

Cedar & Vernon County Missouri Genealogical Society

218 W. Walnut St., Nevada, MO 64772

Email: Cedar.VernonCoMO@centurytel.net

Website: <https://sites.rootsweb.com/~movernon/>

March 2023 Newsletter©

Society Meeting: Wednesday 15 Mar 2023.

The Cedar & Vernon Co MO Genealogical Society meeting and program will be held Wed, 15 Mar 2023, at the Nevada Library Annex, 200 W. Walnut St., Nevada, MO. The Annex doors will open at 9:30 a.m. and the meeting will begin at 10 a.m. The program will be presented by Marty: *1878 Arizona or Bust!* She will share excerpts from a family diary kept by Billie Crawford, son-in-law of Alfred Gash, while crossing the plains from Collins, MO, to Camp Verde, AZ. Alfred Longmire Gash was the wagon master. His

wife died in 1866, leaving him with seven children: Jane, Wm., Mary, Leah, John, Jim, and Lucinda. Jane married George Fain and they had four children at the time of the trip: Susan, Mary, Minnie, and Emma. The rest of Alfred Gash's family were single at that time. Wiley Hanes was a preacher's boy who lived near Alfred Gash and wanted to go West—his father gave him a heifer to start out with. Others are neighbors who also wanted to go West. Come learn about some of their humorous adventures on this westward trip.

Valo shared the following picture in Feb. of a family reunion when she was a young child.



Here [edited] is the story Valo shared, written by a sister of Lester Anderson: *Missing in Action*. Missing in action was like an echo that would never stop ringing when our family member Lester Anderson was captured during the Korean War in 1950. When family members heard about the telegram about Lester, we rushed to our parents' side. We went on our face before God, praying constantly for Lester and his companions. Lester's mother fasted for a week. She would put on her bonnet and go over the hill under the pine trees and get down on her knees and pour out her heart to God for her son. Her voice could be heard throughout the sand hills of southeast Oklahoma, and many good people prayed with her. Lester's father was seen weeping and praying, afraid they tortured Lester and killed him. After fasting, his mother had a vision of a man on a horse bringing her a letter from Lester and a voice saying "Ring on and on, for God will answer your prayers." The family watched for a letter, but it was a year and a half before news came that he was alive and then a letter came. That morning Mama went out to pray and when she came in she told the family that the letter would come that day and it was written on brown paper. They began walking the 2 miles to the Post Office, and were met by a man on a horse bringing the letter—written on brown paper. It was another year and a half before Lester was released. Three years and two months he was a POW. He suffered untold miseries, almost starved to death, ate grasshoppers and roots, sat in a 2x4 cell for months at a time with only straw for a bed, beaten by the guards, marched through ice and snow, and much more which will not be written here. In 1953 the release of prisoners began, and each man's name was called as he crossed the line. Some men were called turncoats and traitors, and family prayed and read their Bibles that Lester had kept his head straight. The radio was on continually so as not to miss a name as each prisoner was released. In the midnight hour, Lester's name was called and many called to say they had heard his name. All of the family gathered to

welcome Lester home, and there was a big community celebration with many dignitaries there. *"We had a big family reunion there at the house out under the big oak tree. We have the picture of the family."*

Lester Anderson is the young man with a big smile, 4th from left in the first seated row of adults. Valo is seated on the ground, 7th child from the left. Sadly, after having been through WWII and a POW for more than 3 years during the Korean War, he was in a car wreck that broke his hip. He had trouble with the pin coming out, and a drunk doctor at the VA Hospital ruined the cartilage in his joint which crippled him for the rest of his life.

If you have a family picture and story that you would like to share at a meeting and/or have published in a future newsletter, please email the picture and story to the society at Cedar.VernonCoMO@centurytel.net We would like to share one or two in each newsletter.

In discussing the upcoming April 19th Work Day in the Genealogy Dept, JaWan reminded everyone that Apr 19 is the anniversary of the first shot fired in the Revolutionary War in 1775 at Lexington, MA.

2023 Dues are \$10 per person (\$15 per couple in the same household), and can be mailed to the Society at:

Cedar & Vernon Co MO Gen Soc
Attn: Membership
218 W. Walnut St.
Nevada, MO 64772

Benefits of Society membership include receiving the emailed monthly newsletter, free personal genealogy lookups in the *new* cemetery database, and free queries published in the newsletter. The Society meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. At this time all meetings are being held in Nevada until the new El Dorado Springs Library is open and programs can be arranged. Information on upcoming meetings is available at

<https://sites.rootsweb.com/~movernon/>

Neoma sends this message for the newsletter: I just counted **Best Choice Labels**. We have 922. Need to get 2,000 and will send them all in at one time. So bring your labels to the March meeting!

Civil War Letter Continued from the February 2023 newsletter. Who was “George,” the author of a Civil War letter that was found in a lockbox in the former Thornton National Bank building in Nevada, MO? Additional research on young George and his Civil War service is being conducted and is scheduled to be published in the April newsletter. Please stay tuned...

Missouri Land & Property Research Links

[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Missouri Land and Property](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Missouri_Land_and_Property) This is the Missouri Land and Property Wiki on familysearch.org with LOTS of links to resources and information. The Missouri Digital Heritage Land Records 1777 – 1969 database is at <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/records/archives/archivesdb/land/>

The **1972 Missouri Death Certificates** have been indexed and are searchable at <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/records/archives/archivesmvc/deathcertificates> Our thanks to the many volunteers who index these records!

If you have used the FREE websites with genealogical information at **RootsWeb**, please note that changes are coming with the new owners of Ancestry.com who provided the following information:

Mailing Lists Archives will be retired on **6 April 2023** and migrated to an alternative, free platform. Once migration is complete, a link will be provided to them from the RootsWeb home page.

WorldConnect family trees will be retired on **15 April 2023** and migrated to Ancestry as a new free-access collection later in the year. If you would like to remove your tree or its content and need assistance, contact rootsweb support at this link [Contact RootsWeb](#).

Hosted websites will become read-only beginning in **early 2024**. At that time, all logins will be disabled, but hosted sites will remain on RootsWeb as static content [cannot be updated]. Website owners

wishing to maintain their sites must migrate to a different hosting provider before 2024.

The Vernon Co USGenWeb website is a hosted website, and it will be moved to a new hosting service before the end of the year. Updates on this will be provided.



John Trigg Halsey and Nancy Hattie Hudiburgh Halsey. John was the City Marshall of Schell City as stated in the 1880 Census of Schell City, Bacon Twp, Vernon Co, MO. His *STAR* is very evident in the picture. John died 14 May 1935 and Nancy died 4 Jun 1932. Nancy’s gravestone gives 4 Dec as her day of death; however, both her obituary and death certificate give 4 Jun 1932. John and Nancy are buried in Green Lawn Cemetery, Schell City, MO.

The Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) is adding more functionality to its website. A new Patriot Research System (PRS) has been created. It is the SAR’s counterpart to the Daughters of the American Revolution’s

Genealogical Research System (GRS) and is extremely useful. Icons are used to indicate special associated information, **including whether the Patriot is also listed in the DAR GRS.** It is another resource, and like the GRS, it is available to all for free research.

<https://sarpatriots.sar.org/patriot/search>

The "B" code indicates that a biography has been submitted on the patriot. Many of the biographies were written by a grandson of the patriot. Researchers can reach out to SAR and obtain copies of the biographies.

The DAR's free GRS can be searched at: <https://www.dar.org/national-society/genealogy>

Who Are YOU Researching? The society will again feature information in the newsletter on research being conducted by its members. Submit articles about your research in Vernon Co or in any other county or state. Share information on your brick wall. Sometimes, writing out the details of your research and arranging them in a logical sequence that others can quickly understand and follow, will bring new ideas to mind on what to look for and where to look. Let us hear from you!

Newspaper Articles

AN OLD MURDER.

It Was Committed in Douglas County in 1869. The Defense Claims it is a Case of Mistaken Identity.

Ava, Mo., April 1.—This little town is crowded to-day by people from over Douglas county and adjoining counties, who are here to attend the trial of James Wilson, charged with the murder, in 1869 of Orville Lyons, a neighboring farmer. The taking of testimony was begun to-day.

W.R. Lyons, son of the deceased, testified that he was 4 years old at the time of the murder. He saw his father and some men come up the roadway, heard a gunshot and saw his father dead; he also saw the men leave.

T.H. Andrews testified that he had a talk with Wilson regarding the killing of Lyons.

