

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

P. O. Box B
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August 2003

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The September 13 meeting has been cancelled so members may attend the Ozarks Genealogical Conference in Springfield, MO. See our June newsletter for details or on the internet at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~ozarksgs/> Copies of the flyer are also available on the Genealogy bulletin board at the Nevada Public Library. Fee is \$30 by Aug. 29; thereafter \$37. The conference site is the Holiday Inn, University Plaza, 333 John Q. Hammonds Parkway, Springfield. The Friday evening program begins at 7:30 p.m., and the Saturday program begins at 7:45 a.m.

Dorothy Foster will be attending both days; contact her to carpool Friday afternoon and/or share a room: 876-2976.

Contact the society to carpool on Saturday only.

This is a major conference in Southwest Missouri and will prove educational and inspiring for all who attend. Marsha Hoffman Rising is a professional genealogist, educator, and writer. Her present research involves a major study of the early pioneers of Southwest Missouri.

Hope you can attend !

Highlights from the August 9 meeting:

The Society and the Nevada Public Library have jointly funded a subscription to HeritageQuest Online on the Internet. This subscription gives us Internet access to the complete U.S. Federal Census, 1790-1930, page images. Many name-indexes are available and more are coming online each month. The census can be accessed from any computer at the Library. An icon for the Census Records has been placed on the Desktop of both computers in the Genealogy Room and a link to the website is also in the Favorites folder. You can browse any of census pages by location: select the census year, state, county, and township and view the pages one at a time. For the census years and states which have been name-indexed, enter as much information as is known in the search window (name, state, county, birthplace, age, census year, etc.); the search will return a list of "hits" which meet the criteria you entered; you can then look at each of those census pages. There will probably be

some glitches to get worked out, but this should prove to be a great benefit for *all* researchers in our area. Please contact the society if you need assistance with your searches.

Family Tree Maker Genealogy Software Version

10 It has been suggested that the Society purchase "how to" information for the Family Tree Maker Version 10 computer software program. Following is information from the company on both a book and a video which are available. They could be made available for checkout from the Library if the Society desires to purchase them.

Book: \$24.99 new (used from \$17.) "Family Tree Maker 10 Fast & Easy." With this book's step-by-step instructions, you can build your family tree in no time. From the basics of adding family members to creating your final report, this official guide is the perfect tool for preserving your family's history.

Perfect for the beginner as well as the experienced user, this friendly step-by-step approach takes the guesswork out of the new Version 10 features. Actual Family Tree Maker screen shots are included to show you exactly what your computer monitor should look like, every step of the way. You'll quickly be up to speed on the best Family Tree Maker ever.

You'll learn:

- How to use Family Tree Maker's most popular features
- How to enter information about your family into Family Tree Maker
- How to make corrections to your family tree
- How to link specific individuals
- How to create a wide variety of family trees
- How to create reports showing relationships between family members

Video: \$14.95 Sit back and let the new Family Tree Maker video give you a 90 minute guided tour! Our Family Tree Maker expert will walk you through the latest features as you learn useful tips for entering data, creating documents, and searching for family information.

Soon you'll be producing beautiful trees and reports, building your own personal online home page, and creating and publishing Family Books that preserve and protect your ancestors' stories for generations to come.

The Family Tree Maker Software and Video are available in a special package for \$29.99 (the software usually sells for \$29.99, and it could probably be loaded on the Library computers for demonstration purposes.)

Work continues on the new **Vernon County Cemetery Directory**. If you type, have Microsoft Access software, and would like to help input data, please contact the society. You can work at home, on your own computer, at your own pace. Microsoft Access is needed, and the "how to's" will be provided. This is a very large project and all researchers will benefit from the new directory.

People in Cedar County are working on a new cemetery directory also.

Vernon Co Probate Files The Society will attempt to obtain copies of the microfilmed probate files that are not presently available in the Genealogy Room at the Nevada Library. This involves an additional 49 rolls of microfilm, with files dating from 1933 to 1959. An initial inquiry about this at the courthouse court clerk's office brought the response that they would not approve of the film being removed from their office to be copied. I will follow up with a written inquiry to the clerk's office and will also contact the State Archives to inquire about obtaining a copy.

Officers presently conducts research on behalf of the Society and also as a private researcher for hire. The Society has no written policy regarding research and fees, and it is recommended that a statement be drafted to ensure clarity of policy. A draft will be submitted for consideration later in the year.

Civil War Navy Program: Eldon Steward presented the program on the Civil War Navy. Eldon served 4 years in the Navy in the early 1950s, and his time in service and continued interest has led him to conduct extensive research on the Navy with special emphasis on the Civil War timeperiod. He has traveled to several museums and historic sites across the U.S. in pursuit of his research. Eldon explained that the Confederate Navy was primarily made up of a bunch



Eldon Steward (right) explains various Civil War era artifacts to Charles Foreman (left) and Derl Barnett at the August genealogy meeting in El Dorado Springs.

of farmers who fought for four years. However, they developed and built ships and a submarine beyond what most of us were aware. He displayed various Civil War era artifacts and gave information on several replicas of Navy ships from that timeperiod. Eldon also showed his Navy hat and explained several of the many uses for it—if in the water, the sailor can turn down the brim, capture air in it, and use it for a small flotation device to help stay afloat.

This was a very interesting program.

Reminder - members are willing to conduct **obit searches** while at the Missouri Newspaper Archives in Columbia in September. See our July newsletter for details. (The Newspaper Archives charge \$15 for an obit search and can take up to 3 months.)

