

# *Cedar & Vernon County, MO Genealogical Society*

*218 West Walnut Street, Nevada, MO 64772*

*Society email: [Cedar.VernonCoMO@centurytel.net](mailto:Cedar.VernonCoMO@centurytel.net)*

*Society website: [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~motcogs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~motcogs/)*

**Vernon Co research: [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~movernon](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~movernon)**

**Cedar Co research: [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mocedar](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mocedar)**

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## **Genealogical Society Monthly Meeting**

Tuesday, January 20, 10 a.m.

Nevada Library Meeting Room

218 West Walnut Street, Nevada, MO

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### *Sharing Family Stories*

Are you the family storyteller? This program will provide insight for passing on the stories of our ancestors to our younger generations. A brief business meeting will precede the program. The monthly genealogy society meetings are open to everyone interested in family history research, so please feel free to 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 per couple.

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, stamped envelopes along with their dues.

The Society meets monthly on the third Tuesday at 10 a.m. with a business meeting followed by a program pertaining to some aspect of genealogy or history. Meetings are alternately held at:

-- Nevada Public Library Meeting Room, 212 W. Walnut St, Nevada, MO.

-- Church of Christ Fellowship Hall, 302 E. Hospital Rd, El Dorado Springs, MO.

**WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY:** If the Nevada Schools are closed because of bad weather, the genealogy society meeting will be cancelled.

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### **El Dorado Springs Library to be Considered for New Meeting Location**

The El Dorado Springs Library now has a meeting room available which could be used by the Society. The room will accommodate up to 42 people, and tables and chairs are available. Advantages to meeting at the Library include that it is a public building and wi-fi is available which would greatly expand the program

capabilities. A 1-time \$25 deposit is required. A discussion and decision on changing to the library will be on the agenda at the January meeting.

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**Ancestress** – a female ancestor from which you descend.

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### **Books to Consider for Purchase for the Libraries**

**Hairstyles: 1840 – 1900** \$22.50 by Maureen A. Taylor. Newly revised 2nd edition 2014. Using the clues explained in this book, you can learn a surprising amount about your ancestors by studying their buns, braids and beards. This book is particularly useful to genealogists. This is a completely new and revised edition of the 1996 classic and includes color illustrations of men, women, children and some very unusual styles. <http://www.amazon.com/Fashionable-Hairstyles-1840-1900-Maureen-Taylor/dp/0578034905>

**Family Treasures: 15 Lessons, Tips, and Tricks for Discovering Your Family History** \$14.95 by Barry J. Ewell

The genealogy journey is not an easy one, but the treasures you'll discover on the way make the path well worth traveling —something Barry J. Ewell knows from personal experience. In his travels he has found clues in everything from dusty relics to modern technology. Now he is ready to share his experience and guide you through each step of your personal family history journey. Whether you're just beginning your family history journey or you're a seasoned genealogist, this book is the perfect road map to all the treasures still waiting for you in your personal family history. <http://genealogybybarry.com/family-treasures/>

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### **Family Tree Videos and Instruction Book**

If you use Family Tree Maker software, keep in mind that instruction videos and books can be checked out by patrons from the Nevada Library.

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### **Vernon Co Records – what, where, how**

When you begin researching ancestors in a geographical area, you need to find out what records are available online and what are not. Although thousands of new records come online each month on various genealogy websites, only a small percentage of all genealogically significant records are available online. You may need to travel to the area being researched or arrange for someone who is familiar with the records in that location to conduct research for you.

Information on researching Vernon Co, MO is on the Vernon Co USGenWeb site at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~movernon/> A navigation menu is along the left side of the screen. Indexes of the Vernon Co Marriage Books have been created by area researchers and are available on this website.

Ancestry.com has images of Vernon Co marriages for the years 1855-1916 on its website, but the records are poorly indexed and some of the images are difficult to read. Researchers are encouraged to obtain a copy of the original marriage document from the Vernon Co Recorder's Office. To obtain a copy of a Vernon County, MO recorded marriage (1855 to present), send \$1 for each record (checks payable to Vernon Co. Recorder) and a stamped, self-addressed envelope sufficient for the number of records ordered. Mail your request to:

Recorder's Office  
100 West Cherry Street  
Nevada, MO 64772

Include as much of the following information as you have:

Names of bride and/or groom  
Which marriage book and page number (if found in an index)  
Date of marriage, if known

If you are researching marriages of people who lived in what is now Vernon Co, MO, but prior to 1855 when Vernon Co was organized, the records can possibly be found in Cass Co. However, no Bates Co marriage records prior to 1860 exist today. Marriage records for when this area was part of Van Buren Co are in Cass Co. Familysearch.org offers microfilm loan of Vernon Co marriage records for the years 1855-1916. The Nevada Public Library is now an affiliate library for receiving film from familysearch. If you have questions regarding marriage records and where they might be found, please email the Society.

