



Nevada Library and
Bushwhacker Museum

Tri-County Genealogical Society
(Vernon-Cedar-St. Clair Counties)
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<http://www.rootsweb.com/~motcogs/>



Vernon County Courthouse
Nevada, Missouri

NEWSLETTER

July 2009

Aug. 8 , 2009 Meeting & Program
302 E Hospital Rd, El Dorado Springs, MO
***NOW TO PREPARE FOR A
RESEARCH TRIP
TO MIDWEST GENEALOGY CENTER
IN INDEPENDENCE***

Ellen Miller, reference assistant at the Midwest Genealogy Center (formerly the Mid-Continent Genealogy Library) will be our guest speaker. She will talk with us about how we can better prepare for an upcoming research trip to the Center, which is the largest genealogy and history library in the Midwest.

Miller has developed and teaches classes at Midwest Genealogy on Beginning Genealogy and Making Sense of Census Records. She is currently developing a third class about cemetery art and iconography. Additionally, she assists patrons, museums, and others in designing educational exhibits for display at the Center.

Having worked on her personal genealogy for several years, Miller continues to verify information for accuracy and add to what other family members have compiled.

This program will help researchers get organized and be better prepared for the Sep. 21 research trip to the Midwest Genealogy Center. Please see the Sep. 21 meeting notice below for information on the research trip to Midwest Genealogy Center.

The Aug. 8 meeting is open to the public and there is no fee. Even if you will be unable to take advantage of the Sep 21 research trip, this program can benefit you.

2009 Programs

The following programs are tentatively scheduled for 2009. Watch the newsletter and website for updated information or changes as programs are finalized.

Sep 21, Research Trip: This is a 1-day trip to the new Midwest Genealogy Center in Independence, MO, and is open to any area family history researcher who would like to attend. An orientation to the facility will be given upon our group's arrival at the Center. Anyone wanting to go can provide their own transportation or take advantage of bus transportation that we have arranged with the Joplin Genealogical Society. The bus fee is \$35 per person, and bus reservations must be paid in advance. Watch our website and the August newsletter for final trip details including bus pick-up time in Nevada.
PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL NOT BE A REGULAR SEP 12 MEETING.

Oct 10, El Do: Basic Genealogy Conference: "Start Here and Do This" for individuals who want to learn how to begin their family history research. Presented by Tri-County Genealogical Society members.

Nov 14, Nevada: Computer Genealogy Research. Seminar presented by Helen Lodge. Meeting location: Cottey College Computer Lab.

Dec 12, El Do: Members are invited to bring 10-15 printed copies of a documented brick-wall research problem to be brainstormed by the group. Election and Installation of Officers and Christmas Luncheon.

New Resources in Genealogy Dept.

Society members Steve and Peggy Pyle have donated the following books to the Genealogy Dept.: *Genealogy Online* by Elizabeth Powell Crowe and *Planting Your Family Tree Online* by Cyndi Howells. Additionally, they have donated several genealogy magazines which are available for members to take home and read and then bring back to the next Society meeting for another member to use. Thank you, Steve and Peggy!

The following Kansas resources, obtained from the Topeka Genealogical Society, have been received and catalogued. They are shelved in the Kansas section of the Nevada Library Genealogy Department:

- Voters of the Territory of Kansas 1854-1856.**
- Kansas Pioneers of 1855 who Came by Way of the New England Emigrant Aid Company.**
- Kansas Pioneers, 350 Sketches and Stories of Pioneer Life.**

Recommended Resources to Purchase

The Society would like your suggestions on genealogy resources to add to the library collections in both Nevada and El Dorado Springs. Please give your written suggestions to Kathe Radar at any meeting or email to the society, and your email will be forwarded to Kathe.

The Society will be donating two books to both the El Dorado Springs and Nevada libraries in memory of deceased members Judy Vinzant and Virginia Breeding.

New Society Members

We are pleased to announce the following new Society members and invite them to submit some of their Vernon Co research information for publication in our newsletter:

- Neva June Woods, researching Woods, Farmer, and Flemming.
- Barbara Firestone, researching Boone, Moore, Montague, Boogher, Dorlaque, Houchins, Wallace, and Toney.

