

*Cedar & Vernon County, MO Genealogical Society*

*218 West Walnut Street, Nevada, MO 64772*

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*<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~motcogs/>*

## NEWSLETTER

October 2011

**Genealogy Meeting and Program**  
**Tuesday, November 15, 2011, 10 a.m.**

**Nevada Library Meeting Room**  
**212 West Walnut St., Nevada, MO**  
(Bushwhacker Museum entrance on Walnut St.)

*Griswold Cast Iron Skillets*

*Jeff Mitchell*

Jeff Mitchell will be speaking on antique and collectable Griswold skillets at the November meeting. For information about the history of Griswold cast iron cookware, please see [www.griswoldcookware.com/history.htm](http://www.griswoldcookware.com/history.htm)

Check your cabinets for what cast iron you have, and please bring any Griswold pieces for "show and tell."

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.

### 2011 Society Programs

The following programs are tentatively scheduled for 2011. Watch the newsletter and website for updated information or changes as programs are finalized.

**Dec 20, El Do Spgs:** Installation of Officers and Christmas Luncheon – Location: Wayside Museum, El Dorado Springs, MO.

### Membership Dues for 2012

You are invited to send in your 2012 membership dues at this time (address above) or bring to the next meeting.

### Nominating Committee

The nominating committee is working to obtain commitments for society officers for

2012. *Thank you!* to those who have agreed to serve!

### 1942 Train Wreck in Schell City

Member Betty H. shares the following information from her husband Wade about a 1942 train wreck in Schell City. Wade remembers when it happened, but he was not an eye witness. The below picture shows one view of the train wreck. This view shows a fence along the sidewalk, and this is the same side of Main Street on which Wade's Grandparents Marquis lived. They lived in the 2nd house from the Railroad Tracks, so were very close to the wreck. However, he, his Dad, his Grandfather Marquis and two of his brothers had left the house and were on their way to cut firewood for Grandpa and Grandma Marquis. They had driven across the Railroad Tracks and headed South on the road which goes to Walker (about 200 feet). They heard the crash and then saw the great billows of smoke. The tracks were blocked by that time and the woodcutters were unable to immediately get back to town. He remembers that the Feed Store which also housed the Poultry House, was burned. The wreck was a head-on crash between two engines.

There are pictures of several different views of the wreck. These pictures evidently came from the album of Wade's Grandmother Marquis. She lived with Wade's family in her last years and her albums were left with them.

All of Wade's immediate family are gone now, so no one to ask. Memories fade.



Please use as much of this train wreck information as you would like. Betty.

### Researchers' Research

The Genealogy Society receives many questions about research, and researchers often share information about the individuals they are researching. Below are some of those, edited for the newsletter.

**Q: Can you help with research of former patients of the Nevada State Hospital #3?**

**A:** This continues to rank high on the list of most often asked questions. Information on how to research former patients and what resources are available can be seen at the Vernon Co, MO USGenWeb Internet site at [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~movernon/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~movernon/). Click on the **State Hosp #3** link in the navigation list on the left side of the screen. If you have a "how-to" question about researching a former patient that is not answered on that page, please email us.

**Q: How can I get a copy of an obituary from the Vernon County area?**

**A:** Our society provides look-up services for obituaries (and other newspaper articles) for a small fee. Please send \$5 along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Genealogy Society, Attn: Research. Include

the **name and full date of death** of the individual along with any additional information that might be needed to find the obituary, such as maiden and all known married surnames of a woman. A search of the available microfilm in the Genealogy Department of the Nevada Public Library will be made. If an obituary is found, it will be printed and mailed. The fee is for the search; there is no refund if an obituary is not found. If you have only the month and year of death (and not the day), the fee is \$10 because an extensive search will have to be made.

**Q: My ancestor lived and died in Stockton, MO -- can you provide an obituary from a Stockton newspaper?**

**A:** We can only provide lookups from the microfilm available in the Nevada Library Genealogy Department, and at this time we do not have any of the Stockton newspaper microfilm. For a list of the microfilm that we do have, please go to [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~movernon/resources.htm](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~movernon/resources.htm) and see **Newspaper Microfilm**. You can also check the library's online card catalog.

**Q: How can I get a copy of a Vernon County marriage record?**

**A:** Indexes for Vernon County marriages from 1855 to about 1960 are available at [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~movernon/marriages.htm](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~movernon/marriages.htm) Once you find the individual(s) in the indexes, please send \$1 for each marriage record ordered along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to

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

Include at least one of the names, which marriage book, and the page number from the index. Marriage books for the years 1855-1960 are identified by alphabetical letters.

**Q: My ancestors were in Cedar County – can you conduct research for me?**

**A:** We only provide research from resources that are available in the Nevada Library Genealogy Department and at the Nevada Courthouse. Please see the links above regarding which Cedar Co resources are available in the Nevada Library Genealogy Dept.

