



Nevada Library and
Bushwhacker Museum

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



Vernon County Courthouse
Nevada, Missouri

NEWSLETTER

October 2008

What to Look for and Where to Look when the Research gets Difficult

Helen Lodge, Guest Speaker

November 8, 2008, 10 a.m.

**Nevada Library Meeting Room
212 W. Walnut St., Nevada, MO**

Do you have a "difficult" area in your research? This program will address where else to look and what to look for to help get past those brick walls. Helen Lodge is a noted speaker and researcher who will give us some good straight talk about conducting difficult research. Be sure to bring a notepad and pencil to this meeting!

The meeting and program are open to the public.

Society Programs in 2008

The following programs have been arranged for the remainder of 2008:

Dec 13, El Do: Election and Installation of Officers and Christmas Luncheon. Members are invited to bring a photo or historical item of interest to show and share highlights of this year's genealogy research. A potluck Christmas lunch will follow the meeting.

Dedication of Military Memorial and Rededication of Civil War Burial Plot Balltown Cemetery, Vernon Co, MO Sunday, November 9, 2 p.m.

Honor the Veterans in your family and celebrate your patriotism at the dedication ceremony of a beautiful new black granite

Military Memorial at Balltown Cemetery on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 9 at 2 p.m. The recently renovated Civil War G.A.R. lot will also be rededicated at this time. Historic Balltown Cemetery is located 8 miles north of Nevada on U.S. 71 to the Horton exit, then 1 mile west. Coming from the north, it is 8 miles south of Rich Hill to the Horton exit, then 1 mile west.

Balltown is the oldest cemetery in Vernon County, dating from 1838; and it is appropriate that this new memorial be dedicated at this location to all Veterans, all branches of service, whether having served in war or peace. The community is honored with the gift of this memorial to all Veterans and with the planned ceremony.

Arnold Schofield, Historian with the Historical Society of Kansas, will serve as Master of Ceremonies for the event, which will include participation by Holmes' Brigade Civil War Reenactment Unit Color Guard; Phelps Camp #66 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War; Colonel John T. Coffee Camp #1934 Sons of Confederate Veterans; Veterans of Foreign Wars; American Legion; Vietnam Veterans of America; Women's Relief Corps (portrayed by Cottey College students); Nevada JROTC Color Guard; the Parade of the American Soldier; and the Cottey College Wind Ensemble. Bill Martin will sing the National Anthem, and Missouri State Representative Barney Fisher (LTC U.S. Marine Corps, Retired) will deliver the dedication address.

There will be special recognition of Veterans in attendance, and Veterans are invited to wear their uniform or a vest, cap, etc., which indicates their unit or branch of service. Families of active duty military will also be recognized. You may bring a tribute to leave at the Memorial to honor your Veteran.

The dedication ceremony is sponsored by the Vernon County Historical Society, Balltown Cemetery Board, and Tri-County Genealogical Society.

Please bring lawn chairs. Portable restrooms will be available.

If questions, please email the genealogy society.

Officers for 2009

Your nominating committee working to put together a slate of officers for 2009.

Cedar County Probate Files Project

Work continues on Box 9 of the Cedar Co. Probate Project. You do not have to be a genealogy society member to help with this project – please email the society and a coordinator will contact you about volunteering.

On a related note, the Society's portion of the Vernon County Circuit Court Records Project began Nov 6, 2004 and was completed Jun 12, 2008 = 3 years and 7 months. The index is being prepared.

New Resources in Genealogy Department

Letters of Love and Adventure by Dale Goodman. (Copy also to El Dorado Springs Library.)

Life and Memories at My Missouri Ozark Home Place by Dale Goodman. (Copy also to El Dorado Springs Library.)

Memories by Addie (Jones) Richmond. Compiled and Edited by Eva N. Phillips. 1930. (copy).

Items of Interest from Area Newspapers

[Each of the below newspaper articles was transcribed by society members.]

POST-OFFICE OPERATIONS.—The Postmaster General has established the following new Postoffices in this State.

<i>Post office.</i>	<i>County.</i>	<i>Postmaster.</i>
Brighton	Polk	B. R. Barnes.
Arbela	Scotland	Wm. H. Clemmons.
Slagle Creek	Polk	James A. Slagle.
Lucas	Henry	Geo. W. Brume.
Mormon Fork	Vernon	James Boon.
Elk Fork	Vernon	Wm. Crawford.

*Jefferson City Inquirer, Jefferson City, MO.
June 5, 1852, page 2, col. 4.*

THE VERNON COUNTY HABEAS CORPUS CASE.

Indictments were found yesterday by the United States grand jury, against Messrs. Wight, McAfee, Doss, Ray and Snow, for obstructing United States process and resisting a United States Marshal, by sueing out, executing and giving legal cognizance to a writ of *habeas corpus*. Col. Wight is the present Representative from Vernon county. As attorney, he was instrumental in obtaining a writ of habeas corpus to test the legality of arrest of his client made by a Deputy United States Marshal. Judge McAfee is the magistrate who granted the writ and ordered the discharge of the prisoner. Mr. Snow is the father of the person arrested. Mr. Doss is a lawyer who aided Col. Wight, and Mr. Ray is a deputy sheriff who executed the writ. The prisoner was discharged, but re arrested and held to answer by the United States Commissioner.

It is expected the trial of these parties will commence in a day or two. Ewing & Smith for the defence.

The case is an extraordinary one. If the charge be sustained, it will upset all popular notions of the efficacy of the writ of liberty, where Federal authority is concerned.

Numerous instances occurred previous to the war, where, through the interposition of this writ by State magistrates, fugitive slaves in custody of Federal officials were torn from their custody, in acknowledged defiance of law, and thus enabled to escape. Yet no Federal court then undertook to punish State magistrates, lawyers or executive officers for thus resorting to the great writ of liberty to accomplish what was then admitted to be an illegal purpose.