The defense is trying to prove that Wilson's connection with the murder is a case of mistaken identify.

In 1868 James Wilson and Orville Lyons were partners operating a threshing machine. A part of the machine broke and a disagreement arose over who should take the broken part to the shop to be repaired. They quarreled and Lyons struck Wilson with a neckyoke. They then separated and, it is said, were on the point of agreeing upon an amicable settlement, when, it is alleged,

Wilson, under the guise of friendship, lured Lyons to his home and killed him.

Among the witnesses are men and women of all ages, from 37 to 80 years old. The youngest witness is William Lyons, son of the murdered man, Lyons, who was 4 years old in 1869, and was an eyewitness of the killing. He is the only witness to the murder who will testify, the man Martin, who was said to have been present, being now in Arkansas. He was subpoenaed, but did not appear.

Among the older witnesses are army comrades of Wilson and will be used to prove identity. Hon. T.J. Delaney, of Springfield, leading counsel for the prosecution, read the indictment to the jury, and said that the state expected to prove Lyons did not intend to kill the defendant, and the lapse of time before Lyons was killed gave a sufficient period for the heat of passion to subside. The evidence will further show, said Mr. Delaney, that Wilson threatened to kill Lyons within three days. That August 3, 1869, Wilson, in company with one Robert Martin, went to the home of Lyons, the latter's wife being away from home teaching school, and the 4-year-old son of Lyons being at home under the care of a servant. Lyons was away from home, but they searched for and found him; and, under pretense of an amicable settlement of the trouble, accompanied the murdered man home, and there the state

claims Wilson shot Lyons dead; that the defendant then went into hiding and protected from indictment and arrest by the faction with which he affiliated until 1879, when the opposite faction came into power, and the defendant was forced to flee to save his life. **The Weekly Post, Nevada, Missouri; 4 April 1902.**

The following items are advertisements from the 8 Mar 1881 Daily Democrat, Nevada, Missouri.

Wilcox, Pray & Pemberton, Proprietors of the Nevada Meat Market. Dealers in fresh and salted meats. Best quality of all kinds of fresh meats such as beef, veal, mutton and pork constantly on hand. Highest market price paid for good beef cattle and mutton sheep, chickens and turkeys; also good shipping stock. p1.

Best and Largest Stock of Furniture in the City. J. H. Wardin's, Nevada, Missouri. p1.

One Price Exclusive Boot and Shoe Store. B. Goodman, Proprietor, East side of Square, Nevada, Missouri. p1.

L. Berry & Son, Grocers. Salt, Flour, Queensware Glassware and a full Stock of Groceries, North side Public Square, Nevada, Missouri. p1.

J.A. Tyler, Dealer in Hardware. Stoves and Sewing Machines, Has the Largest Stock and Lowest Prices. Early Breakfast Stoves a Specialty. Great inducements in every department. Everybody knows the place, Southeast corner Square. P1.

Renwick & Sterett, On the West side, have a splendid line of Hardware, Stoves, Tinware & Agricultural Implement Which they are selling as low as any House in the Southwest. They are also agents for the celebrated Fish Brothers Wagons, the best wagons manufactured. Don't fail to examine their stock and get prices before purchasing elsewhere. p1.

City Livery Stable, Cor. Cherry and Washington Streets; Nevada, Missouri.

Bridgford & Lewis, Desire to give notice to citizens of Nevada, and the public generally, that we have re-furnished our new Stable with a fresh stock of New Buggies and a Fine Hearse; and are now prepared to accommodate all with First-Class Rigs Low Figures, and will give special attention to funerals. We will also take special care of stock left to our care, and respectfully solicit a liberal share of patronage.

Bridgford & Lewis.

Daily Democrat. W.R. Crockett, Editor & Publisher. Daily per Week: 20 cents. P2

Desirable Property for Sale. Having located in Lamar, I offer my house and lot in Nevada and my farm of 120 acres four miles east of Nevada for sale. Price of house and lot \$1,200. Price of farm \$1,200.

Sam R. Crockett.