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### **Who are You Researching in Vernon County?**

If you are research ancestors who were in Vernon Co at any time, please share a little bit of information about them to be published in the newsletter. It may be that there are some little tidbits in someone else's research that can be shared with you!

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### **Vernon County School District 122**

Society member Lyndon Irwin reports that he found a large school photo in an antique store near Osceola and bought it because the dim sign being held says District 122 Vernon Co. He thinks it also says "H. E. Brown," assumed to be the teacher. The back of the photo says George W. Dalton, 8th grade class.

Looking on ancestry, a George W. Dalton, born 1889, son of Samuel Dalton, is living in Blue Mound Township in the 1900 census. He also found that district 122 was Blue Mound School, so everything fits to identify it as the Blue Mound

School. Lyndon says that he has no need to own this picture, and if someone has family at this school at that time or has an interest in Blue Mound, he will be glad to let them have the picture. Please email Lyndon [lirwin@prodigy.net](mailto:lirwin@prodigy.net) if you are interested in the picture.

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### **Post Offices of Vernon Co**

A list of Vernon Co Post Offices has been posted on the bulletin board in the Genealogy Dept. This list was copied from the internet several years ago; and unfortunately, the URL of the website was lost from the items copied. With the recent partial closings of the smaller post offices, it is difficult to keep track of which ones are still in operation. [www.city-data.com](http://www.city-data.com) shows that only these post offices remain open in Vernon Co at this time: Bronaugh, Deerfield, Harwood, Metz, Milo, Moundville, Nevada, Richards, Schell City, Sheldon, and Walker.

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### **Best Choice UPC for Cash**

Please remember that you can bring Best Choice UPC labels to any genealogy meeting. The Society receives cash for the labels.

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### **A Guide to Tracing American Indian & Alaska Native Ancestry**

If you are interested in searching possible American Indian or Native Alaska ancestry, this publication from the Office of Public Affairs-Indian Affairs is a good place to start: <http://www.bia.gov/cs/groups/public/documents/text/idc-002619.pdf>

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### **Pre-1913 Vital Records- Challenging & Elusive & Not Necessarily Impossible to Find**

A free viewing period of a recorded webinar will be presented on the North Carolina Genealogical Society website Feb 6-8. The webinar features Diane L. Richard, a professional genealogist and owner of Mosaic Research and Project Management. Though North Carolina didn't start officially requiring birth certificates until 1913 and death certificates until 1930, it doesn't mean that you cannot determine when and where earlier birth, marriage, and death events occurred. So, what can you do when a certain official vital record cannot be found? Well, you can search for the next best thing—a substitute record. This means that researchers have to be more creative in their pursuit of information. View the webinar Feb 6-8 at this website: <http://www.ncgenealogy.org/>

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### **Military Registers & Land Records**

Under the terms of the Proclamation of 1763, issued by England's King George III, soldiers who served in the French & Indian War and Lord Dunmore's War were paid with bounty land warrants. The soldier's rank determined the acreage awarded by the warrant. The warrants were used to obtain land patents.

The same principle of "land for military service" was used to pay soldiers of the Revolutionary War. Each colony determined the acreage per rank, requisite duration of service and location of its respective military district. The Military District for Virginia was located in southwestern Kentucky and southcentral Ohio. The Revolutionary War Warrants website contains information regarding military warrants issued to Virginia veterans prior to 1792 and all Kentucky patents authorized by those warrants, and the database indexes 4,748 bounty land warrants issued by Virginia to veterans of the Revolutionary War.

In 1818 the Jackson Purchase in Kentucky was acquired from the Chickasaw Indians. A number of Revolutionary War veterans or their assigns had settled in the area without clear title to their land holdings, and in 1820 the Kentucky General Assembly approved legislation that instructed the veterans or their assigns to proceed with the land patenting process. The West of Tennessee River Military Patents website includes information on 242 patents authorized by warrants issued under this legislation.