Coleman Cemetery

Society members Roz and Bill Coleman continue their outstanding work at the pioneer Coleman Cemetery which was established in May 1863 with the murder of Bill's ancestor



Augustus Baker by C. C. Frizzell. The flag is at Baker's stone.

Located near the Missouri-Kansas line, this small family/community cemetery has been cleaned up and is being maintained through the generosity of the Coleman's. Pictures taken Memorial Day 2009 show a new sign identifying the historic "Ball Town Road" which ran from Balltown, MO to Fort Scott, KS.



Wording on the sign reads, "Balltown Road & Shiloh Creek"

This site is part of Balltown Rd, abutting Shiloh Creek, that ran between Balltown, (a pioneer settlement) and Fort Scott. The Trail was used from the 1830's-1870's. The road bed was part of the Missouri Pacific Railroad."

In an email, Roz shares quotes from a book which she borrowed from the Wichita State University Library, called, *Uncommon Writings by Common Folk, Volume 1, Isely Family Letters, Papers, and Diaries*. The part she found most fascinating is a May 31, 1863 eyewitness account of the hanging of C. C. Frizzell in Ft. Scott for the Baker murder. However, Isely says nothing about the crime or the victim.

Following is a section from a letter written by Isely with punctuation and spelling as in

the published piece: "Last Wednesday there was a man hung here for committing murder in Missouri some 6 or 8 miles from this Post; he was a Sergeant in a Missouri State Militia Reg. He was a tall fine looking young fellow and if I am not mistaken was both Husband & Father. It was another very sad looking aspect. he was pu(b)licly executed outside of the breastworks on a beautiful level Prairie. The Soldiers all marched out to the place of execution, and formed a large square, and outside of the soldier was an immense number of citizens on wagons & horsback, male & Female, White Red & Black, small & large. The culprit was between two Ministers, with a large sized Testament in his right hand. he ascends the scaffold with a firm step. Prayers were offered by both Minister's, then he (the culprit) stood up, upon his feet, With the Testament in his hands, and made quite a lengthy speech to the surrounding crowd, with burning eloquese and telling to abide to the doctrines of the sacred Book the Bible. Afterwards he with the Minister's sang a Hymn, then they knelt again and he offered a fervent Prayer. Then he shook hands with all on the scaffold, and then the rope was put about his neck by 2 soldiers and when a sign was given he was launched into eternity.

On the same day about 3 o'clock we got orders to go out to Dry Wood (River) to reinforce the little force there of Co C 3d Wis Cav. they expected an attack that night by the Bushwhacker Livingston with his band of cut throats. we got there about dusk, but no bushwhacker made his appearance. next morning we started down the Dry Wood really on a scout. we went close by Montgomery's battlefield which he made famous by defeating a rebel force of 10,000 and he had only 3 or 400. To reinforce that small force our dear Boys "Adolph, Fred & Willis" had to go through that forced march from Ft. Leavenworth that gave the death knell to poor Adolph and yet they did not reach Montgomery till the battle was over and the Rebel Raines whipped.

We went down the Drywood valley till we came to a house close to the timber where we stopped for a drink and made inquires. afterwards we crossed the Drywood which runs through a heavy body of timber a perfect thicket and a great place for bushwhackers. We however could not find any and returned all safe and sound in camp that day (Thursday). Yesterday we moved Camp and are now 1 1/2 mile south of Town. I enjoy good health and am quite cont(ent)ed, and thus I remain your own Loving Husband

Chr. H. Isely"

Christian H. Isely was with Capt. Cloud on expeditions into Arkansas during the Civil War. Isely was a supporter of Lincoln and abolition and a devoted Lutheran, it seems. His parents were democrats in favor of the Union but opposed to abolition, Lincoln, Methodists, and Catholics. He called them "copperheads." He was very troubled by his political difference with his parents. However, he had no problem killing Bushwhackers and taking their stock and crops. It is a very interesting set of letters. [Ed.: Our thanks to Roz for sharing this interesting information with us!]

Vernon County Poor Farm

Third Article in Poor Farm Series

By Sue Hopkins Blesi¹

It has not yet been possible to locate the official poor farm records for Vernon County, but some information has been gathered. Fern Boan provided information. According to her book, which is actually her college thesis, the Vernon County Poor Farm superintendent earned a salary of \$50.00 per month in 1912-1911. (sic) There were 18 inmates in 1897, 14 in 1903, 15 in 1911-12, 32 in 1932 and 35 and 1935. In 1897, three were listed as "Feeble-minded" and none were listed as insane.²

The county farm was in existence in 1883, although one source states that the two-story brick structure was not built until about 1890. It was located 2 1/2 miles southwest of Walker, Missouri in Section 18, on land

now owned by Robert and Barbara Cabbage. Barbara Cabbage is the postmaster at Walker and her husband farms the land, which was purchased by his parents, Emery and Rena Cabbage, in 1960, shortly after it was discontinued as a poor farm. The brick home was destroyed by a tornado in the early 1960s.³ An earlier tornado had damaged the front of the building. There is a pauper's cemetery on the property, but most of the 100 or so graves are unmarked.

The first known poor farm superintendent was C. E. Miller, in 1883. No superintendents' names are available after that until 1922, when Peter Peterson held the position, but a fairly complete verbal record is available from that time forward. Jim Poland was superintendent from 1924 to 1934. Joe May and his wife, Lucy, followed. George Bush was next, followed by Joe May a second time. Joe's brother, John May, then held the job, along with his wife, Mae May. Lawrence Rackley was the last superintendent. The county court decided to close the farm and sell the property in 1959.

Lucille Poland Holcomb recalls that her parents, Jim and Hattie Poland, ran the county farm from 1924 until 1934. She described the house as having a big basement and six rooms on each floor. There were two additional buildings. Her father raised the crops, farmed, milked, butchered, raised chickens, a garden, and a lot of fruit trees to provide for their family and the inmates. Her mother got up at 4:00 a.m. and worked in the basement kitchen until 8:00 or 9:00 p.m. She prepared meals and canned. Laundry was done in a separate building on the old dasher-style washing machines. A wood stove provided heat for drying the clothes in winter. Inmates helped with chores to the extent that they were able.

Holcomb recalls that her parents were good to the patients. Hattie Poland made cakes, pies, and homemade bread for them. They called her "Mom." She remembers a few of the patients. Levi Freeman made and sold fiddles. Other patients whom she

remembers were Harrison Gump and Mart James.

While trying to open an old-style wooden box of prunes in the basement kitchen, a sliver of wood flew into Hattie Poland's eye. She had much trouble with her eye after that and eventually had to have a glass eye. The Polands had to leave the position because the doctor told Mrs. Poland her health was being destroyed by her spending so many hours in the basement kitchen.

When a patient became ill, Dr. C. B. Davis, who made house calls, was called. Sometimes when an inmate died, the family came after the body and took care of the burial; otherwise, Mr. Poland, with the help of some of the inmates, would dig a grave and bury the deceased.

In the early 1930s, Bob Prewitt visited the county farm because he was friendly with John Poland, Lucille's brother. One resident, by the name of "Hap", had a small tobacco plot on the farm and made some very strong, long, green cigars.

Georgia May Russell of Nevada recalls the 14-or-so years when her father, Joe May, was superintendent. They moved onto the farm in 1944. There was no electricity or inside plumbing. The family lived on the main floor of the house. In addition to the kitchen, there was a jail and milk room on the basement level. Joe May milked cows and farmed. The female patients were housed on the upper floor and the men were in a separate building.

Russell remembered Bill Arnold, who had one leg amputated at the knee, and Harrison Gump. She remembered other given names, but was not sure of the surnames. There were Shirley and David and Florence laajums, which is spelled here phonetically, probably incorrectly. Her father worked the farm. She remembered that the patients were not capable of helping except in the garden.

Mrs. May canned in half-gallon jars. Russell recalls that the cellar walls were lined with those large jars filled with fruits of their labor. She said it was a wonderful

house and an interesting life. She recalled that the patients were their friends. She went with her father to visit them after the county farm closed and remembers her father crying when one of them died. Russell also remembered going to the county court once a month to meet with the county judges (analogous to present-day county commissioners), two of whom were then Whitworth and Smith.

