

The Clay County MOsaic

“Fitting the Pieces Together”

P R E S I D E N T ’ S M E S S A G E

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Info	2
Adventures in Research	3
Contributions	4
Feature Story	5
NSDAR	6
Northbounder	7
Walking Tours	8
Archives Info	9

We would love to hear from you!

Is there a Clay County topic you’ve always wondered about?

Tell us what YOU want to see in the MOsaic!

In the last Mosaic, I reported that Pete Kingery allowed us to scan his 1937 Clay County Atlas. Pete passed away unexpectedly on March 5th. He was a great friend to the Archives and we’ll miss his frequent visits, his knowledge of Clay County and his sweet spirit.

A lot of work is being done in the basement to better organize our fixtures and holdings. For the larger collections (such as the Circuit Court records, newspapers, etc.), much of the material is stored in the basement. Once a set of documents is selected by a patron for viewing, we often go to the basement to retrieve it. It is wonderful to see the transformation happen and know that we’ll be better able to access those records for our patrons. The on-going indexing process is going strong so that we can more easily locate the documents in our vast repository.

Another new publication has hit the shelves. *Early Days in the West*, authored by Judge Joseph

Thorp and first published in the Liberty Tribune in 1924, has been reprinted (by us and with permission) and made available for sale again. The Judge’s recollections first appeared in the Tribune in the 1880’s. Then the news-



paper decided to compile them into a book. It has been quite popular over the years but it became unavailable except by reading it on our premises. Now you can own your own copy by dropping by to pick up the book or order it from our website (go to the merchandise page at claycountyarchives.org).

Nancy George donated funds to purchase MS-Office for all of our computers so now our volunteers can work on a document on any computer with the same programs. Thanks so much!

Brad Austin, the proprietor of the new website northbounderkc.com, interviewed some of our volunteers for the second episode of his video blog about the Kansas City area northland. We were able to provide historical information for him and presented ourselves quite nicely, I thought. Please visit his website and view the episodes... Especially the second one!

There is much activity here at the Archives and I’ve only been able to scratch the surface in this short report. So, please come in and see what all is going on. If you have a few hours a week that you could volunteer, you could be a part of the fun, too!

~Stuart Elliott

2015 Executive Board

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General Information

Hours of Operation

Monday through Wednesday—9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
First Wednesday of Month—6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Closed on National Holidays

Membership for Calendar Year

Individual & Family (one address) - \$15.00
(Memberships paid after October first will apply to next calendar year.)

Benefits of Membership

Unlimited *On-Site* Research
Subscription to *The Clay County MOsaic*, our quarterly newsletter

Research Policy & Fees

Non-members pay \$5.00 per day for on-site research.
Member and non-member research requests by mail are accepted. Each request must be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope and an initial research fee of \$10.00 per surname for one hour of research. Additional hours are \$10.00 per hour.

Copy Prices

Original records (such as probate material)	\$1/page
Other published material	15 cents per page
Microfilm printouts	25 cents per page
Computer print-outs	5 cents per page
Oversize copies	50 cents per page
Photographs	
Standard Quality	50 cents
Archival Quality	\$5.00

~ Personal imaging will be charged at the above rates ~

MOsaic by Internet

If you would like to receive your future newsletters via email, please forward your email address to: MOsaic@claycountyarchives.org

ADVENTURES IN RESEARCH

“Unable to find Edward Rosen, who is serving in the Union Army”. Those words from an early Civil Court case got the attention of Clay Archives Volunteers Shirley, Chris and Ann. They decided to try a quick search to see how much information could be found about Rosen in the Archives collections. A time line of Rosen’s history emerged from their hour search.

According to the 1860 Census, “Edward Rosen” was born in Germany in 1829. Naturalization papers from the Clay County Circuit Court show that he came to the United States from Saxony in 1851.

Civil Court Case #4479 notes Rosen was married in 1854, the same year he purchased from Joseph Goodwin, Lot 10, Curtis Addition, in Liberty, one-half block north of the Clay County Archives building on North Leonard. The property is the site of the garage for the Honeymoon House. From a search of Abstract 788, the 1889 Sanbourne Map and the 1877 Clay County Atlas, it appears Rosen paid \$125 cash and signed a promissory note for paying the balance in 10 installments ~ purchasing the property for \$650.

Naturalization papers in the Clay County Circuit Court records, indicate Rosen had resided in the United States five years, two of which were in Missouri, and was vouched for as of good character by two citizens, when he took the oath of citizenship in 1856.

The 1860 Census lists Edward, head, age 31, Carpenter, Real Estate Value \$800; Personal assets with a value of \$200; born in Germany; Madelina, wife, age 30, born in Germany; Julius, male, age 5, born in Missouri; Emma, female, age 2, born in Missouri. This enumeration is for the Post Office, Liberty, Missouri.

Again, from the Civil Court Case #4479, in 1862, Edward Rosen filed for divorce, accusing Madelina of adultery. The Sheriff’s report stated that the wife was nowhere to be found. Edward was given custody of the children.

Finishing the story required research beyond the records at the Archives. In the 1870 Census, Rosen is listed in Louisville, Kentucky, and “works on furniture”. He has a new wife, sons Julius and Alexander are with them, along with three new children, born in Kentucky.

The Archives Collections has hundreds of stories, which can be pieced together as a result of a research adventure. What will you find?