**If you have a research question, please email or mail it, and it will be answered in a future newsletter.**

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I am B. Dave Sarles and am researching JONES in Vernon County, MO. My Nathaniel T. Jones moved with his family in the 1840s from Lee County, Virginia, to Sullivan County, Missouri, thence in the 1850s to Vernon County, MO, to escape the bitter cold of Sullivan County which had killed some of his neighbors. He and his family settled near Metz, Vernon County, MO where he continued until driven out by General Order 11 during the Civil War. [The August 1863 General Order No. 11 depopulated the area north of the Little Osage River, and home sites and crops were burned.] His son, Samuel H. Jones, my ancestor, finally enlisted in the Confederate Cavalry, was shot in the head

at Shiloh, survived, and married Amanda Lucinda Davis in Union County, LA. He was discharged and paroled as a Confederate Captain. He died in Ft. Worth, TX in 1929. It was my privilege to know him 'though I remember little except for family legend.

There were a number of children born to Nathaniel T. Jones. Of that number, there were two Jones sons for whom I do not know the names of their spouses. I am of the opinion that several remained in Vernon County. Nathaniel is buried in the Rhea Cemetery just west of Metz according to my information, although the cemetery was too overgrown for me to search for his grave personally. Incidentally, the owners of the land surrounding the cemetery were massacred at Temple, Texas, while eating lunch a year or two later than my visit, while traveling to Galveston, TX, for a granddaughter's wedding.

Please feel free to refer other researchers of this Jones family to me.

B. Dave Sarles, Jr. [sarles@hal-pc.org](mailto:sarles@hal-pc.org)

[Editor's note: There are 5 known Jones burials in Rhea Cemetery, but no grave marker was found for Nathaniel T. Jones when the cemetery was surveyed in 2005.]

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My great grandfather, Franklin Joel Gray, was born in Des Moines, Iowa, Feb 14 1855. He married Emma ? about 1878, and I think she was born in Missouri. They lived in Nevada and had four children: Minnie b. about 1880, Isaac S. Gray about 1881, Bert, and then Stella Mae Gray about 1888. I think Emma may have died giving birth, because two years later Franklin Gray married Hannah Lucinda Norris on May 20, 1890.

I always thought my great grandmother was Emma Thomas, but when I read Franklin Joel Gray's obituary in Glenwood, Iowa, it said his first wife was Emma Snether from Missouri. That is all we have on her.

A letter from my cousin shared the following sad story about Franklin Gray and

his father Thaddeus A. Gray: Thaddeus Gray lost his wife Sarah Jane (White) Gray, 36 years old, and children Mattie (17), Wallace (14), and baby Freddie when only crawling. They had an outbreak of malaria while on a covered-wagon trip going from Nevada, MO to Texas to visit kin. She and her baby drank bad water, got typhoid fever, and died. In three months, my poor grandfather lost his wife and 3 children!

I am looking for additional information on Emma Thomas / Snether and also Sarah Jane (White) Gray who was born about 1836-38 in Cassopolis, Michigan. She married Thaddeus Gray in 1855 and died Aug 11, 1874. In 1877, Thaddeus Gray was still living in Vernon Co.

If anyone has any clue about either of these women, please let me know. Wendy wendy5749@aol.com

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I am interested in finding more information about Frank Cox (born Feb. 24, 1842, in IL and died Dec. 24, 1882 in MO) and Eliza (possibly Strader) Cox and their children: James, Joseph, Leroy, Helena, Ardila, and John. I found them last on the 1880 Census of Missouri, Vernon County, Deerfield Twp. I am hoping to find who the parents of Frank Cox were. The son Joseph Cox was my Mother's Grandfather.

Per the 1880 census his mother was born in Kentucky and nothing on his Father. He is listed in the 1870 Deerfield, Vernon Co, MO census with his wife and two oldest sons.

His wife's name was Eliza Jane Ray (the name Strader popped up in a couple of places, but not sure). She was born Feb. 2, 1850 in IL, and her father was born in TN. We have also found a marriage record for them in Jasper County, IL on May 5, 1864.

This small amount of information basically comes from the web and some matching handwritten notes we have from a deceased Aunt of my Mother's whom studied our family history years ago.

If anyone has any information I would appreciate an email [normnflorida@live.com](mailto:normnflorida@live.com) Thank you, Norman Peterson, Jacksonville Florida

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Member Peggy P. and cousin Rena Mills share the following information. Rena was doing research of her "BROWN" family in Missouri when she ran across a copy of the Vernon County History Book 1855-2005 and found on page 352 a family history story about James Harvey Brown, parents of my Grandmother Edna (Brown) Ripley who is buried in Deerfield Cemetery.

She contacted me, and I have learned that I have several Brown family members buried in the Antioch Cemetery, only 1 mile from my home. Rena came to Vernon County and was able to identify old tin plate pictures that came out of an old family trunk we had at the farm. We didn't have any names on the pictures.

