged to keep a diary or journal to pass down to future generations. Members were asked to consider what records the Society can help preserve and what additional records or materials are needed in the Genealogy Room. A handout on preserving personal research was distributed.

Genealogy Room Volunteers: Susan McBeth, Library Director, has inquired about having a volunteer in the Genealogy Room on Saturdays because several researchers are frequently there at that time and need help. **Would YOU be willing to help with this?** Perhaps we have 3 or 4 members who would be willing to regularly help just *one* Saturday a

month. The Library is open from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. on Saturdays. If you can help on Saturdays in the Genealogy Room, please contact Dorothy Foster or Neoma Foreman. Things are being done in the Genealogy Room to make it more independently usable by researchers. We will have an orientation session for volunteers to acquaint them with assisting researchers. *Please call Neoma or Dorothy today and say you can help!*

The June 14 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, and this will be an opportunity to research people/places/documents you don't have access to in this area. *Genealogy from the Heartland*, available in the Nevada Library Genealogy Room, lists many of the materials available at Mid-Continent, if you would like to check it prior to the field trip. Persons wishing to carpool on June 14 should notify Neoma Foreman (465-2389 clodbust@accessus.net) and be at the old Wal-Mart parking lot in Nevada, MO, by 7 a.m. There is a small restaurant next to the library where you can have lunch, or you may prefer to take your lunch.

Best Choice UPC Labels: We receive cash for Best Choice UPC labels, so clip and turn them in to Dorothy Foster at any meeting.

From our Mailbox: (Corresponding secretary's report):

- Received and filed the Joplin Genealogy Society quarterly newsletter, *Conestoga*, in the Genealogy Room. Interesting article on the Peace and Sherwood burial grounds in Jasper County is included as well as a bio-sketch on Freeman Dorris, Civil War Veteran who is buried in Cox Cemetery. A map of Jasper County cemeteries is included.
- The American Family Records Assoc. will host a conference on researching European ancestors at the Holiday Inn-Sports Complex in Kansas City, Jul 18-19. The conference will focus on several

areas of Europe, including England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, Italy, Croatia, Spain, France, Germany, and the Scandinavian countries. Info about passenger lists and accessing internet resources will also be available. Tickets are available by sending a SASE to Kathy Banks, AFRA 2003 Registrat, 3005 NW Milford Place, Blue Springs, MO 64015.

- Responded to letter from Merlene Klinkerman, Denver, CO, regarding Matthew Taylor Long and wife Margaret Jane Lane. Sent info from Bates Co Cemetery Records; Indiana Marriages before 1850; 1850, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920 and 1930 Census; and Social Security Death Index.
- Responded to letter from Joyce Vrchota, Burbank, IL, regarding obtaining death certificates for persons who died in the 1870s in Henry County, MO. Sent Missouri death certificate requirement dates and Henry County contact information.
- Responded to e-mail from Pam Hamilton, Wichita, KS, regarding her having a copy of the *1930 Comet* (Nevada High School yearbook) for sale. Advised her that we have a copy in our Genealogy Room, and thanked her for notifying us.
- Responded to e-mail from Diane Gaume regarding membership in the Society, meetings, etc.
- Responded to e-mail from Bill Denman announcing his posting a 1903 Vernon County plat book, indexed by last name, on the internet. The web address is <http://www.denmantitle.com/>. Suggested he also notify Roy Main, coordinator of Vernon Co RootsWeb page, of the plat book; and the website address was announced at our May meeting.
- Creating an information sheet to send/e-mail in response to inquiries about researching in Vernon County.
- Evaluated trial subscription for Census records at heritagequest.com for Susan McBeth, Nevada Library. The Library may purchase a subscription which would allow access for internet searching of *any U.S. census record* on the computers in the Genealogy Room. (This is tremendous!)
- Received e-mail request from Sharon Darling, FL, regarding a marriage lookup for Thomas Benjamin Henson and Mary Ellen Webb in Vernon Co between 1891-1893. Sent response that a search at the Courthouse did not locate a marriage record.
- Leaflets regarding the Vernon County Sesquicentennial History are available in the

Genealogy Room. Vernon County residents should begin preparing their 300-word family article to be included in this book. Deadline is around the end of the year.

- Responded to letter from Cliff Lansdon, Mapleton, OR, requesting an obituary on Martha Ceat Lansdon. Requested assistance from Luella Fipps to search El Dorado Springs microfilmed newspapers, and she located the requested obit. The obit was mailed; we received \$15 check for our assistance.
- Sent e-mail response to Mr. Cribbs, Butler, MO, in regard to inquiry about our monthly genealogy meetings.
- Responded to request from Pam Brillhart, Wichita, KS, for an obit for John Raymond Butts. Obit found and mailed.
- Responded to request from Bonnie Ruebush, Chatham, IL, for copy of marriage license for Norman Ellis Tudor and Mary Margaret Zartman and for an obit for Mary Margaret Clevenger. Documents found and mailed.
- Responded to e-mail from Connie Schofield seeking an obit for Frank Strole, died 1949, and a marriage license for Clay Keithly and Louisa Strole. Sent info asking for a minimum \$6 contribution for the searches and more info.
- Received and responded to letter from Charlotte Pinckley, Tulsa, OK, requesting obits for 4 persons but no dates of death. Sent info explaining a minimum \$6 contribution and \$6 per hour for the searches and that info on the date of death and/or cemetery was needed to search.
- Sent an e-mail to Roy Main, Houston, TX, Volunteer Coordinator of the Vernon County GenWeb Page, commending him on the tremendous job he did with the new redesign of the website. (See additional information below.)
- Set up a new e-mail address of TriCountyGenealogy@starband.net for society correspondence. This is more efficient for your corresponding secretary and replaces a yahoo.com address which is being phased out.

