

Cedar & Vernon County, MO Genealogical Society

218 West Walnut Street, Nevada, MO 64772

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Society website: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~motcogs/

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Cedar Co research: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mocedar

Genealogical Society Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, November 18, 2014, 10 a.m.

Nevada Public Library Meeting Room

218 West Walnut Street, Nevada, MO

Using Census Reports in Research

Whether you have been researching your family's history for years or are just beginning your research, you cannot accomplish your task without understanding and using the U.S. Federal censuses. You can track your ancestors' migration from 1790 through 1940 by using the census records available online at Heritage Quest, Ancestry, Fold3, and Family Search. <https://familysearch.org> can be accessed for free from your home computer. Additionally, you can search census records on microfilm for Vernon County (stored in the bottom drawer of the microfilm cabinet), or order any census microfilm from the FamilySearch Library (see article below).

.....**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NOV. 18 PROGRAM WILL BEGIN AT 10 A.M., AND THE BUSINESS MEETING WILL FOLLOW.** The Library opens at 9 a.m., so come early and bring a friend.

Calendar year 2015 dues can be paid at any meeting or mailed to the society at 218 W. Walnut St., Nevada, MO 64772. They are \$10 per person or \$15 for two people in the same household. Lifetime memberships are available for \$100.

Members who do not have email and would like a printed copy of the monthly newsletter mailed to them in 2015 must furnish 12 self-addressed and stamped envelopes before the first newsletter is mailed in January.

Nevada Public Library is Designated a FamilySearch Center

Researchers can now order microfilm and microfiche from the FamilySearch Library System in Salt Lake City and have it sent to the Nevada Library for viewing. Film is ordered by the user online; it is not ordered by the Library staff through Inter Library Loan (ILL). The first step in ordering is to review the guide https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Introduction_to_the_Family_History_Library_Catalog

Search the online Catalog and locate the microfilm needed in your research and note the item number. Place your order online and pay the shipping fee (usually \$7.50 per roll) with a credit card. This fee pays for the postage both ways, so there is no expense to the Nevada Library. When your order is received at the Nevada Library, you will be notified that your order is in. The film can only be used at the Library and cannot be taken out of the facility. If needed, film can be kept for as long as 10-12 weeks. The Library staff will return the film when you notify them that you are finished with it and it is ready to be returned.

If you need assistance in searching for specific film, please contact Nancy to schedule a time to meet at the Library. An email account, a personal credit card, and being registered (free) on FamilySearch are required to order film.

FamilySearch's Microfilm Ordering service is your gateway to a vast collection of genealogical and historical records, and the Nevada Library is pleased to offer this service to its patrons.

Best Choice UPC for Cash

The Society receives cash for Best Choice UPC labels. Bring them to any meeting or leave them in the box in the Nevada Library Genealogy Dept.

Harwood, Missouri

As mentioned in the October 2014 newsletter, *Harwood, Missouri, Centennial 1882-1982* was donated to the Nevada Library Genealogy Dept., and it has now been catalogued and shelved with the other community histories. Researchers will find this history quite interesting, and much appreciation is given to those who worked to enable the publication of his book. Here is the information from the "Town History" portion of the book on page 15:

In the southwestern part of Bacon township in Vernon County is the little village of Harwood, founded 100 years ago, May 27, 1882.

The virgin prairie land was purchased at a public auction on October 5, 1874 by Charles E. Brown at the East front door of the court house in St. Louis, Missouri. Being the highest bidder, Mr. Brown bought one thousand acres for one thousand dollars.

Charles E. Brown and his wife, Annie, both from Scotland, had settled in the St. Louis area where Mr. Brown had taken a trade of stone dresser. Some time later he became a miller, working for Eagle Flour Mills in St. Louis. He patented an improvement for bolting the flour.