The Vernon Co 1903 Plat Book shows that the majority of this Brown family lived in the Compton Junction and Walker area, except my Grandparents who lived 7 miles southwest of Deerfield.

John Lindsey Brown lived in Vernon Co. 1881-1917 when he died. His wife Madilla lived there until she moved to Joplin Co, with her daughter. Her body was returned to Vernon Co. for burial.

Benjamin Franklin Brown married and died in Vernon Co. He died in 1916 and he and his children are buried in Antioch Cemetery. His wife and surviving daughter returned to Illinois where the widow Mary (Nellie) remarried. She is buried in Hancock Co. Ill. By the way, the Linus Brown in the Antioch Cemetery is actually William Linius Brown, one person not twins as I previously thought.

They have Richard S. Brown in the history book, but his son William Thomas Brown who was born in Illinois, moved to Vernon County as a boy, married Narcissia Francis Smith, and they had three kids. One child died and is buried in Antioch. The family

moved about 1920 to Tulsa, OK. Their other children were a daughter Lena and a son Richard S. born in Vernon Co. I would love to know what the "S" stands for.

Frank Cattrell and Helen Virginia Brown moved from Illinois to Vernon Co. in 1880. He had three kids by his first wife, and two who married in Vernon Co. Frank died there in 1892. Helen moved to Montana about 1905, then to California where she died in 1932. The two Cattrell daughters ended up in California and the son in Montana.

James was a storekeeper and postal worker in Illinois

Several of the Brown siblings were in Vernon Co long enough to make a census or two before they moved on.

Rena renamills1@msn.com

#### 1887 History of Vernon County, Missouri Available FREE Online

The Missouri State Archives has digitized and placed the 1887 History of Vernon County, Missouri on the Missouri Digital Heritage website at

<http://cdm.sos.mo.gov/cdm4/document.php?CISOROOT=/mocoHist&CISOPTR=93403&REC=6&debugMode=false&numberMarked=0>

If this link changes, I will post the new one. Our thanks to Linda Myers, Archivist, for this information.

#### Items of Interest from Area Newspapers

The following LaGrange, Lewis Co, MO newspaper articles were provided by member Kenneth Went.

This map shows the location of Lewis County, MO – in the opposite end of the state from us! Don't limit your newspaper searches to a small geographic area – you never know where you may find interesting information that was republished from a local newspaper or a connection because family previously lived there.



#### DIED.

HAGOOD. – At Nevada, Mo., December 11<sup>th</sup> of typhoid fever, Edward G. Hagood, son of Charles Hagood, Esq., formerly of LaGrange, aged twenty-one years.

*LaGrange Democrat, LaGrange, MO.*  
December 18, 1884.

Henry Tuley, charged with perjury in taking the voter's oath, was tried in the Circuit court of St. Clair county, last week, found guilty and sentenced to two years imprisonment in the Penitentiary. Doubtless some poor tool of political sharpers, in pulling their chestnuts out of the fire. –WARSAW TIMES.

*LaGrange National American, LaGrange, MO.*  
April 23, 1868.

Nevada Democrat: Sunday afternoon, J. B. Akers and Miss Minnie A. McCray drove up in front of Judge Gray's residence while the snow storm was raging in its height. Judge Gray was called out, and with his bare head exposed to the blizzard, pronounced the couple man and wife without their alighting from the buggy. After the ceremony had been pronounced under such romantic circumstances, the young couple drove away.

*LaGrange Democrat, LaGrange, MO.*  
March 1, 1889.

[Editor's note: This would be Joel Blackburn Akers and Minnie Amber McCray who married February 17, 1889 in Nevada, MO.]

#### Summer Fresh Grocery Cash Register Receipts and Best Choice UPC Labels

The 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 Cedar & Vernon County MO Genealogical Society 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). Please note that there is a 2-hour parking limit on the streets.

**El Dorado Springs** Church of Christ Fellowship Hall, 302 East Hospital Road, El Dorado Springs.

### Cedar and Vernon Co, MO Genealogical Society

Membership in the Cedar & Vernon Co, MO Genealogical Society is on a calendar year basis, and memberships are welcomed and accepted throughout the year. Membership

in the Society is currently at about 70. 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 Cedar & Vernon Co, MO Genealogical Society, 218 West Walnut Street, Nevada, MO 64772.

2011 Society officers are:

President: Dorothy Foster

V. Pres: Valo Jones; Lynda Bishop

Recording Secy: Neoma Foreman

Asst. Recording Secy: Janet Jones

Treasurer: Ray Lukenbill

Corresponding Secy: Darlene Lukenbill

Newsletter & website: Nancy Thompson

**November 15 ~~ Don't Forget to Bring your Griswold Cast Iron**

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED