



Nevada Library and Bushwhacker Museum

Tri-County Genealogical Society
(Vernon-Cedar-St. Clair Counties)
c/o Nevada Public Library
212 West Walnut Street
Nevada, MO 64772
TriCountyGenealogy@starband.net
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~motcogs/>



Vernon County Courthouse
Nevada, Missouri

NEWSLETTER

August 2007

September 8 Meeting Cancelled

The Society voted to cancel its September meeting to enable members to attend the Ozarks Genealogy Conference in Springfield on Sep 8. Brochures on the conference are available at the Library. Tri-County will have a vendor table at the event.

Schell City Ledger, Schell City Times and Walker Herald Newspaper Microfilm

The *Schell City Ledger*, *Schell City Times*, and *Walker Herald* newspaper microfilm is now available in the Nevada Library Genealogy Dept. Our Society purchased the nine rolls of film from the Missouri Newspaper Archives in Columbia. Each of these three newspapers were weekly papers and are no longer being published. The dates of the microfilmed issues are as follows:

Schell City Ledger: Jan 17, 1963-Sep 27, 1973.

Schell City News: Apr 13, May 4, 1922; Oct 4, 1923.

Walker Herald: May 7, 1892; Jan 25, 1906; Mar 10, 1910; Apr 4, 11, May 23, Jul 25, Sep 12, 1912; Sep 18, Oct 30, Dec 25, 1913; Feb 11, 1915; Jan 6, Feb 24, Mar 23, 30, Nov 16, 1916; Oct 10, 17, 31, Nov 7, 21, 1918; Jan 8-May 13, 27-Jun 24, Jul 1, 15-Aug 12, 26, 1920; Jan 6-Dec 22, 1921; Jan 11-Dec 20, 1923; Jan 3-10, 24, Jul 10, 1924; Feb 5, 19, 26, Mar 5, 19, 26, Apr 2, Jun 4, 11, 18, 1925; Feb 4, May 13-Dec 23, 1926, Jan 6-20, Feb 24, May 12, 19, Jun 2-30, Jul 14, 28, Aug 4, Sep 8, 15, 1927; Jan 3-16, Mar 8-20, 1928;

Jan 24-Dec 26, 1929; Jan 9-30, 1930, Feb 19, Apr 16, 1931.

If you have (or know of someone who has) other issues of these newspapers, please see if we can borrow them for the Newspaper Archives to microfilm them. The papers will be returned after the filming.

Best Choice UPC Labels and Summer Fresh Grocery Receipts

Collecting labels and receipts continues year round. Save and bring them to any monthly meeting – they will be redeemed for cash.

Deepwood Cemetery

Deepwood Cemetery was recently surveyed by Marty Patton in preparation for the new cemetery directory. She prepared a finding aid of Deepwood, and a copy has been placed in the Nevada Library Genealogy Dept. There are many additional burials from the late 1800s and early 1900s that were not in the previous cemetery directory. (*Thank you, Marty!*)

There are more than 45,500 burials in new cemetery directory being prepared, and only 6 cemetery surveys yet to be completed.

A Big Fire at Moundville The Walker Herald, Thursday, March 10, 1910

The little town of Moundville, situated in the southwest part of this county suffered the most disastrous fire in its history Wednesday night of last week. The origin of the fire is unknown.

The fire was discovered in the rear of the Granary drug store by some boys who were returning home from Prof. Miles' residence where they had been practicing for a play. They immediately gave the alarm but before fire fighters could be organized the entire building was in flames.

The drug store occupied one of the store rooms of the Odd Fellow building, a frame structure. The other room was occupied by the Hammond hardware store, which moved in its stock only a few days ago. The second story of the building was used by the Odd Fellows for a lodge room. The building and both stocks of merchandise were destroyed.

From the Odd Fellow building the flames spread to the Donaldson undertaking rooms, which were destroyed. Most of the stock, however was saved.

The wind carried the fire across the street north to the old drug store building owned by Albert Campbell, which was burned. It was not occupied.

The Woodman building occupied by the Mathews general merchandise store on the first floor and the M. W. A., as a lodge room on the second floor, caught next and was destroyed, together with its contents.

The Williams blacksmith shop was in the path of the flames and met the same fate as the other buildings.

The fire next spread to the Butterfield hardware store and the Butterfield lumber yard which were burned.

All of the buildings destroyed were frame structures.

The citizens had hard work saving the residences of James Fitz Patrick, Prof. Miles, W. J. Butterfield, John Donaldson, J. F. Mathews, W. A. McAllister and others. These all adjoin the business section, which was destroyed. Time after time, sparks from the burning buildings would alight on the roofs, and tiny flames spring up, but the alert fire fighters were always on hand with buckets of water or wet blankets to extinguish the blaze.

The residences of J. F. Mathews and W. J. Butterfield were probably damaged the most. Mr. Butterfield's adjoined the lumber yard where the heat was intense. Several holes were burned in the roof and all the windows broken from one side of W. J. Butterfield's residence.

Following is the estimated damage:

Granary Drug Store, \$2,900; insurance \$2,000.

Hammond Hardware Store \$3,000; insurance \$700.

Odd Fellows, building and regalia, \$3,700; insurance \$2,000.

Donaldson, building \$250.

Gampbell, (*sic*) building, \$800.

Mathews, stock, \$8,000; insurance \$1,000.

Woodmen, regalia \$300; insurance \$200.

Woodmen and Mathews, building \$1,500.

Williams blacksmith shop \$100.

Butterfield store and lumber stock \$12,000; building and lumber sheds, \$2,000, no insurance.

The damage to the residence property was light.

As you research in the old microfilmed newspapers, please print out interesting stories which can be included in our monthly newsletter. Please put the newspaper name and date on the item, print "editor - newsletter" on the back of it, and place in the genealogy mailbox at the Library Circulation Desk. We'll get it published in a future newsletter.

Tri-County Member Received Missouri State Genealogical Society Assoc. Award (Thank You Note)

I sincerely thank you for the nomination for the State Genealogy Award of Merit—the nomination itself was such a tremendous honor! And to receive the award at the State meeting was fantastic! Everything I've tried to do has had great support from you, and I share this honor with you. Going the "extra mile" in paying my registration and hotel room

for the conference is greatly appreciated, also! You're a great group of genealogists, and I love working with you. Nancy

www.rootsweb.com/~motcogs/

The following were added to the Tri-County website during August:

--Announced newspaper microfilm for the *Schell City Ledger*, *Schell City Times*, and *Walker Herald* is now available in the Nevada Library Genealogy Dept.

--Posted news article: Tri-County Society Member Receives Missouri State Genealogical Society Assoc. Award.

--Added biography pages for Dr. Albert BADGER, Moses BUSBEE, Frank CLYBURN, Victor COLIN, Oliver COMPTON, Lewis CORBIN, James CUMMINS, Albert DENTON, E. B. DIXON, Otis FRANKS, Dr. Eugene R. MOREROD, and James SALLEE.

--Added information to George W. PETTY page

--Updated Mt. McGregor Post 252 G.A.R. page and added 1893 newspaper story about obtaining grave markers for Civil War soldiers at Balltown Cemetery.

--Updated Metz, Missouri webpage and added Metz Train Depot page.

If you have information to add to the website, please mail or email to TriCountyGenealogy@starband.net

Recording Secretary

If you would like to record meeting minutes for the remaining few meetings this year, please contact Lynda Bishop, president.

**Vernon County 1855-1900
Circuit Court Records Project**

Linda Myers, Missouri State Archives, was in Nevada on Aug. 10 and instructed members on the next phase of the court records project, which is checking each case file against the index and record books to determine/verify the term of court. Additional index books and boxes of files will be moved from the

courthouse to the library so that more than two people can work on the project at one time. For this work, volunteers can schedule to work on days other than Fridays. If the meeting room is available, work can be done there or at any other available table or desk in the Library. Please sign in as previously done to record the number of hours worked, and the work schedule sheets are on the storage box.

