



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
tricountygenealogy@centurytel.net
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~motcogs/>



Vernon County Courthouse
Nevada, Missouri

NEWSLETTER

February 2010

March 16, 2010, 10 a.m.
212 W. Walnut St., Nevada, MO.
Genealogy Meeting & Program
HANDS ON RESEARCH

The March meeting of the Tri-County Genealogical Society will be held on Tuesday, March 16, in the Nevada Public Library Meeting Room. The program will begin with an overview of how to research in the Nevada Library Genealogy Department. Attendees will then take actual look-up requests and conduct research in the Genealogy Dept. The results of the research projects will then be reported back to the group. (Attention long-distance Tri-County Members: If you have obituary, probate, history book, cemetery directory, etc., look-ups you would like done for free, please immediately email/mail the details to the Society with the information so it can be used for research experience during this program. Persons who would like to join the Society and submit their requests should immediately send the \$10 membership fee along with their written requests.)

The meeting and program are open to the public, and everyone with an interest in researching his or her family's history is invited to attend.

2010 Membership Dues

Members who have not paid their 2010 dues will be sent a reminder notice during March. Send your dues today to ensure continued membership benefits.

2010 Programs

The following programs are tentatively scheduled for 2010. Watch the newsletter and website for updated information or changes as programs are finalized.

Apr. 20, El Do: "Tour of Historic El Dorado Springs Train Depot." The old train depot was moved to Silverline Ranch where it has been preserved. (Arranged by Linda Bishop)

May 18, Nevada: "Using the Find-A-Grave Website" This will be a hands-on workshop in the Library Computer Lab. Bring your research and learn how to look up burial memorials on this free website. Attendees will also be shown how to register and add memorials to Find-A-Grave.

Jun. 15, El Do: "Rural Schools of Cedar County" by Luella Phipps.

Jul. 20, Nevada: "Using the Computer in Your Research" by Helen Lodge, Cottey College. (Arranged by Neoma Foreman)

Aug. 17, El Do: Research trip or historical site tour; to be determined. (Arranged by Dorothy Foster)

Sep. 21, Nevada: "Brick Walls in Your Research" by Helen Lodge. (Arranged by Neoma Foreman)

Oct. 19, El Do: To be announced. (Arranged by Dorothy Foster)

Nov. 16, Nevada: "Group Solve Your Brick Walls" Helen Lodge at Cottey College. Members: submit completed form in advance to have your brick wall research case used. (Arranged by Neoma Foreman)

Dec. 21, El Do: "Sharing our Personal Research, Installation of Officers, and Christmas Luncheon. (Arranged by Dorothy Foster)

[Members who are coordinating and arranging programs are asked to provide additional details about their programs for the newsletter and the Society's website. Thank you.]

New Resources Added to Collections

Numerous additional items continue to be added to the collections in the (N)evada and (E)l Dorado Springs libraries.

- 1872 Bates County, Missouri Plat Map (N).
- History of Foster, MO 1883-1972 (N).
- Church of Christ, Nevada, Missouri Records (N).
- Davidson Genealogy (Misc. Pages) (N).
- 1930 Plat Book of Cedar Co. (N) (E).
- How to Locate Anyone Who Is or Has Been in the Military: Armed Forces Locator Guide by Richard S. Johnson and Debra Johnson Knox, with Forward by William C. Westmoreland. (N) (E).
- No Soap, No Pay, Diarrhea, Dysentery & Desertion: A Composite Diary of the Last 16 Months of the Confederacy from 1864 to 1865. Jeff Toalson, Editor. (N) (E).
- Google Your Family Tree: Unlock the Hidden Power of Google by Daniel M. Lynch. (N) (E).

(Items may not be immediately available because they are being cataloged.)

Suggested Resources to Obtain

Suggested items for purchase consideration:

- 2009 Vernon County Plat Book (\$26)
- El Dorado Sun microfilmed newspaper 1961-1970 (or 1980) for the Nevada Genealogy Dept. (The Friends of the El Dorado Springs Library is purchasing the newspaper microfilm for the El Do Library).
- Opening the Ozarks 1835-1839: First Families in Southwest Missouri by Marsha Hoffman Rising. 4 Vol., over 3,000 pages, every name, place & subject index. \$196/set. Covers first land entries from Benton, Camden, Cedar, Christian, Dallas,

Greene, Henry, Hickory, Laclede, Miller, Morgan, Polk, Pulaski, St. Clair, Stone, Texas, and Wright Counties, MO.

Please submit your suggestions for additional resources to obtain.

Research Computer Repaired

The second computer in the Genealogy Department has been repaired. Thank you to all of our members for their patience and cooperation while the repair was being made.

Cedar Co. Probate Records

Volunteers report that they are presently processing the last box! Great job and thank you!!

Research Assistance in Genealogy Dept.

Researchers from out of town and area researchers who are just getting started sometimes need assistance when they visit the Nevada Library Genealogy Department. It would be helpful if there were volunteers available to suggest which resources might be helpful and explain some basics about how to research the Vernon County area. This is not to conduct research for the individuals but rather to explain to them where they might find the information they seek, how resources are arranged, how to use the microfilm machines, etc.

