

Cedar & Vernon County Missouri Genealogical Society

218 W. Walnut St., Nevada, MO 64772

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November 2022 Newsletter©

Wednesday 16 Nov 2022 Society Meeting.

The Cedar & Vernon Co MO Genealogical Society meeting and program will be held Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at the Nevada Library Annex, 200 W. Walnut St, Nevada, MO, at 10 a.m. The Annex doors will open at 9:30 a.m. The **program will begin at 10 a.m.** A brief business meeting will follow the program. Staff at the Midwest Genealogy Center will present the program via zoom titled “**Cemetery Art.**” If you are unable to attend the meeting in person, you can join via zoom at this link: <https://mymcpl-org.zoom.us/j/98697243686?pwd=OGc0RzdlldlJnanZjay9xQStWNDhOUT09>

Membership Dues: Members are reminded that dues for calendar year 2023 can be paid at any time. Society dues are \$10 per calendar year. Dues paid during Sep-Dec are for the following year. Lifetime dues are \$100 per person. Dues can be given directly to treasurer Marty P. at any meeting or 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 cemetery database, and free queries pertaining to Vernon County published in the newsletter. The Society meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. Meeting location is announced in the newsletter and on the Vernon County MO USGenWeb website

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

Family History Center, Nevada, MO. The internet is again working at the Nevada Family History Center, and researchers are invited to visit on Wednesday evenings, 5-8 p.m. There is no charge to access the numerous subscription websites. In follow-up to the DNA program in October, records at the My Heritage website can be accessed at the FHC, 1101 N. Olive, Nevada, MO. You can confirm the center is open by calling Sally at 417-529-9793.

Genealogy Links on Vernon Co MO Government Website Corrected.

Our thanks to County Clerk Mike Buehler who repaired the broken links on the Vernon County website at <https://vernoncountymmo.org/>. Multiple requests to other county offices failed to yield any results, and Mike immediately took care of the issue!

Digitizing Early Missouri Newspapers

The Newspaper Archives in Columbia, MO reports that it has placed both the Liberal and Hume early newspapers on the list to be digitized. Free access to these papers will benefit Vernon Co researchers whose families lived near the northern or southern borders of the county.

The Mystery of Union Chapel Cemetery at Amos, MO.

As researchers look for additional information about people they are researching, puzzling questions often arise. It requires piecing all of the clues and information together to find the answers. Such is this case of Newton Pearl Wanamaker who was buried in Union Chapel Cemetery, Amos, MO. Amos was a small community on the Kansas City Southern railroad

between Stotesbury and Hume. Was the small Amos Cemetery called Union Chapel Cemetery more than 100 years ago? Follow this trail through obituaries, death certificate, and the 1903 township map to learn more about the Wanamaker family and Union Chapel near Amos, MO.

WANAMAKER—Near Barnsville, Kas., Jan. 30th, 1899, of appendicitis, N. P. Wanamaker, aged 83 years, 7 months, and 29 days.

Pearl Wanamaker, as he was familiarly known, was a son of T. Wanamaker, of Girard, and resided in this city a number of years. He was born at Winona, Iowa, May 1st, 1865. He was engaged as supply postal clerk at the time of his death, and came off a run a week ago Saturday. His death will be mourned by many friends. The remains were interred in the Union Chapel cemetery at Ames, Mo., Tuesday, Jan. 31st.

He was a young man of good character, and will be mourned by many friends.

The Girard Press, Girard, KS; 2 Feb 1899 p7

T. WANNAMAKER IS DEAD.
End Came to Former Girard Wagon-maker in Kansas City.

Timothy Wannamaker, a former citizen of Girard, died at the home of his son, W. A. Wannamaker, in Kansas City yesterday morning. The funeral was held this morning and the interment was in Hume, Mo., his old home. He leaves a son and two daughters. They are Will Wannamaker and Mrs. T. B. Crenshaw of Kansas City, and Miss Edna Wannamaker of Vancouver, B. C. Mr. Wannamaker was the pioneer wagon-maker of Girard and at one time had the most extensive wagon factory in Southeastern Kansas and a few years ago the Wannamaker wagon could be found almost in any part of this section of the country within a radius of 200 miles. He served for a number of years on the Girard council and was also a member of the school board for several terms. He was an old soldier and was 77 years old.