The Vernon County Poor Farm did not escape the wrath of the 1922 exposé conducted by the *St. Louis Star*. The *Star* reported that a nine-year-old boy, Earl Foster, described as "feeble-minded," was living at the poor farm in a one-room structure known as the "bull pen," with six old men, only one of whom was considered sane. Earl could not read or write and his verbal skills consisted primarily of "unprintable phrases." He had reportedly been beaten by the superintendent and by inmates. The article stated that Earl's mother had told the county judges that she couldn't take care of him. He had been committed to the state asylum but the doctors said that it was not a place for a boy as bright as Earl and had returned him to the county, at which time he had been placed at the poor farm. According to the article, he had been "shamefully abused, morally, by adult inmates."^{4,5}

A *Star* reporter toured the poor farm with the superintendent, Peter Peterson, and reported there were three stone dungeons in the main building, with iron doors and iron bars on the windows. Apparently the "dungeons" were not then being used to house anyone, but had previously been used for the insane. As they were unused in 1922, the reason for mentioning them may have been to emphasize anything negative that he could find. He was told that the structure was 32 years old, which would date it to 1890. The reporter stated that, despite the cold weather, there were flies in the kitchen and that dining room plaster had fallen from many places and old wallpaper flapped in the air currents. He described the

facility as "dirty throughout." There were no laundry facilities and the inmates were not required to bathe. The one bathtub was being used for slaughtering a hog when the reporter was present.⁴

In defense of the superintendent, it was obvious that the reporter was indulging in flagrant sensationalist journalism as this was part of a series depicting the horrors of the poor farms in Missouri. Also, the farm consisted of 176 acres and the county got the proceeds from the crops. Peterson's salary of \$50 per month with which he was to feed and clothe himself, his wife and nine children, and the 11 inmates. He had no training and was expected to care for a difficult mixture of inmates, including the insane, this difficult child who had serious behavioral problems, and probably several invalids, while being expected to keep the farm productive and feed these people without the luxury of plumbing or electricity. The six men and the boy were living in the cabin because "they didn't keep as clean as they ought to." Despite the roomy structure, the 11 inmates were crowded together because only a few rooms had stoves. The State Board of Charities rated this poor farm as "Very Poor" in 1922, but several other Missouri counties also received this rating.

As in other counties embarrassed by the exposé, changes were made in a hurry. The secretary for the State Board of Charities and Corrections, Homer Talbot, became involved and young Earl was quickly placed at the State Colony and Training School for the Feeble-Minded at Marshall, Missouri. Apparently, the superintendent was soon after replaced because Mr. Poland began his tenure in 1924.

Much of what I have learned about the Vernon County Poor Farm was gleaned from reading an article from Neoma Foreman's book, *The History of Walker, Missouri*, and from talking with her and following leads that she provided. I also talked to Lucille Poland Holcomb, Robert Cabbage, and Bob Prewitt. All of the information about the 1922 *St. Louis Star* exposé was gleaned from

microfilm copies of that newspaper, not from anyone in Vernon County.

¹ Sue Hopkins Blesi, 633 Forest Woods Trail, Saint Clair, MO 63077. Anyone with information about other poor farms in Missouri, please contact Sue Blesi at (573) 927-2772 or franklincountyhistory@msn.com. [Personal contact information updated from original printing in 2002.]

² Boan, Fern. *History of Poor Relief Legislation and Administration in Missouri*, the University of Chicago Press, Chicago, IL.

³ Foreman, Neoma. *History of Walker, Missouri*.

⁴ Nine-Year-Old Boy Degraded by Poor House Conditions, *The St. Louis Star*, 27 Nov 1922.

⁵ Boy Whose Plight *The Star* Bared To Leave Poorhouse, *The St. Louis Star*, 28 Nov 1922.

[The above article is reprinted from the *MoSGA JOURNAL*, XXII, No. 2, 2002 with permission of author.]

