



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

## April 2009

### May 9, 2009 Meeting & Program 212 W. Walnut Street, Nevada, MO *"A TOUR OF THE BASTOW HOME"*

The monthly Society business meeting will be held beginning at 10 a.m. at the Nevada Library meeting room. Following the business meeting, the group will tour the Bastow home at 504 South Cedar Street in Nevada. This was the John Clack house. Clack owned a mercantile store in Nevada; and he and his wife, Delilah, had one daughter, Katie Lee. In 1880 they built the four south rooms and the reception hall. In 1891, when Katie Lee became of courting age, they added four rooms on the north (matching courting parlors which still have the sliding doors) and two bedrooms for the widowed "aunties." In 1940 the home was



converted into apartments and remained so until 1985 when restoration was begun. Mr. and Mrs. Bastow have graciously consented to allow the genealogy society to tour their beautifully restored home. We will learn the history of the Bastow house and how it relates to the family. We hope the tour will inspire us to each find the history of our homes and where our family has lived.

### 2009 Programs

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

**Jun 13, El Do:** An American Soldier who served in Iraq will be our guest speaker.

**Jul 11, Nevada:** Program to be announced.

**Aug 8, El Do:** How to Prepare for a Research Trip to the Midwest Genealogy Center in Independence, MO. Guest speaker from the Midwest Genealogy Center.

**Sep 12, Nevada:** Trip to the new Midwest Genealogy Center, Independence, MO.

**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 5-10 copies of a documented brick-wall research problem to be discussed. Election and Installation of Officers and Christmas Luncheon.

### New Email and Mailing Address

Please remember to contact the Society if you change mailing or email addresses.

### New Resources

Copy of a 1930 Vernon County Plat Map has been added to the Genealogy Dept.

### **Missouri State Genealogical Association 2009 Annual Conference**

Julie Miller, CG, will be the keynote speaker at the State conference in Jefferson City on Aug. 7 and 8. Six supporting speakers and preconference workshops are scheduled. For additional information, see the MoSGA website at [www.mosga.org](http://www.mosga.org) or a flyer in the Genealogy Dept.

### **20th North Arkansas Ancestor Fair**

Date: Jun 5-6. Place: E H Building, County Fairgrounds, Marshall, Arkansas. Presentations on Friday, ancestor Fair on Saturday. For more information, go to [www.AncestorFair.us](http://www.AncestorFair.us) or see the flyer on the genealogy bulletin board.

### **Indexing Records**

Work is progressing quickly on the Vernon County Marriage Records Indexing Project. There are still volunteer opportunities for anyone who would like to help. Work is done on a computer in the Recorder's Office at the Vernon Co Courthouse. Email [TriCountyGenealogy@centurytel.net](mailto:TriCountyGenealogy@centurytel.net) to help.

### **Cedar County, Missouri Probate Records**

Volunteers continue working weekly on the Cedar County Probate Records.

### **? Where to Write for Copies of Records ?**

Use Google or your preferred search engine to locate a courthouse or the county or state office from which to request official records. For instance, use key terms such as VERNON COUNTY MISSOURI RECORDERS OFFICE MARRIAGE RECORDS to find a website with an address and phone number where you can call and check that they are the correct office for the information you need and their fee for providing a copy of the record. Substitute any county and state in the keywords for your genealogy.

Probate and will records are generally with a court clerk, so use similar key words to locate an office. With a quick phone call you can verify the address and required fee.

Another helpful website to locate offices and even people is [www.switchboard.com](http://www.switchboard.com) Offices can be searched using the BUSINESS tab, and search for private individuals using the PERSON tab. This website is like an online phonebook for everywhere. As with all websites, look at the site and make sure you understand what is the free information for which you are searching and what is paid advertisement on the site and will require a fee to obtain information. There are numerous similar sites which also provide free searches.

### **Underwood Cemetery Renovation**

A member of the Underwood Cemetery board reports that cemetery renovations will begin soon to repair and reset stones as necessary. Additionally, they are researching the possibilities of installing a historical sign about the cemetery and church building which previously stood on the site. Underwood Cemetery is located in Henry Township, Vernon County, about 3.5 miles north of Stotesbury, near the junction of Hwy V and Caton Road.