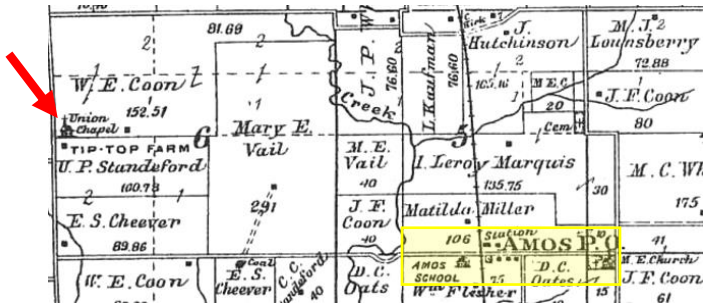
The Pittsburg Daily Headlight, Pittsburg, Kansas 18 Mar 1913, p 2

The Kansas City, Jackson Co, MO death certificate of Timothy Wannamaker says that his former or usual residence was Amos, MO and burial was at Hume, MO.

In emails with the sextons of Lawrence Cemetery and also Underwood Cemetery, both located near Amos, it was confirmed that there was no record of Wanamaker burials in either cemetery.

Brief newspaper articles from around the turn of the century show that Union Chapel was an active church and often had combined services and programs with a churches at Barnsville, KS and also Hume, MO.

The Lawrence Cemetery sexton, Joe B., found the location of Union Chapel on the 1903 Henry Township map, two miles west and one-half mile north of Amos, on the Vernon Co side of the state line road!



After speaking with some of his older neighbors, it was confirmed that there was never a cemetery at Union Chapel. In fact, as they talked about it, they then could remember the chapel building and it falling into disrepair.

Karen I., sexton of Underwood Cemetery, provided pictures of the old church building before it was taken down, with evergreen shrubs on either side of the front door.



So where are Newton Pearl Wanamaker and his father Timothy Wanamaker buried? As the researcher continued to search on newspapers.com, he found a second obituary for Timothy Wanamaker.

Death of Timothy Wanamaker.

Timothy Wanamaker, 77 years, 2 months, and 22 days old, died March 17th, 1913, at 6:30, a. m., at the home of his son, W. A. Wanamaker, 145 North Brighton Avenue, Kansas City, Mo. He was born in Trumbull county, Ohio, Dec. 25th, 1835, and came to Girard in the early days, being a well known and industrious citizen, engaged in wagon and buggy making. Ten years ago he went to Kansas City, where his son and two daughters made their home. He was buried in Underwood Cemetery, near Hume, Mo., by the side of his eldest son, Pearl, who died thirteen years ago. He leaves a son, W. A. Wanamaker, who is in the mail service in Kansas City, and two daughters, Mrs. T. B. Crenshaw, of Kansas City, and Miss Edna Wanamaker, of Vancouver, B. C.

The deceased had many friends among the older residents of Girard.

The Girard Press (Girard, Kansas) - 10 Apr 1913, Thu - Page 1

This obituary clearly states that Timothy Wanamaker "was buried in Underwood Cemetery, near Hume, Mo., by the side of his eldest son, Pearl, who died thirteen year ago." Underwood Cemetery is about one mile east of Amos, MO.

What about Union Chapel near Amos, MO? When the Genealogical Society processed the Vernon Co Circuit Court files to be microfilmed, it processed the Articles of Association for the Union Chapel Church Assoc, filed Jun 19, 1890. The document reads: "Petition. To the Honorable Judge of the Circuit Court of Vernon County Missouri.

We the undersigned would respectfully represent that we have associated ourselves together for the purpose of advancing the Cause of Religion and Christianity in our midst and desire to incorporate under the Laws of Missouri as set forth in section 282 [?] of the Revised Statutes of 1889 and would most humbly petition the Court to grant us a Pro Forma decree hereon.

John McNeil, President
W. E. Coon, Secretary
E. Bumgarten, Treasurer"

Mystery solved. The two previously unknown Wanamaker burials have been added to the Underwood Cemetery records as documented but unmarked burials. Union Chapel has been identified and its location found. Artifacts from Union Chapel will be donated to the Bushwhacker Museum for preservation. Case closed.

