

TRI-COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
(Vernon - Cedar - St. Clair Counties in Missouri)
P.O. Box B, Nevada, MO 64772
May 2005

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Programs

Monthly meetings are alternately held at Nevada and El Dorado Springs, at the following locations. Meetings begin at 10 a.m. and are open to the public.

- Nevada Public Library Meeting Room, 218 West Walnut, Nevada (enter at South side of building). On Saturdays, there is not a 2-hr parking limit on the streets.
- Community Church of Christ, 600 South Grand, El Dorado Springs (enter from North side). Carpooling from the Nevada Library is usually available; contact the society.

June 11 Meeting – Research Trip to Mid-Continent Genealogy Library

On June 11, we will have an all-day Research Trip to *Mid-Continent Library* in Independence, MO. Mid-Continent is the largest genealogy library in this region of the U.S. Listings of the library's holdings are available in the Nevada Public Library Genealogy Room in the documents entitled "Genealogy from the Heartland." Mid-Continent also has the full Ancestry.com-Plus internet subscription as well as other genealogy subscription databases. Good preplanning will help you take full advantage of this research trip – please see the article below. You may take your lunch or there is a small café across the street from the library.

We will carpool from the northeast corner of the Wal-Mart parking lot at 7:15 a.m. The trip to Independence takes about 1 ½ hours and helping with gasoline expenses will be greatly appreciated by those driving. Please contact Nancy Malcom (667-2024) so we can ensure everyone has a ride.

If you would like to take advantage of this research trip and have not yet paid your 2005 dues, you may do so that day. **TRIP LIMITED TO MEMBERS ONLY!**

Preparing for a Research Trip

To get the most from a research trip, make a to-do list with specific research goals, collections you would like to search, and questions you would like to ask. Concentrate on using indexes, manuscript collections, unpublished records, rare books, photographs, and sources unique to the library where you are researching. Plan to use card files,

newspapers, original records, computer databases, networks, or compact discs that can only be searched at that repository. Consider also that it might have records that have not been microfilmed, such as church records.

Place your research goals, copies of your pedigree charts, and family group records in folders or notebooks. Plan to work only on a few family lines at a time. It would not be efficient to take all of your genealogy records with you. Be sure to keep a copy of your family records at home as well. You might also want to take a magnifying glass, a couple of extra pencils (no ink pens), and money for the copy machine.

Organize your information so you know what you already have and can determine what you need. You may want to write a brief narrative about the families you are going to work on, as well as prepare a timeline for the families.

Upcoming Programs – Program Ideas

Thank you for sharing suggestions on programs and speakers for our meeting. Your officers will arrange as many of the programs as possible for the remainder of the year.

Vernon County History Book at museum

Don't forget that the two volume set *Nevada & Vernon County's Heritage 1855-2005 Pass It On* is available at the Bushwhacker Museum. A great aid to researchers and a delightful reading experience, this collector's item is a steal at \$100 for the set. Pass it on!

Treasurer's report on the Seminar by Kathe Rader

Registration	\$775.00	Total Income	\$785.00
Tables	10.00		
Room Res.	50.00	Total Expenses	\$412.00
Food	252.00		_____
Speakers	100.00		
Misc (flyers, cups)	10.00	Net profit	\$373.00

(Brochure printing donated: \$75.)

Best Choice UPCs and Summer Fresh Receipts

Receiving cash for Best Choice UPCs and Summer Fresh grocery receipts is an ongoing project of the Society. These are collected and redeemed several times a year – save and bring yours to any monthly meeting.

Updates

Workday June 2 to Sort Lathrop Collection

A workday will be held on June 2 to sort the genealogy collection. We will specifically sort out Cedar and Vernon County documents to be copied before placing in the libraries at El Dorado Springs and Nevada. These include: 1) newspaper indexes, 2) funeral home record indexes, 3) copies of funeral home records, and 4) plat books. (Additionally, the Nevada city and/or rural directories and originals of the marriage indexes will be sorted.) We can then estimate the expense of copying these documents and placing the pages in plastic sleeves and 3-ring binders for the libraries. If you would like to help sort, we will start at 10 a.m. in the Library meeting room (where our regular meetings are held) and hope to be completed later that day. **Bring a sack lunch.** If you have some extra boxes, please bring them also.