This phase of the project will go much faster than the first phase, which took two years and eight months!! The more volunteers we have scheduled during the week, the faster it will go. Members of the Elizabeth Carey Chapter of DAR have pledged support, and the local 4-H organization has been contacted regarding volunteers.

Linda will be at Nevada again on Sep 14.

Cedar County Probate Files

The Cedar Co. Probate Project is to process all 19th century probate case files for indexing and microfilming. Right now it's uncertain how many boxes there will be, but the estimate is anywhere from 10-40 cubic ft. More information on this project will be printed in the newsletter as details are known. We hope there will be several members who will work on this project.

August Correspondence Report

Five research requests totaling \$78 were received in August: Idaho (3), Utah (1), and Virginia(1). Seventy-eight emails were received/answered.

**The History of Schools
in Delaware County, Oklahoma**

The Delaware County Genealogical Society of Grove, OK, is having a prepublication sale of its book, "The History of Schools in Delaware County, Oklahoma." This is a reprint of the 1986 Bessie Duggan book with a new index, 3 new appendices, and several new photos. The pre-publication price of \$19 ppd is good through Labor Day weekend; thereafter \$26.

The society address is DCGS--School book, 1140 NEO Loop, Grove, OK 74344.

Who are YOU Researching?

Members are invited to submit their name and contact information (email and/or mailing address) and surnames with location and years that they are researching for publication in the newsletter. Other members may be researching the same family, and this will enable members to contact each other and share information if they desire to do so. Please email your information to TriCountyGenealogy@starband.net or bring to any meeting.

Becky Jones Siple can be reached at email rssiple@yahoo.com or 2903 SE Lewellyn Ave., Troutdale, OR 97060. Her family tree is online at:

<http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?db=jones2005>

These are the names and dates she is researching in this area:

JONES 1850s – present: Particularly descendants of Walter & Oscar Jones
ROSE - RUCKMAN: 1880s
WOODS - LYND: 1850s-1930
CATON - HARVEY: 1860-1930
MEDLIN/MEDLEN: 1870-1890

How to Add Photos to Your Genealogy Documents (computer training)

**Tuesday, September 18, 2007, 1-3 p.m.
Nevada Library Computer Lab
212 W. Walnut Street, Nevada, MO**

Learn how to include a treasured family photo in the genealogy story you are writing or the Christmas Newsletter you will be sending this winter. In this seminar, you will insert digital photos into Microsoft Word documents. You will learn how to insert, format, crop, and resize digitized photos. You will also learn how to add borders and shadows to photos.

Seminar attendees must already know how to use Microsoft Word (or Works)

computer software. This seminar does not include how to use a scanner or digital camera. Photo files and documents needed for the seminar will be provided. There is no fee for this 2-hour program. However, due to limited space, advance registration is required; email TriCountyGenealogy@starband.net.

This is the third in a series of computer training sessions sponsored by the Tri-County Genealogical Society for area researchers.

Microsoft Word for Beginners (computer training)

**Date & time in October to be announced
Nevada Library Computer Lab
212 W. Walnut Street, Nevada, MO**

This training session is an introduction to using Microsoft Word and will cover the basics of creating and saving word processing documents. This training is limited to a maximum of 4 Tri-County Genealogy members only and requires preregistration by emailing TriCountyGenealogy@starband.net. (If you are not presently a member and would like to attend this training, please send \$10 annual membership fee to Tri-County Genealogy, 212 W. Walnut St., Nevada, MO 64772 and email your preregistration.) This is the fourth in a series of computer training sessions sponsored by the Tri-County Genealogical Society for area researchers.

Zodiac, Montevallo Twp, Vernon Co, MO

ZODIAC.

The springs bearing this name are located in the southeast corner of the township (sw. cor. sw. sec. 35), on Horse creek. There is a hotel here and a good bath house, and the locality, though not advertised largely, is liberally frequented during the warm seasons. A town was regularly laid off here in September, 1881, by Moses Isenhower. The site is romantic and picturesque, and lovers of beautiful natural scenery are delighted with the views here presented.

The 1911 History of Vernon County, p. 623.

Got His Piktur in the Paper

In a three column feature article in the Kansas City Star of Sunday Zodiac gets more publicity than that village has enjoyed in three decades.

"For forty years the pioneer booster has sat in the ruins and waited to see his dream city rise," says the head line in referring to S. F. Taylor. Most of the article is devoted to Sam Taylor, and incidently (*sic*) the oil situation is touched upon. The story is illustrated with several views of the ruins of the stone buildings erected there when Zodiac was confidently expected to become the country's leading health resort, a hope which Taylor yet holds unimpaired.

Quoting Taylor the story says in part: "The day will come as sure as fate when Zodiac will be the most noted health resort in the whole United States. When this country is opened up the new-comers will be sure to need a city where they can go for pleasure and health. Why, even one of the springs has an oily taste. Even now I get letters from people all over the country, people who were here twenty-five years ago, asking what accomodations (*sic*)Zodiac has to offer. They want to come and take the waters. And I have to write and tell them they will have to bring their own accomodations along with them if they want any. There is no place here for them to stay, unless they bring tents. Sheldon is our closest town to the railroad. The road is long and rough and hard for invalids.

"Today there ought to be twenty thousand people here, and there would have been if the place had been property managed. A company of men from Lamar bought Isenhour out and they were going to develop the town. All they ever did was to build a little frame bathhouse. Lots in town sold as high as \$100, but the promoters got to fighting among themselves. They didn't give the people an exactly fair chance, and they killed what hopes the town had. But, in the face of everything, it

was hard to ruin Zodiac. At one time we had two hundred people here."

He pointed to a vine covered stone ruin.

"That was the hotel. Many the time I have had to put shakedowns on the floor for the guests. They came from all over the United States, I tell you. Isenhour was going to enlarge the place until it would cover about a whole block. My wife and I were the proprietors of the Zodiac House, and we did a fine business. My money went into lots. I bought every lot I could, and I've held on. I'm going to keep on holding tight. My wife sticks here with me. Zodiac is bound to be the best health resort on earth."

The Sheldon Enterprise, Sheldon, MO. Friday, August 17, 1917

J. W. Harbert in commenting on an article in last week's issue relative to Zodiac says that while the statement regarding early conditions there was correct, he should have been given credit for establishing the first dry goods store in that burg. "I went there from Lamar in 1885," said Mr. Harbert, "and put on sale the first stock of dry goods ever opened there. There was a small grocery store there at the time, but aside from that mine was Zodiac's first business establishment.

The Sheldon Enterprise, Sheldon, MO. Friday, August 24, 1917

(If you have information about the former community of Zodiac, please contact us.)

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings of the Tri-County Genealogical Society (Vernon-Cedar-St. Clair Counties of Missouri) are held the second Saturday of each month and begin at 10 a.m. They are alternately held at Nevada and El Dorado Springs at the following locations:

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.

El Dorado Springs Church of Christ Fellowship Hall, 302 East Hospital Road, El Dorado Springs. Carpooling from the Nevada Library to the El Dorado Springs meeting is usually available; contact the society TriCountyGenealogy@starband.net.

All meetings are open to the public and visitors are always welcome!

Tri-County Genealogical Society

Membership in the Society is currently at about 70, 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 the 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. 2007 Society officers are:

President: Lynda B

Vice President: Kathe R

Recording Sec: **position open**

Treasurer: Ray L

Corresponding Sec: Richard J

You received this monthly newsletter because you are a member of the Society, have indicated an interest in our organization, or represent an area genealogy group. If you do not want to receive this email newsletter in the future, please contact the Society at TriCountyGenealogy@starband.net and request that your name be removed from the email list.

You are cordially invited to support the work of the Tri-County Genealogical Society with an annual membership.