[USED BOOKS FOR SALE](#) by the local genealogical society can be seen at this link. If you would like any of these books, please email the society or let Valo or Nancy know the number and title of the book. A few will be retained, but as there has not been any interest in these books, they will be disposed of.

The Following was Received from Researcher Shelley:

I have in my possession an old photograph of **Ben WELLS of Council Bluffs, IA** which was taken at the William Cundill Studio in Maquoketa, IA most likely in the 1880's sometime. Ben appears to be in his 20's at the time the photograph was taken. The photograph looks to have been a gift to Juliet SEAWARD whose name also appears on the back of the photograph. Based on limited research I was able to gather the following information regarding Ben and his family:

Benjamin "Ben" M. WELLS was born Sept 1866 in Iowa or Missouri to parents George WELLS (b. 1835) and Elizabeth WELLS (b. 1844). Ben married Eveline "Eva" Maie NASON (1871-1945) on 2 Jul 1896 in

Council Bluffs, IA and they had two children including Lena F. WELLS and Florence



C. B. JUDD.

Census Records provide the following information regarding the family:

1870 census of Stewartville, MO:
George WELLS, age 35, Farmer, born IL
Elizabeth WELLS, wife, age 26, Keeping House, born NY
Delany WELLS, son, age 8, born IL
Charles WELLS, son, age 7, born IL
Benjamin WELLS, son, age 4, born MO
Newman WELLS, son, age 2, born MO
Lillie WELLS, dau, age 2 months, born MO

1880 census of Iowa:
John MARRIS, age 46, Agricultural Implements Dealer, born OH, parents born VA
Jane MARRIS, wife, age 46 Keeps House, born NY, parents born NY
Benjamin WELLS, nephew, age 15, at Home, born IA, parents born OH

I am hoping to locate someone from Ben's family so that the photograph can be returned to their care. If you are a member of this family or know someone who might be, please contact me.

Thanks, Shelley

[Please contact the Genealogy Society to be put in touch with Shelley.]

RootsTech 2023 will be both in-person and virtual. There is no fee for the more than 200 sessions and classes. See more about RootsTech and register at this link:

<https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/eve/nt/rt2023>

Amy Johnson Crow website & resources for genealogists.

Pick up a free copy of Amy's guide "5 Online Search Strategies Every Genealogist Should Know:

<https://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/search...>

Avoid these common genealogy mistakes:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4quA9...>

Find more genealogy and family history tips at <https://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com>

Amy's book "31 Days to Better Genealogy" is available at Amazon:

<https://amzn.to/3c2Nono>

Turn Over a New Leaf. Has your genealogy research become stale, or have you exhausted your skill set and come to a standstill in moving forward? Join the Utah Genealogical Assoc on Sat., Nov. 19 for on-line classes to turn over a new leaf and resume your research with purpose and excitement. Six speakers will present classes on evaluating your previous research, organizing your genealogy, taking a new look at FamilySearch and online records, the "new" 1950 census, writing your personal history, and writing research reports. The event is free but advance registration is required, register using the following link!

<https://ugagenealogy.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlucOurrz4iG9S9qY6GH0ENthILEBLtV8me>

Newspaper Articles

AFTER MANY YEARS.

Woman Abducted Thirty-Five Years Ago
Finds Her Mother.

St. Joseph, Mo., Oct. 28.—Thirty-five years ago, Ibbey Jane Berryhill-Thomas was kidnapped from her home near Agency Ford [Buchanan Co] this state, and since then she never heard the voice of a member of her own family until tonight, when she conversed over the long distance telephone with her aged mother, Mrs. Jane Berryhill at Brunswick, Mo.

When a child of 4 years, Mrs. Thomas says, while playing at a roadside near her home, she was lifted into a mover's wagon by two men and a woman, who took her to St. Joseph and then to western Nebraska. She was left with a family later down in Texas and never knew where her people were until yesterday, when a news item appearing in one of the St. Joseph papers gave her a clue to her mother's residence in Brunswick.

She learned today that she had a brother named Leonard Berryhill at Sapulpa, I. T. Mrs. Thomas says that she was deserted by her abductors thirty years ago, and she was too young to remember where her people resided. She married John Thomas, a painter in Omaha, when she was 13 years old. He died a few years ago. Mrs. Thomas has lived at 829 south Eighth street for several years and conducts a boarding house.