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

- **Wisconsin Name Index.** The Wisconsin Historical Society has a new research tool to help research ancestors who lived and/or died in WI before 1970. This online database leads to more than 100,000 obituaries, personal sketches, and other short biographies of Wisconsin people. It is search-able by last name, first name, maiden name, time frame and various other details. Once you locate a biographical sketch, article, or obit, you can order a photocopy of the text through the online research service. Fees apply (everything I checked was \$15 per item). For details go to www.wisconsinhistory.org/wni

- Kansas City Area Archives Fair, Sep 12-14. In the KC area, over 80 repositories store and maintain records that document our past, but for the most part are not reproduced on the Internet. KC area archivists will promote member institutions and answer document and photo preservation questions at the KC Area Archives Fair in the Central Court area of the Blue Ridge Mall, I-70 at Blue Ridge Blvd. The Jackson Co Genealogical Society will hold its used book sale in conjunction with the fair.
- The Old Fort Genealogical Society, Ft. Scott, KS, will meet Sep. 23, 7:30 p.m. at the Old Congregational Church on National. Sandy Wells will present the program, "Interpretation of Elizabeth Wilson," wife of Hiero T. Wilson, the first settler of Ft. Scott.
- The State Historical Society will no longer issue the "Directory of Local Historical, Museum, and Genealogical Agencies in Missouri" in printed form. It is available on their website at <http://www.system.Missouri.edu/shs/DirectoryMap.htm>
- Mountain Press catalog was received. Of note are the following booklets at \$18 each:
 - Cedar Co Marriage Book A 1845-65.
 - Cedar Co Abstract of Will Book A 1846-76.
 - St. Clair Co Death Register 1883-87.
 - St. Clair Co Abst of Will Book A 1865-76 & Admr Bk A 1865-70 + Bond Book A 1868-72.
 - St. Clair Co Records of Wolf Scalps 1859-91.
 - Vernon Co Earliest Wills & Admr. Index 1855-88.
 - Vernon Co Death Register 1883-87.
 - Vernon Co Marriage Book A 1855-69.
 - Vernon Co Abst of Wills A & Admr A 1855-72.
 There are many similar booklets for other Missouri counties. Booklet will be filed in Genealogy Room.
- Missouri Digitization Planning Workshops. This is an initiative to coordinate access to digital collections and exhibits of Missouri, providing education on digitization issues and techniques through workshops. A Day of Digitization (planning a project), Introduction to Scanning (basic scanning techniques), and Preserving Born Digital Materials (preservation strategies) are the subjects for 3 workshops to be held at various locations throughout the state. There is no fee, however, you must register. Info at www.virtuallymissouri.org/training/training.html
- State Historical Society of Missouri Newsletter. Propose new dues structure to help offset decreased funding and increased expenses (\$20 individual). Articles include: Preserving Your Family Photo Archive, Temperance Newspapers, and Gary Moulton to Speak at Annual Meeting on Oct 18. Filed in Genealogy Room.
- Quarterly Newsletter of the Pulaski Co Genealogy/Historical Society received and filed in the Genealogy Room.
- *Victorian America – A Family Record from the Heartland* by Margaret Baker Graham is available for purchase for \$29.95 from The Truman State University Press. 1-800-916-6802 or <http://tsup.truman.edu/> if you are interested.
- The National Archives and Records Administration, Central Plains Region, Kansas City, presents its schedule of 2003 fall classes:
 - Oct 1, 6:30 p.m.: Beginning Genealogy*
 - Oct 9, 10:30 a.m.: Organizing & Documenting Notes*
 - Oct 16, 9:00 a.m.: Naturalization Records*
 - Oct 16, 10:30 a.m.: U.S. Military Records*
 - Oct 20, 6:30 p.m.: Academic Research
 - Oct 30, 6:30 p.m.: Leavenworth Penitentiary
 * \$5 fee. Reservations required for each class. For information or to register: 816-823-5032, KansasCity.Archives@nara.gov or see flyer at Nevada Library.
- Sharon Louise Kafer donated a copy of her personal research on the Hathaway/Wooten and Hubbard/Sheridan Families to the Genealogy Room. The (approx.) 100-page loose-leaf document will be labeled, cataloged, and placed in the Genealogy Room. A thank you note will be sent to Sharon Kafer.
- The quarterly newsletter of the Joplin Genealogy Society has been received and will be filed in the Genealogy Room.
- Responded to phone inquiry from Beverly Hartman, Nevada, regarding access to census images online. Referred her to our new HeritageQuest subscription at the Library.
- Received request from Sam Durham, Lancaster, CA, requesting obituary lookups. Advised him of charge and that I would have to have a date of death to do a lookup.
- Received inquiry from markb@softnet.net (local) regarding census searches; provided 1870, 1880, and 1920 info to him. Also sent follow-up notice that the censuses were now available at the library.

➤ Conducted internet census search for Jean Flagor (local) and provided search results. Sent follow-up notice regarding the census subscription at the library.

➤ The Nevada TeleCenter will be holding Introduction to Genealogy workshops during October. The fee is \$15 per 2-hour session. Registration is required; information brochures are being sent to the Library or contact the TeleCenter at 448-1212.

Oct 2, Where do you Start? Ed Browning, UOE Natural Resource Engineering Specialist.

Oct 9, Resources of Special Interest. Bob Schmidt & Steve Weldon, Jasper County Records Center.

Oct 16, What is Available Locally? Patsy Luebbert,

Senior State Library Archivist; Ken Fiebelman, Local Historian, Mark Stauter, UMR Western Historical Manuscript Collection.

Oct 23, Computer Resources for Genealogy. Carolyn Duncan, BS, and Ed Browning, Internet & Selecting a Genealogy Software Package.

Please note that this information is from a draft of the programs being put together and some information may change prior to the workshops—please see their forthcoming printed brochure.

➤ Received obituary lookup request from Cathy Pentola, Pittsburgh, KS. Advised that there would be a fee and invited her to visit our Genealogy Room as she lived so close.

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