Grant Possibilities for Funding of Duplicating, Sleeves, and Notebooks

If you know of possible funding sources for the expense of 3-ring notebooks, plastic sleeves, and copying of the above listed documents, please contact the society. A couple of ideas are: 1) a Wal-Mart Matching Funds Grant which requires a fund-raiser by our organization and the limit of grant award is \$500 (Dorothy had suggested a yard sale to raise money); and 2) a Brownlee Grant from the State Historical Society (we presently have a Brownlee Grant for the re-printing of the Marriage Indexes and may not be able to get another grant from them this year but could apply). Due to the volume of materials, we can schedule the work in increments as we have funds available.

Sale of Microfilm Machine

A member recently met with three representatives of the Public Safety Office regarding the possible sale of the microfilm machine. They indicated interest; however, no offer has been received as of this time.

Circuit Court Records Project

Members got some hands-on experience with the Circuit Court Records Project at our May meeting. Records were cleaned, separated, and placed in folders during a workshop following the business meeting. Linda Myers, Field Archivist with the Missouri State Archives, was at the Vernon Co Courthouse on May 20 to work with us on the project and said that she was very pleased with the overall progress on the project and that we got so many records cleaned at the workshop. Anyone who would like to help further with this project can go to Room 9A at the Courthouse (to your left as you come off the elevator on Floor 1) on Fridays at 10 a.m.

Microfilmed newspaper in Library -- Sign on bulletin board

Microfilm for the following newspapers is now available at the Nevada Library Genealogy Room in addition to the Nevada papers:

Bronaugh Journal

El Dorado Springs Sun

Jerico Springs Optic

Lamar Democrat

Metz Times

Sheldon Enterprise

Nevada

A sign advising patrons of this was placed on the bulletin board.

Ownership of Materials at El Dorado Springs Library

Dorothy Foster will send a letter to the El Dorado Springs Library acknowledging that items which the Society places in the El Dorado Springs Library genealogy section become the property of the Library. Additionally, the letter will request an agreement that if the Library determines that genealogy items are no longer needed at the El Dorado Springs Library, that they will be given back to the Society.

Computers in Genealogy Room at Nevada Library

The black computer in the Genealogy Room has been fixed – you can now DOWNLOAD > VIEW census records from Heritage Quest on it, and the problem with Microsoft Word has been taken care of as well as that pesky screen about the "Journal." Additionally, the 1880 CD census set can now be used on this computer. If you encounter any difficulties with using the computers in the Genealogy Room, please leave a note about the problem in the mailbox for society officers to followup with.

Bushwhacker Days Celebration ~ Jun 15-18 in Nevada

The annual Bushwhacker Days celebration is Vernon County's biggest festival of the year. Thousands of people will be drawn to Nevada during this period, and you may want to enjoy the events. Additional information on Bushwhacker Days is available on the Internet at <http://www.bushwhackerdays.com/> and will also be in the local newspaper.

Several who take advantage of the festivities may also visit the Genealogy Room to do a bit of family history research while in the area. If you happen to be in the Genealogy Room during this time, please offer to assist researchers by pointing out the location of various resources, helping with the microfilm equipment, etc. Many of the genealogists we help become members or write to request look-up assistance and give a donation to the Society. A handout is available in the Genealogy Room which lists the primary Vernon County resources available there—please hand it out as needed, along with a Society membership form.

Tri-County Genealogical Society

Membership in the Society is currently at about 45, and we use nametags at monthly meetings to help everyone get acquainted. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in family history research. Annual dues are \$10 for an individual membership (+\$5 for each additional member within the same household up to \$25 maximum), \$5 for a Student, or \$100 Lifetime, per person. We would be pleased to have you join our local society if you are not already a member, and you can do so at our next meeting or by sending a check to Tri-County Genealogical Society, P. O. Box B, Nevada, MO 64772. 2005 Society officers are:

President: Nancy T

Vice President: N

Secretary: Virginia B

Treasurer: Kathe R

Corresponding Secretary: Dorothy F

If you receive this monthly newsletter and do not wish to do so, please contact the society.