The Weekly Post, Nevada, Missouri; 31 Oct 1902, Fri p4c4

Woman Found Dead.

The body of a woman was found yesterday in a fence corner of Mr. Bachman's farm, between Ellis Station and Deerfield, Vernon county, Mo., covered with brush. About seven weeks since a satchel was found near the place containing a shawl and an ear-ring, and upon examination of the body it was discovered that the body had one ear-ring on which corresponded

with the one found in the satchel. The woman was seen some weeks ago in the neighborhood, and is supposed to be known by persons in that vicinity. An inquest was held yesterday. Further particulars will be given as soon as received.

Fort Scott Weekly Monitor, Fort Scott, KS; 26 Apr 1877, p4c4

The Hog Law.

A Vernon county (Mo.) correspondent of the St. Louis Journal of Agriculture, writing concerning the above law, says:

"The system is driving settlers and capital from our borders. Men come here from Eastern States; they like the appearance of the country well; it is perhaps second to none they have seen; they would buy, but on learning that hogs are free commoners, they hesitate; that is a pill they cannot swallow, and they finally pass on, many of them to a neighboring State, not more highly favored by nature, nor richer in vast resources than our own; but in Kansas they have a hog law. This (and it may seem a very trivial matter to some) takes more immigrants through our own county of Vernon than many dream of."

And we have no doubt that if Kansas had a law compelling the owners of all kinds of stock to take care of it instead of turning it loose to trespass upon the public, the number of immigrants into the State would be very much augmented.

The Kansas Advertiser, Topeka, KS; 1 Jun 1870 p2c2

Judge Lynch in Missouri.

Below we give the particulars of the lynching of a couple of Vernon county, (Mo) farmers, as furnished by parties living in the vicinity:

On last Tuesday night a party of horsemen rode up to the residence of John Wilson, a well-to-do farmer living near Virgil City, and calling him out of bed, one of the party, acting as spokesman, inquired the road to a certain ford near by, and as Mr.

Wilson stepped outside to direct them more particularly, he was immediately surrounded and borne to a tree near by, and hung. His body being left suspended, was found the next morning with a note appended, stating that he was hung "for stealing, counterfeiting and abuse to this family."

After thus disposing of Wilson, the mob proceeded about six miles further on, to the residence of Geo. Snooks, and disposed of him in a like manner, but without leaving any explanation whatever.

Our informant states that Snooks had murdered a man at Lamar, Mo., on the 4th of last July, and was supposed to have escaped from the officers.

Wilson was a man in good circumstances, had a small family, and was much respected by his neighbors, but at times was very irritable and abusive to his family.

Our informant also stated that on the same night a mob hung three men about twenty miles from Virgil City, on the Big Osage river, but we were unable to learn any further particulars of the affair.

Fort Scott Daily Monitor, Fort Scott, KS; 8 Aug 1876 p3c3

Boiler Explosion.

Thomas Freeman, a laborer, was killed, and Henry Moloy and Plint Tinner seriously injured and scalded by the bursting of a boiler in a saw mill in Vernon county, Mo., on the 30th. Moloy owned the works.

Mower County Transcript, Lansing, MN; 5 Feb 1880 p1c4

CRIMINAL BULLETIN.

Lynching of Cattle Drivers by the Citizens of Vernon County, Mo.

A fatal Difficulty.

Special Telegram to the Inter-Ocean.)

Sedalia, Mo., June 1.—A fatal difficulty between non-resident cattle herders and citizens of Vernon Co. took place on Sunday in Burton [Barton] Co., Mo. A large herd of cattle was driven into the former county for pasturage. The citizens very seriously objected, and ordered the herders to depart,

which they did, leaving the cattle in charge of the owners and two men. These were called upon again, and told to take the cattle away or they would be hung. They replied that the sooner the hanging begun the better, and again refused. They were then attacked by a number of citizens, and in the affray two of the attacking party were shot and killed. The citizens then gathered en masse, armed, and took the owners of the herd and hung them to a tree. No names were learned.

The Inter Ocean, Chicago, IL; 2 Jun 1875 p5c2

Lynch-Law in Missouri.

From the Clinton (Mo.) Democrat.

From Mr. Longsdon, who resides near Montevalla, (sic) Vernon County, Mo., and who passed through Clinton on his way to Johnson County, on last Saturday, we learned the annexed particulars of the hanging of a man named Tom Box, seven miles north of Virgil City, in Cedar County, and near the Vernon County line.

It appears that Tom Box had just finished a term in the Penitentiary for counterfeiting, and, on being released a short time ago, he made his way to the neighborhood of Virgil City, where he has two bothers-in-law living, one of whom was in the Penitentiary with him. The other, by name McKnight, Box was stopping with. On Thursday night of last week, about 12 or 1 o'clock, a posse of armed men called at McKnight's house, and asked for Box, who surrendered and was marched away in the darkness of the night, the mob first warning McKnight, as he valued his life, not to venture outside of his door until daylight. When morning came the dead body of Box was found suspended from the limb of a small tree, a short distance away. He was hanging so that his toes just touched the ground, was in his shirt-sleeves and his shirt torn, which showed that he had not submitted to his terrible fate without a struggle. The next day when Mr. Longsdon passed by he was still hanging, presenting a ghastly appearance. A number of men who live in the vicinity of the hanging had congregated, and were talking over the

affair, and awaiting the arrival of the Coroner. They seemed to approve of the hanging, and manifested no surprise or excitement.

There was no one who would acknowledge to the hanging, or who would state anything connected with it, and the only reason assigned for the perpetration of such an unlawful act, as that related, rested in the fact that a day or so previous, a man who kept a kind of a grocery store and groggery combined, at Easton, a point on the road near where Box lived, was visited by two men in disguise, and brutally, if not fatally beat with a club and robbed. They entered his store with masks over their faces, and called for liquor and while the grocery-keeper was in the act of drawing the liquor, one of the men struck him a terrible blow with a club, felling him to the floor; they then beat him over the head, breaking his jaw-bone, and after robbing him of \$80 in money, and taking some articles from the store, left. For this crime it is supposed the vigilants hung Box, it being asserted that he was one of the parties engaged in the robbery and attempted murder of the grocery-keeper.

Chicago Tribune, Chicago, IL; 3 Nov 1873 p1c7

—J. S. Webb & Co., Live Stock Com-mission Merchants, at the stock yards, purchased, yesterday, 128 head of excellent through Texans, from W. S. Rennoc, of Vernon County, Mo.

The Kansas City Times, Kansas City, MO; 5 Oct 1876 p3c3

St. Louis papers state that the robbers who rifled the San Antonio (Texas) stage are James H. Reed, C. H. Carter, and John H. Nelson, all from Vernon county, Mo. A strong posse is in pursuit of them.

The Weekly Herald, Chippewa Falls, WI; 1 May 1874 p6c1

Accidentally Shot Himself.

Earl Alexander is in the city on a visit to his mother, Mrs. W. G. Alexander, and sisters. Earl is in the employ of the Missouri Pacific

railroad engineer corps, who are now at work between Rich Hill, Mo., and Fort Scott. While stationed at Metz, Mo., a few days ago he was handling a loaded revolver, which was accidentally discharged, the charge entering the palm of his left hand and coming out at the back of the hand, inflicting an ugly and painful wound, in consequence of which he carries his hand in a sling.

The Parsons Weekly Sun, Parsons, KS; 20 Mar 1890 p1c6

Large Farm.—Mr. George Fricker, agent of the Southwestern Stage Company, has returned from a short visit to his big farm in Vernon county, Mo. This farm consists of eight hundred acres, four hundred of which is covered with good timber. Mr. J. M. Terry, who is part owner of the property, runs a large saw mill on the land. On either side of the large tract of land, coal mines have been opened and are doing remarkably well. The rich veins run in on Fricker and Terry's land, but none have been developed yet. Their development will come in good time. Mr. Fricker says this land is as handsome a piece as ever laid out of doors (where else could it lay) and he is happy.

The Daily Kansas Tribune, Lawrence, KS; 25 Dec 1873 p4c1

A traveler passing through Vernon county, Mo., a few days ago, was murdered by two men near Kelly's ferry. The robbers rode out of the bush and asked him if he was armed. Receiving a reply in the negative, they shot him, and after robbing him of \$1600, took one span of horses and left for parts unknown. The man had a wife, who was left on the road with her dead husband.

Nashville Union and American, Nashville, TN; 5 Oct 1867 p2c1

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