#### **Military Land Office**

On July 20, 1784, the Land Office for the Virginia Military District was opened near Louisville. Colonel Richard Clough Anderson was the Principal Surveyor for veterans serving in the Virginia Continental Line, and Major William Croghan and General George Rogers Clark were appointed Principal Surveyors for veterans serving in the Virginia State Line (or Militia). Due to the size of the Military District, a number of deputies assisted the Principal Surveyors.

In 1879 the Kentucky General Assembly abolished the office of surveyor of military lands. The "present incumbent of that office" was ordered to send all books, papers and documents pertaining to his office to the Register of the Land Office "by the safest and cheapest mode of conveyance." 1879 Acts, Chapter 105, Article IV.

[This information copied from the Kentucky Secretary of State website at <http://www.sos.ky.gov/admin/land/military/Pages/default.aspx>]

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#### **Newspaper Articles**

[The following articles were transcribed from area newspapers. In some instances words originally misspelled were "auto-corrected" by the editor's computer.]

#### **BAD RUNAWAY NARROWLY AVERTED BY YOUNG MAN.**

A team attached to a farm wagon belonging to Henry Opendorf took fright Thursday afternoon, while standing in front of Wainscott's. Mr. Opendorf had gone into the store, leaving his daughter, Miss Anna, in charge. The horses

dashed east, and Miss Opendorf turned them south on Washington. She did not become frightened but held a tight rein, however, by this time the animals had gotten to a rapid pace when a young man ran up and caught them by the bridles. Thus what might have proven a disastrous runaway was prevented. Miss Opendorf took the matter very coolly and showed little or no fright.

**Nevada Daily Mail, Nevada, Missouri; 10 April 1903.**

## **LANDSCAPING OF STONE MEMORIAL COMPLETED**

### **The Trustees of the Stone Memorial Association to Hold Annual Meeting Here Tonight.**

The landscaping of the William Joel Stone Memorial on the courthouse lawn has been completed in time for the inspection by the trustees who will come to Nevada for the annual meeting of the trustees of the William Joel Stone Memorial Association tonight at the Mitchell Hotel. A low hedge has been planted along the south walk leading to the memorial and trees and shrubs have been planted around the memorial and along the north walk. The trustees of the association will meet for dinner at 7 o'clock tonight at the Mitchell Hotel and the business session will follow. Those who are expected to attend the dinner are:

Judge and Mrs. Kimbrough Stone, Mr. and Mrs. John T. Harding, Mr. and Mrs. Granville A. Richart, Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Phelps, all of Kansas City; Senator Albert M. Clark and Mrs. Clark of Richmond; Judge and Mrs. Thomas W. Martin of Lamar; Judge and Mrs. Louis Schneider of Horton; and Judge and Mrs. O. H. Hoss, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Earp, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Logan, Mr. and Mrs. George S. Few, Mr. and Mrs. Fred F. Todd and Mayor and Mrs. Lynn M. Ewing, all of Nevada.

**The Nevada Daily Mail and the Evening Post, Nevada, MO; Sat 7 May 1938.**

Two general merchandise stores, owned by Carl Wiles and George Higbee, of Deerfield, were destroyed by fire about 9 o'clock Friday night. The fire started in a wareroom of the Higbee store, and fanned by the wind the flames went across to the Wiles building. The Nevada fire department was called but on account of the shortage of water could only help with a bucket brigade. Some merchandise was saved from the Wiles building. Higbee and Wiles both carried some insurance.

**The Metz Times, Metz, MO; Fri 1 Dec 1933.**

## **A NEW FACTORY FOR MILO.**

### **Our Little Sister Town is Making a New Kind of Metal Egg Cases.**

The Milo manufacturing Co., started up in business Tuesday with a capacity of 100 metal egg cases per day. This is a new company recently organized for the manufacturing of a new patented tin folding egg case. B. B. Chambers of Milo is the gentleman who owns the patent. The company is capitalized for \$10,000 and will receive their corporation papers next week.

J. J. Cox has been elected president and C. B. Dale secretary and treasurer, C. B. Chambers superintendent. Frank McGovney, Samuel McGovney and R. J. Dale directors. The company has two travelling sales men on the road.

