



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](mailto:tricountygenealogy@centurytel.net)  
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~motcogs/>



Vernon County Courthouse  
Nevada, Missouri

# NEWSLETTER

## January 2010

**February 16, 2010, 10 a.m.**  
**Church of Christ Fellowship Hall**  
**302 E Hospital Rd., El Dorado Springs**  
**Genealogy Meeting & Program**  
*RESEARCHING YOUR ANCESTORS IN  
CEDAR COUNTY, MISSOURI*

The February meeting of the Tri-County Genealogical Society will be held on **Tuesday, February 16**, at the Church of Christ Fellowship Hall in El Dorado Springs, MO.

The program will be a presentation on how to research your ancestors in Cedar County, MO – where to find Cedar County records – and a tour of the genealogy section of the El Dorado Springs public library will follow the meeting. If you are researching Cedar County ancestors or just getting started with your research, this program will help you understand the various records that might be available pertaining to your ancestors and where those records are located.

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.

The El Dorado Springs public library is located at 808 South Main St. in El Dorado Springs.

### 2010 Programs

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

**Mar. 16, Nevada:** "Hands on Research". An overview of how to research in the Nevada

Library Genealogy Dept. will be given followed by attendees taking actual research requests to fulfill in the Nevada Library Genealogy Dept. The findings will then be reported to the group. **(Attention long-distance Tri-County Members: If you have obituary, probate, history book, cemetery directory, etc., lookups you would like done for free, please email/mail the details to the Society no later than Mar. 1 so they can be used for hands-on research experience. Those who would like to join the Society and submit their requests should send the \$10 membership fee and requests by Mar. 1.)**

**Apr. 20, El Do:** "Missouri Cemeteries" by Dr. Maryellen McVickers. (Arranged by Dorothy Foster)

**May. 18, Nevada:** "Using the Find-A-Grave Website" by Nancy Thompson. 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:** "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)

**Nov. 16, Nevada:** "Group Solve Your Brick Walls" Helen Lodge at Cottey College. Form with details must be submitted 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.]

#### Follow up on Research Cases

During the Society's December meeting, various research brick walls were discussed, and the information/suggestions from those discussions are given below:

**Case #1: Burial location of Charles Frederick Rittermeyer and his wife, Lelia Brown Rittermeyer.**

According to St. Clair County Missouri Death Certificate #33951: Charles Frederick Rittermeyer died Sep. 30, 1913 in Monegaw Springs, St. Clair Co., MO, and was buried in the Mt. Zion Cemetery, also located in Monegaw Springs, MO.

According to Jackson County Missouri Death Certificate #24515: Lelia Brown Rittermeyer died Aug. 25, 1927 in Kansas City, MO, and place of burial, cremation, or removal was to Butler, MO. It is noted that "Rockville," MO was first listed, was marked through, and Butler inserted.

A Society member confirms that the Rittermeyer's are not listed in the newest edition of the St. Clair County Cemetery Directory. He additionally reports that the Mt. Zion Church is now closed. He will also contact the cemetery regarding the burials and will inquire about the church records

from the Mt. Zion Church. He reports that there are several older stones in the back of the cemetery and the inscriptions cannot now be read. An inquiry to Oak Hill Cemetery in Butler, MO showed that there are no lot purchases or burials for that surname.

Suggestions are that (1) follow-up be conducted regarding Mt. Zion Church records by the Society member and (2) a search be made for obituaries in newspapers nearby to Monegaw Springs: Osceola, Rockville, Rich Hill, and Butler. Contact both the Butler and Osceola libraries regarding how to obtain obituary searches in their areas.

**Case #2: The maiden name of Laticia/Leticia, wife of Jacob Hicks. According to the 1850 Wayne Co, KY Federal Census, Laticia was born about 1791 in NC, and Jacob was born about 1781 in VA. Their first child, John Hicks, was born about 1806 in Wayne Co, KY.**

From the approximate ages of Jacob and Laticia and the approximate birth year of their son, John Hicks, it can be estimated that the marriage occurred in approximately 1805, give or take a couple of years, and possibly in Wayne Co, KY. Wayne Co was formed from Pulaski and Cumberland counties in 1801.

Suggestions are that (1) all available marriage indexes be reviewed for the marriage; e.g., Kentucky Marriages, 1797-1865 by C. Glenn Cliff, etc. – check [www.worldcat.org](http://www.worldcat.org) for copies in a nearby library; [Once in a while a marriage is abstracted in a finding aid but the actual paper copy of it can no longer be found.] (2) contact the Wayne Co Courthouse regarding early county marriages; (3) check the early history books of Wayne Co, for family biographical information; (4) contact the Wayne Co historical and genealogical society for research assistance; and (5) research the land records for information regarding Jacob Hicks' first purchase in Wayne Co and possible land information if

his wife's father also lived in Wayne Co and left land to her and Jacob.