### **DNA Testing**

If you have a research brickwall with which you have struggled for a long time, you may want to now consider DNA testing. It is suggested that the first step is to make yourself more knowledgeable about using DNA testing in genealogy research and what you can expect in testing. There are numerous magazine and internet articles covering all aspects of DNA and genealogy. Use search keywords DNA GENEALOGY RESEARCH and you will find numerous articles with which to begin.

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

[The below newspaper articles were transcribed by society members.]

#### **BABY BURNED**

Word has been received that the 19-month old baby of Rev. Guy Howard, "Walkin' Preacher of the Ozards", and Mrs. Howard,

was seriously burned and is receiving treatment at the Baptist hospital at Springfield.

***The Sheldon Enterprise, Sheldon, Missouri***  
**Thursday, August 10, 1944, page 4, col 3.**

[The following excerpts are from the book "Walkin' Preacher of the Ozarks" by Guy Howard, Grosset & Dunlap, Inc., 1944. This is a true story of a country preacher who walked several thousand miles through the Ozark hills to preach in country churches and teach in one-room schools. Preacher Howard also spent some time in Vernon County; and for awhile during the Great Depression, he was employed in a "Transient Camp."]

"We finally moved to Camp Clark, where the brick barracks were comfortable and roomy quarters for the members of three local camps which were combined into one camp of five hundred men. On the first Sunday at the new camp I went to church in Nevada. As I left after services, I overheard the comment, "Oh, he's just a hobo from the bums' camp."

I soon learned that the local political boss dictated every policy of the transient camp. Corruption, graft and favoritism were substituted for the honest service given at the Branson camp. I longed for the hills, the hill folk and the opportunity to preach, so on April eighth I drew my pay and set out on Highway No. 54 to walk the seventy miles back to Cross Timbers where my Ozark missionary work had started."

[Howard preached revivals at Roscoe and Schell City, and he was given the pastorate of the Christian church in Schell City. Berea and Rinehart were also added to his quarter-time appointments and 'the Rinehart church was a joy.' He also got a short-term teaching job in a rural school near by.]

"One Saturday night after preaching in an outlying community I was walking past a honky-tonk about midnight when I had a sudden desire to enter the place. I turned and walked into the Bucket of Blood Tavern. ... I strode to the center of the dance floor just as the juke box ceased playing and

before anyone could start it again I clapped my hands for attention and shouted, "Let us all bow our heads reverently while we pray." Then I prayed as I had never prayed before and the place was silent as a tomb. The "amen" said, I thanked the proprietor and walked out of the door. A truck driver followed me out and instead of offering to fight, as I expected, he offered me a ride that took me almost home. That evening's experience taught me that no matter how far in sin human beings may go they usually retain some respect for Christianity."

[Now out of print, "Walkin' Preacher of the Ozarks" can be found at used book stores and on internet sites. Many thanks to Kay Harper for lending her copy to me to read. Ed.]

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**Little Roberta Estrabrook Died**

Holles Roberta, little 10 month old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Estrabrook, living two miles south and one half mile east of town, died suddenly about 7 o'clock Sunday morning. The little one was as well as usual on Saturday. Shortly after midnight Sunday morning she was taken ill. The parents tried home remedies, but they gave no relief. About 6 o'clock they bundled her up and motored to Dr. C. W. Musser's place. She died before the doctor got to see her. Funeral services were held at the home Monday at 1 o'clock p.m., conducted by Rev. L. F. Haley. Burial was in Balltown cemetery. Roberta, as they called her, and her twin brother Ralph Clarence were born February 2, last, thus making her aged 10 months and 21 days. The sorrowing parents have the sympathy of the community.

**The Metz Times, Metz, Missouri**  
**Friday, December 28, 1928, page 1, col 1.**  
[Gravestone has ESTABROOK as the surname. Ed.]

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Bronaugh notes.

Grandma Frederick died Sunday evening at her daughter's, Mrs. P. Thompson, she was ninety-nine years old last August, death was due to agrip and infirmities of old age.

The remains were interred Monday afternoon at Worsley cemetery, Brother Cunningham conducting the services.

*The Weekly Post, Nevada, Missouri.*  
Friday, February 22, 1907.

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**Metz Matters.**

Correspondence of the MAIL.

METZ, MO., Aug. 10—The scorching dog days are raging. The corn is drying up, and the roads are very dusty.

A disgraceful fight between Tom Jones and Ed Payne occurred Saturday in which Jones received a very severe wound on the left side about four inches long. Payne was arrested and give bond, and his trial set for Thursday.

J. K. Dye shipped a car load of hogs to Kansas City last night.

John Price, agent for Rich Hill Milling Co., shipped five loads of flax and hay.

Mrs. Joe Lee is on the sick list.

W. F. Long is building an addition to his residence.

Nuck Payne is rebuilding the bridge across Reed's Creek at Old Metz.

Luther Walker bid his many friends farewell last evening and departed on the night train for Colorado.

Metz Camp of M. W. A. and all the camps in the surrounding neighborhood are making great preparations to attend the Log Rolling at Nevada.

Dr. Melick was transacting business at this place Monday.

The Horton base ball nine crossed bats with Hume last week. Arrangements will be made for them to play the old men's nine at this place in the near future.

Winnie Prewitt is visiting with friends and relatives here.

*The Nevada Daily Mail, Nevada, MO.*  
August 11, 1897.

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**Proclamation.**

Whereas, William McWaters has been indicted by the Grand Jury for the body of the county of Vernon and State of

Missouri, for committing the crime of robbery, and

Whereas, The said William McWaters has frustrated all attempts to arrest him and is still at large.

Now, therefore, I, THOS. C. FLETCHER, Governor of the State of Missouri, for good reasons appearing, and by virtue of authority in me vested by law, do offer a reward of Three Hundred Dollars for the apprehension and delivery of the body of the aforesaid McWaters to the Sheriff of the county of Vernon.

**DESCRIPTION OF FUGITATIVE.**

William McWaters is about five feet and ten inches high, of fair complexion, with light hair and eyes, thin visage, rather spare built, weighing between one hundred and forty and one hundred and fifty pounds, and wore his hair and mustache rather short. He dresses well and is of easy manners, and altogether respectable appearance; has been wounded in the right arm, which is somewhat stiff, and wore when last seen, a gray overcoat and cape, through which there was a bullet hole.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri: Done at the City of Jefferson, this Thirtieth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty seven; of the Independence of the United States the ninety-first, and of the State of Missouri the forty-seventh.

{SEAL} THOS. C. FLETCHER

By the Governor.

FRANCIS RODMAN, Sec. of State.

*Osceola Herald, Osceola, Missouri*  
April 10, 1867, page 2, col 5.

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**TO TAX FT SCOTT MINISTERS**  
**A Proposition to Supply the Deficiency**  
**Caused by the Closing of Joints.**

FT. SCOTT, Kan., Aug. 10.--A local paper and some of the councilmen of this city are insisting that an occupation tax be assessed against the ministers of the town as a means of raising revenue to make up the deficiency

occasioned by the closing of the saloons. The council is wrestling with the occupation tax ordinance which some of the members refuse to support unless it shall include ministers. The town is two months in arrears with the police salaries. The city attorney has advised that ministers may be taxed, though they are not in any other town in the land.

*The Nevada Daily Mail, Nevada, MO.  
August 11, 1897.*

### **Best Choice UPC Labels**

The Tri-County Genealogical Society continues to collect Best Choice brand UPC product labels and Summer Fresh Grocery Store receipts. Bring them to any monthly meeting. These items are redeemed for cash.

### **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

*We hope you have enjoyed reading the Tri-County Genealogical Society's newsletter.  
You are cordially invited to support the work of the Society with  
an annual membership of \$10.*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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218 W. Walnut St.  
Nevada, MO 64772