Mr. Brown had no prior experience in surveying and curious about his newly acquired purchase of land, hired a highly respected and reputable land agent – Mr. John T. Birdseye. Early in the spring of 1882 Mr. William L. Rutherford, a native of Scotland, and close friend of Mr. Birdseye, came into this area and Mr. Birdseye, being an alert agent, sold him a quantity of land. The idea of a town was formulated and Mr. Birdseye was to survey and lay out the town lots beside the already present Division of Missouri Pacific Railroad.

Mr. C. F. Coats also approved the idea of a town and built a combined store and dwelling on block 8 before the town was surveyed, but after it was contemplated. Early in February, 1882 Mr. Harwood, a Methodist minister and close friend of Charles E. Brown, arrived and purchased the acres owned by Mr. Rutherford and additional land of Mr. Brown's for \$1.25 per acre. The townspeople wanted to name the village "Brownsville" in honor of Mr. Brown, but he suggested that the village be named Harwood honoring his friend who had so generously purchased the land.

In accordance with this suggestion Mr. Birdseye formulated the plan and laid out the lots. By May, 1884, all of the lots in the original town had been sold and another addition was promptly laid out. The little village of Harwood had sprung to life. Population [was] 251 the first year of existence. It was a thriving little burg, the amount of business done being entirely out of proportion to its size. It was an important shipping point for hay, grain, and live stock.

The MK&T railroad built a depot in January, 1883 and placed men near it to care for the tracks. It was a midway station between Fort Scott, Kansas and Clinton, Missouri, and referred to as Midway.

Harwood was the closest point to El Dorado Springs by rail.

Over the years, Harwood had its own weekly newspapers. In 1896 *The Harwood Citizen* was published. *The Harwood Hummer* was being published in 1916; and in 1925 *The Harwood Times* kept residents abreast of the local

happenings. Unfortunately, copies of those papers did not survive to be microfilmed, so the day-to-day community news from that area has been lost. With each small town in Vernon County having its own newspaper, it becomes obvious why many rural happenings, such as births and deaths, were not listed in the Nevada newspaper.

The Harwood History book has a picture of the front pages of those newspapers. The 2 Jul 1925 issue of *The Harwood Times* tells that Alonzo Dicks was killed from a fall from his horse. Officers of the Bank of Harwood were Geo. W. Steincross, Pres.; D. M. Clevenger, Vice Pres.; J. R. Heyle, Cashier; and O. W. Waggoner, Ass't Cashier. The bank's Capital was \$10,000, Surplus was \$10,000, and Undivided Profits were \$8,500. Chap's Garage provided general auto repair and carried "a better grade of gasoline." Roe & Dalton guaranteed that if ever a man or boy came back with a pair of "Roes" Overalls which were not entirely satisfactory--whether worn a week or a year--a new pair would be provided without question. The Harwood community had scheduled a full day of 4th of July celebration with band concerts, potato race, sack race, ladies nail driving contest, fat ladies race, boys foot race, basket dinner, public addresses, a Schell City vs. Walker ballgame, and concluding with a home talent play, "The Path Across the Hill."

The front page of the 25 Sep 1896 issue of *The Harwood Citizen*, has numerous community tidbits such as Mrs. Hattie Cook of Campbellsville, KY, is visiting her brother W. H. Cook in this city; Mrs. Mary Dalton died of typhoid fever at her home; Mrs. Bruce McLain has brought suit against the city of Nevada for injuries alleged to have been received by being thrown from a wagon on Aug 22, 1895 at Linn and Douglas Streets; and Charlie Harris got his foot caught in a hay press and is going about on crutches.

The Harwood Hummer, May 12 or 19, 1916 edition has numerous local news items: Born to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Walters, May 8th, a son; George Young shipped a car of hogs to KC; Jack Sharp and family of Jasper visited relatives in Harwood; Mrs. D. L. Palmer of Schell City visited friends in Harwood; Casper Seim went to Nevada Monday and come back minus his last "corn grinders;" Marion Welch of Kansas left Sunday for his home after a visit with his brother-in-law, Jake Gerster; the J. W. Flake's house and all of its contents were consumed by fire last Saturday, having originated from a defective flue, but the loss was partially covered by insurance; and N. L. Roberts (Nim), an old Harwood farmer boy of the 80's, but who has been on the road many years for the KC Paper Co was last Saturday elected by acclamation as president of the Missouri division of the Travelers' Protective Association at their 27th annual meeting in Joplin. Patrons can get the latest patterns in wallpaper at the lowest price at L. W. Hays.

If you had ancestors in the Harwood area, you will want to take time to enjoy the stories and pictures in the history book!

Transfer AncestryDNA and 23andMe Test for Free

Family Tree DNA is now allowing people that have taken an AncestryDNA™ or 23andMe© (V3) test to transfer their raw data to the Family Finder database for **FREE** by visiting www.familytreedna.com/AutosomalTransfer. Note: Autosomal raw data cannot be transferred to an account that already has Family Finder.

If you have tested using Ancestry DNA you must transfer your test results to another company before ancestry's deadline.

Newspaper Articles

Harold Brady, eldest son of M. S. Brady, former editor of the Richards Progress, but now of Franklin, Neb., died Saturday, in a hospital in Lincoln, Nebr., as a result of being gassed during the World war. He is survived by his wife and two

children and his father and one brother. The body was shipped to Richards where funeral services were held and burial was in Richland Cemetery.

The Metz Times, Metz, Missouri; Friday, 1 December 1933.

An additional article in the Nevada Daily Mail includes that services were held from the M.E.-Presbyterian church and burial was with military honors, and that his mother was postmistress for a time.

DDT Time



Youngster in picture, one of a group of Germans being repatriated from Japan, gets a good dusting with DDT before embarking at Tokyo for the homeland. Photo by Richard Ferguson, NEA-Acme staff photographer.

Nevada Daily Mail, Nevada, Missouri; 19 February 1947.

FIRST RELIEF CHECKS MAILED OUT TODAY, \$1,147 SENT HERE

(By the Associated Press)

Jefferson City, Nov. 25.—Thousands of persons given employment under the new civic works program are to receive \$54,561 in wages the first part of the week.

Checks for that amount will be mailed out today by Wallace Crossley, state administrator. It will be the first pay for the workers.

The “fattest” check will be sent to J. D. James, disbursing officer for Jasper county, who will pay workers in that community \$20,000.

Checks going to other counties were for the following amounts: Boone, \$1,000; Cole, \$768.60; Jackson, \$1,300; Jefferson, \$5,942.65; Marion, \$8,775; Pettis, \$1,500; St. Francis, \$13,462.18; St. Louis county, \$667.50, and Vernon, \$1,147.50.

Nevada Daily Mail and Evening Post, Nevada, Missouri; 25 November 1933.

KILLED WHEN CATTLE STAMPEDED

From the Mail and Post’s Montevallo correspondent, the news is received of the death of John Golladay, a former resident of this county, which occurred at Centralia, Wash., a few days ago.

Mr. Golladay was feeding cattle, when they stampeded and wounded him so severely that death resulted.

Nevada Daily Mail and Evening Post, Nevada, Missouri; 28 November 1919.

INTENSE HEAT CAUSED DEATH OF E. B. DIXON

Fell Dead In the Courthouse Rest Room—Became Too Warm While Mowing a Lawn.

E. B. Dixon, confederate soldier and for many years a resident of this city, fell victim to the intense heat Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Dixon, during the early part of the afternoon had been mowing the lawn at the R. F. Feely home. He came downtown and went to the courthouse yard to rest. City Marshal Craighead noticed Mr. Dixon was not feeling well and advised him to go into the courthouse rest room which he did. Mr. Dixon, after resting a few moments got up and started to the water cooler to get a drink but as he started across the room he reeled and fell, a victim of the heat. H. E. Williams and others rushed to the fallen man and Dr. Dulin was called but the services of the physician were of no avail as death had come to Mr. Dixon almost instantaneously. The body was taken to the Hays undertaking establishment.