**Case #3: Looking for the parents of Nancy Ann Douglass (b. about 1867) who married James Hart in Coffee Co, TN. Nancy's mother died when she was about 2 years old; and she was raised by her older sister, Melissa, and a nanny. How can it be proved that a family located in the 1870 Coffee Co, TN Census is the correct family?**

The 1870 Coffee Co, TN census shows a Park Douglass family, no wife, and 6 children. Melissa, 14, is the oldest child; and 3-yr-old Nancy is the youngest.

Suggestions are that (1) the Coffee Co, TN court be contacted to obtain a copy of any will and/or probate file for Park Douglass which would list his legal heirs; (2) a copy of an early Coffee Co history be searched for a family bio; and (3) queries be posted on both GenForum and rootsweb.com surname and location message boards.

#### **Cedar Co Probate Records**

Volunteers report that they are presently processing box 24 of 25 boxes! Great job!!

#### **Recommended Resources to Purchase**

The Society continually seeks your suggestions on genealogy resources to add to the library collections in Nevada and El Dorado Springs. Please email the Society or bring your suggestions to any meeting.

Recent suggestions include:

How to Locate Anyone Who Is or Has Been in the Military: Armed Forces Locator Guide (paperback) by Richard S. Johnson and Debra Johnson Knox, with Forward by William C. Westmoreland. (\$10-\$55)

No Soap, No Pay, Diarrhea, Dysentery & Desertion: A Composite Diary of the Last 16 Months of the Confederacy from 1864 to 1865 (Paperback) Jeff Toalson (Editor) (\$5-\$25)

El Dorado Sun newspaper microfilm 1961-\_\_\_\_\_. (est. 2 years of papers on each roll of film/\$100.)

Biographical History of Barton County, Missouri (hardcover). (\$39)

1961 Atlas of Cedar County, Missouri. Cedar Co Historical Society. (\$15)

Bourbon County, Kansas Marriage Record Books 1-7, 1838-1897. (\$110)

Google Your Family Tree: Unlock the Hidden Power of Google by Daniel M. Lynch (paperback). (\$40)

Please bring any additional suggestions that you have!

#### **Re: Steve Smith's Web Article - Kincaid**

**From:** Barbara

**To:** tricountygenealogy@centurytel.net

**Sent:** Sunday, January 03, 2010 4:11 PM

**Subject:** RE: Steve Smith's article Kincaid

Dear Sirs: Would you please inform Steve Smith of Georgia that his article on the Kincaid's of Claiborne County, TN, has been very useful to me. Though I can only use a little bit of the information for my project, it has been a great help. One notation I'd found said the Kincaid family went to MO. and all died of cholera.

At the present time I am compiling "Confederate History Compendium of Tennessee" for the TN Division, United Daughters of the Confederacy, as one of our Sesquicentennial projects.

Each county in TN will have about 10 pages of information, though some less and some more. I have 15 pages for Claiborne County which includes a brief sketch of the Kincaid-Longmire-Ausmus-Welch House, the home of John Kincaid III, in Speedwell, TN.

This article enabled me to add a few additional comments about the original owner of the house.

You have a great site. Thanks.

Mrs. E.H. Parsons, Chairman  
TN Division UDC Remembrance  
of 150 Years committee

[Thank you, Barbara, for your comments regarding the article and our website. Ed.]

#### **Items of Interest from Area Newspapers**

[The below newspaper articles were transcribed by Nancy Thompson.]

**LOST LIFE WHILE BATHING IN  
Osage River, Near Sedalia, Where  
He had Gone to Visit Friends**

Charles H. Folks of Moundville, was drowned while bathing in the Osage river, near Warsaw, Friday.

Mr. Folks motored to Warsaw the first of this week with some friends to visit Prof. Miles, a former resident of Moundville. No particulars have been learned of the tragedy but it is supposed Mr. Folks was seized with a sudden cramp as he was an excellent swimmer.

Mr. Folks is survived by his widow, who was formerly Miss Fitzpatrick of Moundville, and their four children.

His father, Fred Folks, who also lived near Moundville, was killed by lightning during a storm last September.

The body will arrive here this afternoon and the funeral will be held on Sunday at his home just west of Moundville.