For further particulars inquire of W.R. Crockett, at the office of the Vernon County Democrat. P2

For the Largest Stock of Lumber, Shingles, Doors, Sash, &c. &c. And the lowest prices go to J.W. Cleland's. P2

Chew It! Smoke It! That Chromo Tobacco! For Sale by A. Cummins & Co., Nevada. P3

A.S. Yoder, Dealer in Furniture and Undertaker's Goods, West side of square, Nevada, MO. Has the largest and the best stock in the Southwest. Citizens of Vernon, Barton, Cedar and Dade counties respectfully invited to call and examine his goods. He manufactures his own goods, and therefore, sells them cheaper than other dealers. Also carries the Taylor and Farley organ which he will sell, cheap or trade for stock. Call and see us. P3

P.F. Thornton, President. J. __, Cashier. Paid up Capital \$50,000.00. Thornton Banking Company (successors to) Paul F. Thornton & Co., Nevada, Missouri. Transacts a General Banking and Collection Business. Directors: Paul F. Thornton, M. L. Thornton, __J. Dickison, C. G. Burton, J.E. Harding. P3

J.F. Harber & Co. offer to the trade the Crescent Yokes Shirt. As having no equal in fit, quality and durability; also offer the best line of linen and paper collars and cuffs. Go and see them. P3

New Department!!! We open up this week a _____ Our store for Boys' and Children's Clothing, Something long needed in Nevada. We invite the mamma's and papa's to bring in their little boys and fit them out with a stylish well fitting suit. All sizes from three years old up to sixteen years, at the Live_ Cheap Store. H.C. Moore & Co.

C.T. Davis, Attorney at Law, Nevada, Mo. Attention given to investigation of titles and land litigation. Business promptly attended to. P4

Jas. B. Johnson, Attorney at Law, Nevada, MO. P4

C. R. Scott. W. J. Stone. Scott & Stone, attorneys at law, Nevada, Vernon county Missouri. All business in this and adjacent counties entrusted to our care will be promptly attended to. Office in Roberts & Tylers building, south side square. P4

Ashb Gray, Attorney at Law, will practice in all the courts of this and all adjoining counties except the Probate Court of Vernon county. Office in the courthouse, Nevada, Mo. P4

G. S. Hoss, Attorney at Law, and Notary Public, Nevada, Missouri. P4

M. T. January, Attorney at Law, Nevada, Missouri. Office with Scott & Stone. P4

Dr. H.B. Harris, Physician and Surgeon, Nevada, Mo. Office over Zellweger's Drug Store. P4

G. L. Moad, M.D. Oculist, Clinton, Missouri. Gives his entire professional attention to the eye and the treatment of its diseases. P4

C.T. Davis, Attorney at Law. A.B. Davis, Notary Public. Davis & Bro., Conveyancers, Nevada, Missouri. Having bought a set of

Abstract Books of Sam. R. Crockett, we are prepared to furnish abstracts of all lands and town lots in Vernon county. Office in the Court House. P4

Fire Insurance Notice. It is not true that G.W. Givens, an old Insurance Agent of Nevada, Mo., has no reliable companies since the withdrawal of the Lycoming. On the contrary, he has three as Reliable Companies as any agent in the State, to-wit: The Connecticut, of Hartford, with cash capital of one million dollars, with very large assets; the Phoenix, of London; branch at New York, with assets over five million dollars; _____ dollars, with large assets. For proof of the above statement call at the office of the undersigned, next door to the Bank and be convinced. G. W. Givens, Fire Insurance Agent of Nevada, Mo. P4

A Fac Simile of our New Dress Hip Bone Corset! Don't Fail To Try It. The best fitting corset in the world. Will not break down. The price is only \$1.25. Every lady call for it at the Live Cheap Store of H.C. Moore & Co. P4

Payne's Farm Engines. Established 1840. [ad unreadable] P4

Profitt & Godfrey, Wholesale and Retail Druggists, Nevada, Missouri. P4

The Boss Hardware House of McGinnis, Ingels and McNeil, Always have the Largest and Best stock of Hardware – Stoves and Tinware, ever offered to the trade of Southwest Missouri, also the largest stock of Agricultural Implements ever handled by any House in Vernon County. They are also Agent for the justly celebrated Favorite Stoves! The Cheapest and Best Stove in the market. P4

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This newsletter is published by the Cedar & Vernon County Missouri Genealogical Society, a 501(c)(3) organization. Annual membership dues and contributions are 100% deductible. 2023 Officers of the Society are

President, Valo J.
Treasurer, Marty P.
Recording Secretary, Lynda B.
Newsletter Editor & Webmaster, Nancy T.