Mr. Dixon was a well known and industrious man and although 82 years of age he engaged in manual labor that would have taxed the strength of a much younger man. Mr. Dixon was locally famous as the father of thirty-two children and some years ago a feature story relative to Mr. Dixon and his many children appeared in metropolitan newspapers.

Mr. Dixon is survived by his children: Mrs. Anna Henley, Jefferson City; Mrs. Lou Tower, Kansas City; Mrs. Zora Ward, Malta Bend; Mrs. Mary Brooks, Carthage; Joe Dixon, Kansas City; Warren Dixon, Ethel, Okla.; Finis Dixon, Springfield; Chas. B. Dixon, Milo, and Mrs. Mable Pyle, Mrs. Nell Schrogghem, Miss Ruby Dixon and Miss Marjorie Dixon of Nevada.

He was born in Cole county December 15, 1842, and located in Vernon county many years ago.

Funeral services will be held at the Hays Service Rooms Friday morning at 9:30 o’clock, conducted by Rev. Van Noy, pastor of the First Baptist church. Interment will be at Deepwood Cemetery.

Nevada Daily Mail and Evening Post, Nevada, Missouri; 9 July 1925.

A Fire-Proof Business House

The building occupied by L. A. Robinson’s drug store and the postoffice is seemingly a fire-proof structure. Built of pine lumber hauled from Pleasant Hill when Missouri Pacific Agent C. S. Bell was a boy, it has withstood the ravages of fire for almost half a century, though lashed by flames on every side. A two-story building across the street northeast, a building north and a few feet west, a number of buildings on the south and a building on the alley south and west, all went up in smoke, but the fires did not blacken the walls of the building. A fire broke out under a counter near the center of the building on Sunday a few years ago, but the alarm was given and a few buckets of water extinguished it. While exploring the garret a few years ago it was discovered that lightning had started a blaze near the roof, but after smoldering for some time it went out of its own

accord. A safe in the rear room was dynamited some years ago, but no blaze was started.

Perhaps the reason it escaped is due to it being located on a fire-proof site.

Dr. G. W. Petty had the building torn down in sections at Old Metz forty-three years ago and it was hauled here and unloaded on the lot now occupied by the Metz bank. Judge Arch W. Bell, who was here from Nevada a couple of weeks ago, said he and Mrs. G. W. Petty persuaded the doctor, who had choice of lots, to erect the building across the street. So strong did they favor the south side that they helped carry many of the timbers to the present site.

The Metz Times, Metz, Missouri; Friday, 1 December 1933.

Mystery Man . . .

LIVED AS BEGGAR, HAD LARGE ESTATE

Elderly man dies at nursing home here; had estate of \$50,000

The death yesterday of a "mystery man" beggar whose frugal living was paid for through odd jobs has disclosed that he had an estate of at least \$50,000 with a "very good possibility" of more.

The man, John Skelton, whose age was estimated at between 65 and 70, died early yesterday morning after spending more than two years in the Anderson Nursing Home, 507 South Cedar Street.

Mrs. C. A. Anderson, manager of the home, said today Skelton came as a beggar to her place and "I took him in because he had no place to go and no money."

She said he paid for his room and board by doing odd jobs around the home, such as stoking the furnace.

"He seemed to be a hobo," she said, but he kept his past to himself.

"He was the most shut-mouthed man I ever met," Mrs. Anderson said.

He refused to discuss his past and would not disclose names of relatives, if any, she said.

Mrs. Anderson's attorney said today a preliminary check of Skelton's background shows he has an estate of at least \$50,000 with the possibility of more.

The money, in banks throughout the country, is in bonds, stocks, social security checks and cash bank accounts.

The attorney said a committee will be appointed soon to make a full inventory of Skelton's estate to determine the full extent of his holdings.

The Nevada Daily Mail, Nevada, Missouri; 6 January 1954.

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