The 1910 and 1920 Vernon County, Missouri Census for the Poor Farm have been transcribed and placed online by James Baker, Jr., who has a terrific website at <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~jrbakerjr/vernon/vernonco.html> Click on the Vernon County Census Records "Go" button, then select "Poor Farm and County Jail Census." Jim has transcribed and placed online a lot of Vernon County records – **Thank you, Jim!**

Twenty-three known burials in the Poor Farm Cemetery will be included in the new Vernon County Cemetery Directory. Information has been taken from newspaper articles and death certificates. Anyone with information on burials there are invited to contact the Tri-County Genealogical Society.

Kansas Pioneers of 1855 That Came by way of the New England Emigrant Aid Company

The Tri-County Genealogical Society recently obtained the 72-page book by this name, extracted by Debra F. Graden from "Report of The Special Committee Appointed To Investigate The Troubles In Kansas; With The Views Of The Minority of Said Committee," House of Representatives, Report No. 200, 34th Congress, 1st Session.

Washington: Cornelius Wendell, Printer, 1856, Pages 829-893, 1143-1146.

The front material in the book further states "In 1856 the U.S. House of Representatives ordered a Special Committee to investigate the troubles in Kansas, which included illegal voting, stolen ballot boxes and killings of Pro-Slavery men. This book is the testimony regarding the Massachusetts Emigrant Aid Society and whether they had hired men to come to Kansas for the sole purpose to vote for Kansas to be a Free-State. There are lists of names of all the persons that came under the auspices of the Emigrant Aid Society during the early part of 1855." A copy of partial testimony by B. F. Nicholson follows:

"I reside in Missouri, in Parkville, Platte county. I went down the river on a steamboat last year, between the 1st and 10th of April. This boat was named "Sam Cloon" There was about twenty persons got on at Kansas City, Missouri. They said they had been up in the Territory of Kansas for the purpose of voting, and were brought there by the Massachusetts Emigrant Aid Society, and that they were paid to come out here by that society, and promised two dollars a day after they got to the city of Lawrence. There was a certain Mr. Lincoln who was their leader, so they told me. They cursed him for making the speeches he did, and telling lies, and causing them to come out here and robbing them of their means. They said they had joined the society, and had come out here and voted, and could get no employment, and were destitute of all means. They said the main object of the Emigrant Aid Society was to bring persons out here who, by their votes, would make this a free State. Mr. Lincoln told me this himself, as we were in the barber's shop. He also told me he was going down to St. Louis to get up some more for the election in May. The elections in some districts were ordered for the 22d of May. When we had got below Booneville we took some passengers—some 30 or 40 more of these men—from the El Paso, which had sunk. They found Mr.

Lincoln was aboard, and they came up and cursed and abused him for the speech he had made in Bedford, Massachusetts, and causing them to come out here, where they had been so disappointed. These men from the El Paso stated that they had come to vote, and had voted. They said they did not care a damn whether Kansas was a free or slave State now. They did not like to be chouzelled out of their means. They said their expenses had been paid out here by the company, and that they had got a through ticket to Kansas City, Missouri. I understood from them that the Aid Society had dropped them after they got them out here."

Testimony of numerous men as well as lists of people (some listing the town they were from) sent to Kansas by the New England Emigrant Aid Company is contained in the book.

Articles sought for the MoSGA Journal

Members are invited to submit well-documented articles about families with strong connections to the Show-Me-State for publication in the Missouri State Genealogical Association's quarterly *Journal*. The *MoSG Journal* editor also welcomes well-documented articles about genealogical "brick walls" that you have encountered, and resources/research techniques that you employed to break through those brick walls. Additionally, 3- to 10-page feature articles on a variety of topics such as Agriculture in Missouri 1800-1900, Baseball in Missouri 1870-1930, Civil War Skirmishes in Missouri, Lynchings and Vigilante Violence 1830-1920, Missouri Landmarks, Prohibition in Missouri, and The Fur Trade are sought. Additional suggested feature article topics are listed in the *MoSGA Journal* inside back cover as well as the address to which articles are to be submitted. Copies of the *MoSGA Journal* are available in the Nevada Library Genealogy Department.