The deceased was only 28 years of age; he was a fine young man and was universally respected.

*Nevada Daily Mail & Evening Post, Nevada, MO.  
Saturday, July 27, 1918. Page 1.*

**FUNERAL OF REV. RIDER**

Rev. Geo. J. McClellan of Liberty, will preach the funeral sermon of the Rev. George E. Rider of Kansas City, Mo., who was slain at Hally's Bluff, Mo., near Nevada, Mo., Saturday afternoon April 4th, by Rev. A. J. Brown of Hally's Bluff.

The funeral was held Wednesday, April 8th, at 11 a.m., from the Independence Boulevard Christian church in Kansas City, Mo. Rev. McClellan was assisted by Rev. Harry C. Swartz, pastor of the Kansas City Christian Union Church, and Rev. A. F. Dorrell, pastor of the Excelsior Springs Christian Union Church.

Hundreds of members, representing many Christian Union churches throughout Missouri were present.

Revs. McClellan and Swartz motored to Nevada, Monday, to comfort and assist the

widow, Mrs. Mary Lee Rider, and to make the final arrangements for the transferring of the body of Rev. Rider, their former associate and close personal friend with whom they had labored for many years, from Nevada to Kansas City. They also visited Rev. A. J. Brown, the slayer in the jail at Nevada.

*Liberty Tribune, Liberty, MO.  
Thursday, April 9, 1931.*

[Our thanks to member Joyce S. for sending this article to be transcribed and published.]

**KILLED BY THE SHERIFF.  
Robert Roundtree Meets Death While  
Resisting Arrest.  
Only Eight Feet Between the Combatants.  
Roundtree's Wife was Riding Behind  
Her Husband.  
The Pistol Which Killed Keating  
Was Fatal to Roundtree.  
A Black Horse Without an Owner the  
Cause of the Fight.  
Particulars of the Pursuit and Shooting.**

"Had you heard that Sheriff Hill had shot a man?" asked Officer Prewitt of a MAIL reporter this morning.

It was the first intimation received and the reporter hurried out in quest of the sheriff. He was found at the law office of Messrs. Scott & Hoss and was perfectly willing to give a full statement of the affair.

To fully explain the causes which led to the shooting it is well to go back to an article published in the MAIL about two weeks since. A black horse had been turned into an oat field near Sandstone belonging to E. W. Koon, and had been taken up and posted by that man. After it was posted, some one took the horse and attempted to ride it away, but in the dark ran into a barbed wire fence and cut the animal so badly that he could not travel. In this emergency the rider turned him loose in a pasture near Milo. Koon heard of the animal and took it back to his home.

Last week Koon wrote to Sheriff Hill that some one was again trying to steal the horse, and he could prove that the man was

Robert Roundtree, his brother-in-law. Mr. Hill was not well enough to visit Sandstone, and did not go in answer to the letter.

"This morning," said the Sheriff, "Koon came to town and swore out a warrant before Justice McBride at about 3 o'clock. He then came after me and I went down with him to the house of Tom Wallace. There I waited a short time for Jerry Crowley, of this city, who was going direct to Roundtree's house. I had not eaten my breakfast before leaving Nevada and thought I would eat with Mr. Wallace.

"Yesterday, (Sunday) Roundtree went to Koon's house and engaged in a quarrel with him. He had previously made threats of burning Koon's house and of injuring him in other ways. To prevent the consummation of his purposes the neighbors had been guarding Koon's house. The horse had been hobbled with two chains in such a manner that he could not be taken away without breaking them off. The smaller chain was cut one night, but the larger one still remained. The Sunday's quarrel was the immediate cause of Koon's swearing out the warrant against Roundtree."

"While I was waiting at Mr. Wallace's, Mr. Shumaker, who had been guarding Koon's house through the night came over and said that Roundtree had saddled his horse and was doubtless getting ready to run away. Roundtree's house was only a quarter of a mile away, and looking in that direction he was seen leading his horse across the road. A woman was following him. I got my horse as quickly as possible and rode after him. When I reached the place, he had gone, but there were several men collected at Campbell's blacksmith shop. Campbell is Roundtree's father-in-law. I enquired the direction the man had taken and they pointed it out to me. I followed the horse's tracks through a skirt of timber, and as soon as I got out on the prairie, I saw Roundtree some distance away riding in a trot. A woman was riding behind him.

"I rode after him, and could see that he turned and looked at me. When close to

him, I asked: 'Is your name Roundtree?' He replied that it was. Then I said,

'I want you!'

'What for?' he asked, and at that moment grasped the handle of a heavy revolver which was stuck under the waistband of his pants in front.