But this case is about to come to trial. What we consider proper comments on an attempt to subvert the writ of liberty, are therefore for the present deferred. Our readers will eagerly watch the progress of the trial.

*Jefferson City People's Tribune, Jefferson City, MO.
March 13, 1872, page 2, col. 1.*

Troubles on the Border.

Capt. Brooks, who arrived at Leavenworth on the 10th from Fort Scott, states that the settlers on the Dry Wood are leaving their homes.

Livingston has recently made another raid into the Southeastern part of Kansas, and committed the murders and robberies which always accompany a guerrilla invasion. Fort Scott has recently been panic stricken, and news from Humboldt and Allen counties is that the people there are greatly alarmed. Our troops have nearly all been taken away. The bushwhackers are well aware of this fact.—*Republican.*

*Liberty Tribune, Liberty, MO.
Mary 22, 1863, page 2, col. 5.*

A new county by the name of Vernon has been formed from Cass and Bates counties.

*Liberty Weekly Tribune, Liberty, MO.
April 6, 1855, page 2, col. 1*

From Vernon County.

From a private letter from Nevada, Vernon county, to a gentleman in this city, we are permitted to make the following extracts:

"There is great excitement caused by finding the body of a woman, who had been murdered near the rail road five miles west of this place. We have no idea who she was or who murdered her. * * Simon Nelson, a Norwegian coal digger, who had been about Walker for three or four years was taken out of Mr. Huff's house (near the Howard school house), and hanged by some unknown parties. A card pinned on his back, said he belonged to a band of horse-thieves. Those who knew him believe him innocent, and think that parties who held a grudge against him hung him. * * Another strange occurrence took place Saturday night last. A man took a horse, saddle and bridle from Ed. Requa's stable. Mr. R. missed them next morning, and tried to get trace by tracking the horse; they recognized the track by some peculiarity of the hoof of the horse; Ed. crossed Drywood on the bridge, and went in the direction of the Bosworth ford, on the Marmaton. Near this place he met an acquaintance riding his horse, who informed him that he caught the horse, with bridle and saddle on that morning, near his premises. They then went to the river, saw where the horse went in, seemed to miss the right crossing—the horse came out where the bank was very steep. Seeing no human tracks they supposed the rider was thrown off and drowned. Procuring drag hooks, they found the body about 15 feet below where the horse came out. It proved to be that of a German who had been in Mr. R's employ some time since, but who had been discharged. He came back, stole the horse, and found a watery grave. * * I have another sad occurrence to relate. Saturday night last, Mr. J. M. Clark, who resides on Clear Creek, gave as he thought, a dose of quinine to a sick child. The medicine proved to be morphine, from the effects of which the child died in a few hours.

*Jefferson City People's Tribune, Jefferson City, MO.
May 9, 1877, page 1, col. 8.*

The county court of Vernon county has offered a reward of one hundred dollars for the capture of Baker, who killed Bennett at Sheldon, not long since.

SHELDON *Enterprise*: "Watch for prairie fires. Ten acres of prairie was burned clean, two miles south of town last night. The grass is very dry and a fire with strong wind might do considerable damage."

P. P. Croy, a young man aged 18 years, committed suicide a few days since by hanging himself in his father's barn at Sheldon, Vernon county. The rash act is supposed to have been prompted by a physical ailments, he having been afflicted with paralysis and fits for a number of years.

Springfield Express, Springfield, MO.
August 19, 1881, page 2, col. 1.

Killed by Lightning.

NEVADA, MO., June 16—Peter Klontz, aged 25 years, a prominent farmer and stock raiser of Deerfield township, this county, stepped from his barn during a violent electric storm yesterday and had one foot on the outside when he was struck by lightning and instantly killed. His cap was found fully fifty yards away while his clothes were almost entirely consumed by the flame. The lightning hit him on the top of the head, ran down the right side to his feet, split one shoe in two and burned the flesh to a crisp on the right side of the face and body. His beard was burned to a crisp on the left side and not a single hair was left on the right. He leaves a wife and one child.

The Springfield Express, Springfield, MO.
Friday, June 21, 1889, page 2, col. 2.

2009 Membership Dues

Your 2009 membership dues can be paid at any time. They can be brought to a monthly meeting or mailed to the society at 218 W. Walnut St., Nevada, MO 64772. Individual membership is \$10; lifetime membership is \$100. Your membership is greatly appreciated. Memberships fund the

publication of the newsletter and help purchase resources for the libraries.

Cedar County Marriage Records

The Tri-County Genealogical Society is purchasing microfilm of the 1845-1999 Cedar County marriage records to place in the El Dorado Springs Library. This acquisition will be a tremendous asset to the genealogy collection in El Dorado Springs and of great convenience to researchers.

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, 212 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 at tricountygenealogy@centurytel.net.

Tri-County Genealogical Society

Membership in the Society is currently at about 75, 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, 218 West Walnut Street, Nevada, MO 64772.

2007 Society officers are:

President: Neoma F

V. Pres: Janet J & Nancy T

Recording Sec: position open

Treasurer: Ray L

Corresponding Sec: Darlene L

You received this monthly newsletter notice 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 notice in the future, please contact the Society at tricountygenealogy@centurytel.net and request that your name be removed from the email list.

*If you have enjoyed reading the Tri-County Genealogical Society's newsletter,
You are cordially invited to support the work of the
Society with an annual membership.*

Dates to Mark on Your Calendar:

Nov. 8, 10 a.m. Genealogy Meeting – Nevada

Nov. 9, 2 p.m., Balltown Cemetery Military Memorial Dedication