The primary times that help is needed seems to be from about 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. If there are several who might be interested in volunteering one or more days a month, let's set up a schedule and see if we can assist others.

Additionally, this would give you a specific time that you could work on your research if no one required assistance when you are there.

Items of Interest from Area Newspapers

[The below newspaper articles were transcribed by society members.]

Shot Himself

J. M. Atterbury, who lives west of this city, has received information to the effect that James E. Bond, who disappeared suddenly from here last April, suicided a few weeks ago at some point in the Indian Nation.

Bond had been at work near Gibson, and himself and another man started for Missouri with a wagon. One morning while the companion was preparing breakfast Bond walked behind the wagon and shot himself, the load of shot taking effect above the eye, producing instant death. An examination was had and the jury returned a verdict that Bond came to his death at his own hands, either by accident or with suicidal intent. He had only a few dollars on his person.

Bond was about 28 years old and came here from Mt. Vernon, Ill., and worked in and about Nevada about two years. He raised one crop on Mr. Atterbury's place and when he left here Mr. A. thinks he had several hundred dollars on deposit, but does not know whether he took it with him or not. Bond's leaving was mysterious and has never since been explained.

Some three weeks after he left here he wrote back from Arkansas, saying he had traveled over the greater part of that state. He next turned up in the Indian Nation. The information of his death was sent here by his brother, who lives at Mt. Vernon, Ill.

**The Nevada Daily Mail, Nevada, MO.
Thursday, February 12, 1885, page 1.**

A FATAL SALOON FIGHT

Barkeeper Cheney Lodges a Pistol Ball Over John Catton's Left Eye.

News reached here this afternoon of a fatal fight which took place last night in a saloon at Carbon Center.

Trouble arose between the barkeeper, Jesse Cheney, and John Catton, and in the row Cheney drew his revolver. Catton attempted to take the pistol from Cheney and was shot just above the left eye, producing a fatal wound. It is said that Catton died soon after the shot was fired.

Cheney is reported under arrest at Rich Hill.

This afternoon Coroner Harris and Prosecuting Attorney Blanton left for Carbon Center. Deputy Sheriff White accompanied them to Rich Hill, and expects to return to-night with Cheney.

**The Nevada Daily Mail, Nevada, MO.
March 17, 1885.**

JOHN KEATING'S DEATH

Particulars of the Tragedy at Carbon Center.

Jesse Cheney an Occupant of the County Jail.

Head Had Orders to Run the House and Did It.

Yesterday afternoon Coroner Harris and Prosecuting Attorney Blanton reached Carbon Center in response to a telegram stating that John Keating had been killed by Jesse Cheney.

The little town was very quiet. Many of the miners had quit work and were standing around in little groups discussing in an undertone, the particulars of their comrade's death. The remains were at a private house and the inquest was almost completed.

Dr. Harris made an examination of the testimony as copied by the clerk, and decided it unnecessary to recall the witnesses. An examination of the body showed that the ball had entered the head at the inner corner of the left eye and ranging backward and upward had fractured the skull, just in front of the crown. The force was insufficient to carry it out, and it fell back into the cavity between the two hemispheres of the brain.

To Dr. Harris we are indebted for the particulars of the difficulty which led to the killing.

The fatal shot was fired in the saloon of Cantrell & Oliver, and resulted from a quarrel between Cantrell and a man named Dodson. They were engaged in a game of dice, and a dispute arose about the status of the play. Cantrell claimed that Dodson owed him twenty cents, and Dodson insisted that

several of the chips in Cantrell's possession belonged to him.

The quarrel grew warm, and Dodson, picking up several pool balls declared that he would have the chips or have blood. At this juncture Jesse Cheney, the barkeeper, interfered by drawing a revolver from beneath the counter, and pointing it at Dodson. He ordered him to lay the balls down. Instead of putting them back in the rack, Dodson walked toward Cheney and laid them on the counter. John Keating was leaning on the counter, and at this moment, seized the revolver with one hand and exclaimed "Don't shoot!" Cheney attempted to pull the weapon away, and though the struggle was scarcely noticeable the revolver was discharged and Keating reeled and fell to the floor with the ball in his head.

When Keating had fallen, Cheney walked out from behind the counter, with the revolver in hand, and in an excited manner exclaimed, "By G__ I was ordered to run this house and I am going to do it."

Those present were frightened by the turn the affair had taken, and for a few moments, it seems that no one but Cheney moved from the places occupied, when the shot was fired. Then Dodson asked Cheney if he could go out of the room. He was told that he could not, but after a few minutes Cheney reconsidered the matter, and told those present that they could go out or come in as they desired.

For nearly a half hour Keating was left where he fell, but was finally taken up and laid on a lounge in the room. The next morning he was removed to a private house and at 11 o'clock, died. He was unconscious from the time he was wounded until death ended his sufferings. His groans, it is said, were very pitiable.

The shooting occurred between 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening and in a few hours after Cheney had given himself up to the officers at Rich Hill.