Membership List: Please make the following notations on your copy of our membership list.

Norma Fancher: Rt 2, Box 71, Nevada, MO 64772.

Phone: (417) 667-4573. E-mail: snowflak@aicon.net. Researching Mullins, Boyles, Dotson, Fancher.

Mildred Keith: E-mail: mildred129@earthlink.net

Joanne Saathoff: 706 S. Clay, Nevada, MO 64772-3237. (417) 667-2178. Researching Saathoff, Smith, Thomas, McBride, Prewitt, Walker, Shannon, Sewell, Wade, Kuykendoll, Greer, West, Huffman, Wright, Piburn, Logan, Haines, Liibben, Cary, Shuhart.

Rick Williams: P.O. Box 91, Nevada, MO 64772. (417) 667-7738 or 4573. E-mail: rick@aicon.net. Researching Williams, Tons, Swank.

(If you have corrections or additions to your information on the membership list, please notify the society.)

TIPS and TIDBITS

World War I

Military Service Cards Database

A new database is now available at www.sos.state.mo.us/ww1/ This World War I Military Service Cards database provides information about **Missouri** men and women who served both stateside and overseas from 1917 to 1919. The database searches abstracts of 145,000 service cards for the **United States Army** and **Marines**, as well as digitized images of 18,500 **United States Navy** service cards.

In April 1917, the United States entered World War I. Nearly 750,000 Missouri men registered for the draft. Over 156,000 served in all branches of the armed forces, and more than 10,000 were wounded or killed in action. Missouri contributed military personnel to all branches of service during the war. Original draft record information for Missouri veterans is available on microfilm at the St. Louis Public Library; and original draft record information is also available through the National Archives and Records Administration (<http://www.nara.gov>).

In the event that errors and discrepancies occur, Missouri State Archives staff will consult the original service card. If the error or discrepancy is the result of a typographical data entry mistake, the database will be amended to reflect the accurate information. If the error or discrepancy is part of the original service card though, staff will not amend the database information. That information was abstracted from an original archival record and cannot be altered.

For information about military personnel in wars following World War I, researchers should contact the National Personnel Records Center, 9700 Page Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 65132. The National

Personnel Records Center will not accept requests for military personnel records or information from them by e-mail at this time.

A fire at the National Personnel Records Center in 1973 destroyed many military records. An estimated 80% of the U.S. Army personnel records created from 1912 to 1963 were destroyed. The fire did not damage U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps personnel files. (Information taken from the Missouri Archives website.)

If you do not use a computer in your genealogy research and would like to have ancestors searched in this Missouri-only database, please give a list of names to the society and searches will be made for you.

PERSI

The Periodical Source Index (PERSI) is the world's largest and most widely used index of articles from genealogy and history periodicals. Created by the Allen County Public Library in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, this annually updated database has become the largest of its kind and is renowned as a key to superior genealogical research. This is an amazing amount of quality information published in periodicals every year, and PERSI brings it to light. With over 1.7 million entries, it is fully indexed and instantly searchable, searching generally or specifically. PERSI can be searched online at: Ancestry.com (subscription). A search for "Vernon County Missouri" brings up 305 listings at this time. You will be able to search PERSI at Mid-Continent (if you don't currently have access to it). The Vernon County Historical Society's quarterly publication, *Bushwhacker Musings*, is indexed on PERSI.

A form to order copies of PERSI articles from the Allen County Library is available at http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/database/graphics/order_form.html Cost is \$7.50 per letter of request (limit of 6 articles) plus \$0.20 per page copied; billed to you.

The Vernon County Genealogical Society

Gleaned from records at the library: our group was first organized and met in March 1982 in Nevada. In 1996, the name was changed to the Tri-County Genealogical Society (Vernon – Cedar – St. Clair Counties).

Vernon County, Missouri, US GenWeb Site

You are missing something if you have not surfed over to the Vernon County page lately! Roy Main,

Vernon County Coordinator (*a volunteer*), has done a great job with his new re-design of the site. It is very sharp, clean, attractive, and easy to understand and use. To make the site more helpful to all researchers, you are encouraged to support it with your Vernon County research information...submit obits, register your surnames, etc. The site is at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~movernon/index.html> .

We will be updating/correcting our society information on this site as soon as a new meeting location in El Dorado Springs is confirmed.

The Cedar County GenWeb site is at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~mocedar/index.htm> and

the St. Clair site is at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~mostclai/intro.htm> .

***Research Trip - Mid-Continent Library
June 14, 7 a.m.
Meet at
Old Wal-Mart Parking Lot
Nevada, MO***

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