The new patented egg case has many advantages over the ordinary wood case now in use. When the egg case is ready to be returned to the shipper it can be folded up, thereby making the express rate much cheaper. Eggs can be kept better for long shipments and can stand much rougher handling without breaking the eggs.

**The Weekly Post, Nevada, MO; 27 Sep 1907.**

### **MAN'S DEAD BODY FOUND IN ARIZONA THAT OF WM. BERRY Body Had Bleached Within Three Days Travel of the Home of His Sons.**

The coroner's jury investigating the death of the old man whose body was found in Grape Vine Canyon, about 60 miles from Phoenix, Arizona, identified the remains as that of Wm. Berry, who formerly resided at Nevada.

The cause of his death could not be learned by the jury. He was about 70 years old, and left Nevada about three years ago, in company with his son-in-law, Bert Tucker, and wife, for Prescott, Arizona, going overland.

Mr. Berry's son-in-law and daughter stopped at Las Vegas, N. M., and on June 14, 1900, Berry continued his journey alone. It is thought by some that he passed through Winslow, and took the wrong road which lead him into a very dry country, and that he probably perished for want of water.

On the remains were found 71 cents in money and some papers which established his identity.

The remains were buried where they had been found.

Deceased's sons are engaged in mining at Prescott, and they have made diligent search for their father ever since his disappearance, and strange to say the body of the father has at last been found within three days' travel of where the sons reside on Lynx Creek, seven miles southeast of Prescott.

The dead man left some property interests here, and one of his sons expects to come here soon to look after and close them up.

**Nevada Daily Mail, Nevada, Missouri; 10 April 1903.**

### **DEATH WAS SUDDEN.**

Mrs. Summers, mother of Mrs. Daniel Pilcher, who resides on South Washington street died very suddenly Wednesday morning, her death being due to old age and probably heart trouble. When her daughter went to the aged mother's bed the latter was very near death's door and died a few minutes later. Mrs. Summers was 81 years of age and a good woman.

**Nevada Daily Mail, Nevada, Missouri; 22 April 1903.**

### **PUPILS OF SEVEN OF THE RURAL SCHOOLS Visited Various Plants In This City, Making the Final of Three Field Trips.**

Pupils from seven of the rural schools in Vernon county came to Nevada Wednesday to make the last of a series of three field trips arranged for the Vernon county schools by Mrs. Nannie B. Holmes, county school superintendent, with the co-operation of the Nevada Chamber of Commerce and business men of the city.

The pupils who came to Nevada Wednesday with their teachers and parents, were divided into two groups and during the day both groups visited the Codrey Laundry, the Pohl Brick Plant, the Kraft Cheese factory, Cottey College, the Missouri Pacific Shops, the Norman Sheet Metal Company, the Nevada Cleaners, and the two visited the Nevada Daily Mail and Evening Post plant.

Among the pupils who came to Nevada on these field trips were several who had never before been to Nevada and several who had never seen a train until they visited the Missouri Pacific shops, according to Mrs. Holmes. The trips were arranged because of their educational value to the children but they were also a source of pleasure and Mrs. Holmes expresses her appreciation to those whose cooperation made the trips possible.

The pupils who visited Nevada Wednesday were from the McHugh, Green Valley, Harwood, Robinson, Howard, Belvoir and Star schools. About 125 were in the group, parents and teachers included.

**Nevada Daily Mail and Evening Post, Nevada, Missouri; 8 Dec 1938.**

### **SOME RARE OLD PIECES OF MONEY.**

F. S. Oyer, of this city, has quite a collection of old coins. Among them is a copper half cent piece of United States money made in 1794. On the face side is the Goddess of Liberty, with the word "Liberty" over the head. On the opposite side reads "United States of America, Half cent, one and 200" signifying that it takes 200 pieces to make one dollar. A penny made in 1826; a silver three cent piece made in 1850, are also among the collection. When Mr. Oyer retired from the postmastership at Oyer, St. Clair county, Mo., he received a postoffice draft from Uncle Sam through the St. Louis department for the sum of one cent. It was on one of the government's large lithographed checks and was numbered. Mr. Oyer values this check very highly and has never cashed it, preferring to save it as a relic.

**The Weekly Post, Nevada, Missouri; 9 Jun 1905.**

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