Keating leaves a wife and two children, and their sorrow over the dead husband and father was very affecting. Soon after he was

shot, they were brought from their home a short distance from town and remained with him until he died. They are left in an impoverished condition. The dead man was a coal-miner and had been at work near Carbon Center for several years, having moved from Rich Hill to that place. He was a tall and rather slender man with black hair and mustache, and very prominent features, he was about 35 years old. He was addicted to drinking, but when not under the influence of whiskey was a very agreeable man. He had been drinking at the time he was shot.

It is said that a difficulty had occurred a few hours previous to the shooting between Cheney and Keating, but it was understood that it had been amicably settled before the later and fatal quarrel arose.

CHENEY'S STORY

This morning, Deputy Sheriff White returned from Rich Hill with Jesse Cheney. A Mail reporter saw the prisoner soon after his arrival, and asked his account of the affray.

"It would probably not be best for me to say anything about it, as my attorney prefers that [I] should not," was his answer.

"How long had you been in Carbon Center?"

"Only ten days. I went there from Rich Hill, where I have been at work in various saloons about two years."

"It is rumored," said the reporter, "that Keating is not the first man you have killed."

"That is not true. This is the first trouble that I have ever gotten into. You can trace my life back and find that I am telling the truth. Clif. Davis, who lives in this city, has known me a long time. I used to buy groceries from him years ago."

"Was Keating taking any part in the quarrel when he was shot?" the reporter inquired.

"I did not hear him say a word," was the reply. "I drew the pop on Dodson and expected to bluff him into behaving himself, but, he drew back his hand which held a pool ball, and I expected him to throw it at me. Keating was standing near us, and

grabbed two balls from Dodson and with the other hand grasped the pistol which I held. I attempted to pull it away from him and it went off. The pistol was a self-cocker. I did not cock it before pointing it at Dodson, and do not remember that I did so afterward. When Keating grabbed the balls, I thought he intended helping Dodson, but do not know that he did.”

Cheney is about 26 years old, about 5 feet 7 inches in height and wears a light mustache.

Crockett & Smith of Rich Hill have been retained as Cheney’s attorneys.

**The Nevada Daily Mail, Nevada, MO.
March 18, 1885.**

**Request for Comments;
Draft Environmental Assessment,
Proposed Building Demolition,
Camp Clark, Nevada, Missouri**

“The Missouri Army National Guard (MOARNG) has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate environmental, cultural, social, and economic impacts associated with proposed Building Demolitions at Camp Clark, Nevada, Missouri. The action includes the demolition of 63 buildings in place within the cantonment area of Camp Clark.

The MOARNG would like to provide the Tri-County Genealogical Society with the opportunity to comment on the draft EA prior to finalization. Enclosed for your review is a copy of the draft EA. Should you wish to provide comments on this document, please do so by April 14, 2010. Please feel free to contact Mr. Shane Kampeter at (573) 638-9517 with any questions you may have.

Thank you for your assistance and your interest in public and community affairs.

Sincerely
Keith D. Braun
Deputy Environmental Manager
Missouri Army National Guard”

The March 2010 Preliminary Draft EA is being catalogued and placed in the Genealogy Department.

Locating Burials of Veterans

The Veterans Administration has an online nation-wide gravesite locator at <http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/> to help locate veteran’s gravesite. For information on service members buried in overseas cemeteries, visit the American Battle Monuments Commission online at www.abmc.gov

Cedar County Library

The Heritage Quest database is available to Cedar County Library patrons from their home computers. You must have a current library card to access the database. If questions, call your local Cedar County Library (El Dorado Springs or Stockton).

Researchers to the area can access free Wi-Fi at both the El Dorado Springs and Stockton libraries.

Those wishing to increase their digital picture and basic computer skills can sign up for classes to be held in the spring; contact the library at (417) 876-4827.

Spring into Genealogy

The Old Fort Genealogical Society at Ft. Scott, KS, will host a seminar at the Ft. Scott Community College Academic Building on Sat., Mar. 27 from 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.. Topics of presentations will include African American Settlement in Ft. Scott 1842-1942, Getting Started, Tips for Breaking Through Your Brickwalls, and Understanding Civil War Service Records. Lunch on your own; free admission. See flyer at Nevada Library Genealogy Dept.

Summer Fresh Grocery Cash Register Receipts and Best Choice UPC Labels

The Tri-County Genealogical Society continues to collect Best Choice brand UPC product labels and Summer Fresh Grocery Store receipts. Please note that the Summer Fresh receipts are void if the bottom portion of the receipt is removed. Bring these items to any monthly meeting. They are redeemed for cash used to

purchase genealogy resources for our public libraries.

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings of the Tri-County Genealogical Society (Vernon-Cedar-St. Clair Counties of Missouri) are held the third Tuesday 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 W. 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.

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, and \$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. 2010 Society officers are:

President: Kathe Rader

V. Pres: Dorothy Foster & Neoma Foreman

Recording Secy: Janet Jones

Treasurer: Ray Lukenbill

Corresponding Secy: Darlene Lukenbill

Annual membership is only \$10 -- join today and support the work of the Society!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
Nevada, MO 64772
218 W. Walnut Street
(Vernon-Cedar-St. Clair Counties)
Tri-County Genealogical Society