'Throw up your hands!' I called to him, but instead of doing so he attempted to jerk his revolver out. He pulled it nearly out and the hammer caught on his vest. I was then sitting on my horse within six or eight feet of him, but had not touched my pistol until he had partially drawn his weapon. When I drew my revolver he had gotten his out, and we were so close that I knew one of us must be shot. I was afraid of killing the woman, and sighted a little in front of him. The first time I missed, and the woman screamed and jumping down off the horse ran away. My revolver was a self-cocker while Roundtree was compelled to raise the hammer of his weapon. When I fired the first time his horse commenced shying from me, and Roundtree turned in the saddle to aim at me. His pistol was extended toward me and I think he shot, but I was too much excited to say positively.

When the woman jumped, I kept firing until Roundtree fell from his horse.

I think the last shot struck him in the back of the head, but I am not certain. I thought then I had fired but three shots, but afterward found that four chambers of my revolver were empty. Roundtree's weapon, I think was a navy revolver.

"When the man fell I did not stop to examine him, but rode away as rapidly as possible for help. I went to two or three houses before finding anyone at home, but finally found some men and then sent a physician from Milo.

"I suppose it was almost eight o'clock when the shooting occurred. It took place about one-fourth mile south of Sandstone. When I first saw him on the prairie he was about three hundred yards away, but when I was within a hundred yards of him he stopped and waited for me to come up. I suppose the woman who was with

Roundtree was his wife, but I do not know. I never saw Roundtree before. I was told that he came to Sandstone last spring. Koon said he was 38 years old. He was a man of average size, with long sandy whiskers."

Sheriff Hill seemed very much troubled by the affray, but there is not a man in Vernon county who does not know that he would never have drawn a weapon unless the emergency compelled him. It was either his blood or that of the man for whose arrest he carried a warrant. It was his duty as an officer to capture Roundtree, and he was resolved not to submit to arrest.

The revolver which Sheriff Hill used was that with which John Keating was killed by Jesse Chaney.

Doctors H. B. Harris and C. A. Rockwood were sent to the scene of the killing soon after Sheriff Hill's arrival in the city.

In conversation with Uncle Jimmy Bridgford a MAIL reporter learned that Roundtree was the man who ran away with a buggy last fall from B. F. Bridgford's stable. He got possession of it under the pretext of buying it, and drove it to Jerico. Frank Bridgford followed him, and rather than come back to jail Roundtree borrowed the money and paid for the buggy.

The horse which was the origin of the difficulty, mysteriously appeared in Koon's oat-field, and as yet no trace has been found of his owner. He was evidently stolen and for some purpose the thief left him there.

A MAIL reporter saw Jerry Crowley at noon. He had just returned from Sandstone where he had gone to buy some cattle from Roundtree. Mr. Crowley said that Roundtree was dead, but learned nothing more of the shooting than related by Sheriff Hill. The body was lying on the prairie where he had fallen, but a shade had been built over it and it was being watched by a number of persons. Mr. Crowley did not go out to the scene of the killing.

*The Nevada Daily Mail, Nevada, MO.  
June 20, 1885.*

### **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.

### **Genealogy Queries with Gloria Bogart Carter**

You are invited to send queries to the Gloria Carter Ozarks Genealogy Column in the on-line edition of the Springfield, MO News-Leader newspaper. It is a free service. Your queries will help keep the column on-line. Gloria Bogart Carter, 733 South Farm Road 89, Springfield, MO 65802 417-869-7060 - [gbcarter@juno.com](mailto:gbcarter@juno.com), current Ozarks Genealogy Column <http://www.news-leader.com/legacy/genealogy/> and prior years at <http://www.news-leader.com/legacy/genealogy/queries296.shtml>

### **Cotley College Local Authors Program**

On Friday, February 19, at 8 p.m., Larry Wood, author of numerous articles and the book Call Me Charlie: A Novel of a Quantrill Raider, will give a presentation of "The Writing and Publishing Process." The presentation will be in the Rubie Burton Academic Center, Room 109, and include a question and answer segment. This program has been made possible by donations to the Cotley College History Department.

### **How To Research Your Civil War Ancestor Cass Co. Public Library Genealogy Branch**

How to start your research, find your ancestor in the Federal census, obtain military records and related Civil War maps, with expert one-on-one help. Registration required; select either Friday, Mar 12, or Sat., Mar. 13. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Limited

seating; \$15 fee includes boxed lunch. Additional information (816) 884-6285.

### 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

Newsletter & website: Nancy Thompson

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