Missouri History Museum Launched Genealogy and Local History Index

References to hundreds of thousands of our St. Louis, MO ancestors are included in the new index recently launched at www.mohistory.org/genealogy and can be searched by personal name, business/corporate name, or street address. The latter search option is designed primarily for those researching the history of their home and its former residents. The Index includes data from more than 250 sources which are selected books, publications, documents and photographs in the holdings of the Missouri History Museum Library and Research Center. Although digital images of the actual sources are not available online, researchers can request a photocopy online and copies will be mailed within two days.

Also available is their new Family History Get Started website at www.mohistory.org/lrc/family-history/get-started for information on additional catalogs, guides, and indexes; and their Genealogy Links page at www.mohistory.org/lrc/family-history/genealogy-links that may help you find information on your St. Louis ancestors.

Indexing Records from Home for FamilySearch.org Website

Would you like to help index records at home using your own computer? FamilySearch.org has set up a procedure to enable thousands of researchers to index from home, and all of the indexed records will then be available on the internet without charge to users. If you are interested in projects which generally take from 30 to 60 minutes to complete, please go to this website:

www.familysearchindexing.org/home.jsf

Volunteers extract family history information from digital images of historical documents to create searchable indexes that assist everyone in finding their ancestors.

Digitized microfilm is divided into small batches of about 20-50 names. Each batch is indexed by two different people to ensure accuracy. This is referred to as the A key

and B key. If information in the A key does not agree with information from the B key, then someone called an arbitrator will review both extractions, compare them with the original record, and make the needed changes. When both extractions are corrected, they are sent to a database and prepared for publication on the internet. When you index records and download a batch of records to work on, the batch is copied onto your computer, and when you submit it, the finished batch is copied back to the server. You can download a batch to index, save it to your computer, and work "offline" or disconnected from the Internet. Batches can often be indexed in 30-60 minutes. You can choose a batch for a specific project (i.e., Ohio marriage records, Washington 1920 census, etc.). If you have not completed the batch within seven days, the system will reassign the batch to another indexer. There are complete, detailed instructions and help guides on how to index on the website, as well as tutorials to watch and even a guided practice in how to index.

The basic procedure is to download a batch, locate and read the project instructions, use the Indexing Guides, receive messages from leaders and obtain help resources.

Penny Postcards

What did your town look like according to Penny Postcards? Check out your old stomping grounds during the times of the penny postcard. By the way, none of us were alive when postcards only cost 1¢. www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~usgenweb/spacial/ppcs/ppcs.html Click on the state and then select the county name to see old penny postcards from that area...pretty neat. Our thanks to Betty H. for sharing this site!

Cotley College Announces New Certificate in Public History

Are you interested in writing historical fiction, working in a museum, making historical films, or in other ways presenting history to a public audience? You can now earn a

certificate in public history at Cotley College. To complete the certificate, you earn 21 credits of both history classes and hands-on application courses. Want to be a Chautauqua performer? Combine your study of history with acting and costume design. Want to publish articles? Combine your study of history with photography and writing classes. The possibilities are endless! You craft the certificate to meet your goals.

For more information, contact Dr. Angela Firkus at Cotley: afirkus@cotley.edu or (417) 667-8181.

Member Survey for Meeting Day

It was voted at the July meeting of the Tri-County Genealogical Society that a survey be taken of members to ascertain if there is a more convenient day of the month for our regular meeting. A survey form will be developed by your officers and published in the August newsletter to enable all local members to have a voice in considering a different meeting day.

Ozarks Genealogical Society Conference

The Ozarks Genealogical Society Conference will be held Sep. 25-26 in Springfield, MO. Thomas W. Jones, Ph.D., CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, is the featured presenter. For more information: conference@ozarksgs.org or see flyer posted in Library Genealogy Department.

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 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 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. 2009 Society officers are:

President: Kathe Rader

V. Pres: Gayle Teague & Neoma Foreman

Recording Secy: Janet Jones

Treasurer: Ray Lukenbill

Corresponding Secy: Darlene Lukenbill

Newsletter & website: Nancy Thompson

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