RECENT DONATIONS

Donations of Material

Kevin Fisher—"Jim Wilkerson", a bound in a folder story by Martin Lawson, written ca. 1952

Darrell and Vonda Gourley—Liberty Spectator Yearbooks 1969-1991

Christopher Harris—Pre-Civil War hand made brick found in Stocksdale Park; Atkins Johnson House research for National Historic Sites Application

Dail Hobbs—Class of '64 Liberty High School Reunion Materials; Chester's Last Stand, by Richard E. Brown, an Alum; Cups: 20th Metro North Anniversary and 50th Liberty High School Reunion

Carlyle Raine—Calendar with print of an original oil pastel created by Carlyle; back has a legend of Breaking of the Ice in the Missouri River

Dr. Jim Tanner—William Jewell College Catalogs 1982-2000

InAsMuch Ministry—shelves

Special thanks to volunteers Kevin Fisher and Steve Olson for moving the shelves

Donations of Money

Linda Erkelens
Ann Henning
Marianne Hill
Keith Nelson

In memory of Vernalee Tester

Marilyn Barber
Mertie Denney
Dutch and Betty J. Dornhoffer
Nancy Elmore
John and Carol Hartnett
Ann Henning
Patricia L. Lamb
Vernalee S. Tester

In memory of Janie Loughrey

Martha Allison

Contributors & Friends

Kay Alpaugh

(Our apology for the omission in the last edition of the MOsaic.)

**GERMAN PRISONERS ON OUR FARM
BY MRS. HARRIET MILLER
1990**

At the request of many, we are writing some facts about the World War II Prisoner of War Camp, located on our Desert Gold Turkey Farm two miles south of Liberty, Missouri in Clay County. We have had help for this story from Leon Jr. and Phil as they were so well acquainted with everything that went on at the farm. They were also at a very impressionable age. Most of you have never lived during war times, and hope you will never see us at war in the United States of America. The following story is true to the beat of our memory.

War was declared by President Frank D. Roosevelt, Dec. 7, 1941 after Pearl Harbor was bombed. Our world had been at war and unrest for many years.

Every man, woman and child became a part of the war effort. Men between the ages of eighteen to thirty-six were drafted to prepare for battle.

Anyone who could produce food was told to stay at home and to produce as much as possible. All farm labor got jobs at war production plants.

I remember how hard farmers worked. Family farms were just that. Family members took care of everything and farmers wished they would be drafted, too! When harvest time came, help was needed desperately to gather the crops to feed the nation. Farm people worked around the clock. It was impossible finding help. Farm labor had gone to war or to factories producing needed war supplies.

You can't believe how patriotic the whole county was at that time. The red, white and blue flag was being defended.

The government named people to serve on Boards so that distribution would be fair for everyone. A Ration Board was set up to allow so many stamps per person for scarce items, such as sugar and to the food items. Other scarce items included shoes, tires, and gasoline. Most of us spent a lot of time with the Ration Board.

There was still a problem of needing help to take care of the production of the scarce items and that is where our story begins.

We had built a turkey laying house in 1942, to produce turkey eggs to hatch little poults (or turkeys) to supply our farm with enough eggs to hatch as many as 30,000 turkeys a year.

The laying house had been built south of a bluff to protect it from the north winds. The building was 650 feet long and 35 feet wide and was built on a concrete slab that is probably still in place to this day. It had running water and heat. It was painted white and looked as nice as any building on the farm, or any building in the community for that matter.

There were fifty-one rooms and all of them had one or more windows. The rooms were all connected to one long hall, with one large fifty foot room in the center for feed and egg handling. It left quite an impression to open the door from the outside and look down the 650 foot hall to the other end. (The length of 2 football fields. Talk about the light at the end of the tunnel!)

We had only used this building one year for turkey egg production when we were approached by a member of a

GERMAN PRISONERS ON OUR FARM (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 5)

War Labor Board. (There were many Boards appointed by the government to keep wheels rolling during the war.)

They explained the great need for a place to house our prisoners of war and to make a work camp for them in the Kansas City area. The prisoners would be able to help farmers as well as help in many vital places.

We didn't think we had a choice. The need was great and we felt like we wanted to do our part in the war effort. We made plans immediately to buy our needed baby turkey poults from hatcheries.

We were soon the home of 600 prisoners of war, called a work camp, all housed in the turkey laying house –50 rooms and 12 men per room. The camp was prepared according to government regulations and specifications. A 10 foot high barb-wire fence was erected around the sight with a guard house on opposite corners. Guards could easily look down the fence on both sides.

Fifty American guards were sent from Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, a government base. We became good friends with the American guards. They were frequent guests in our home, often staying for meals. They, too, contributed some of this information we're using. Every Christmas, years later, we heard news from Sgt. Clemons from Indiana and Sgt. Armstrong. We, too, received several letters from war prisoners on their return to Germany. A common message, "Everything I owned has been destroyed."

To Be Continued in the next MOsaic...

CLAY COUNTY MISSOURI SESQUICENTENNIAL SOUVENIR 1822–1972

The Alexander Doniphan Chapter NSDAR was chartered in 1909. Throughout its 105 year history many patriotic and civic minded ladies have dedicated many hours to preserving Clay County History and the support of much-beloved veterans. Two of those dedicated ladies worked tirelessly to document the history of Clay County for the Centennial and Sesquicentennial Souvenir. In 1922 Ethel Massie Withers led the effort documenting the history of Clay County from 1822 to 1922. And, in 1972 it was Roberta Capps Moore who added the history of 1922-1972 for the Sesquicentennial Souvenir. The souvenir book has been used by local historians throughout the years as a valuable research tool.

Recently, the Clay County Archives and Historical Library, with the approval of the Alexander Doniphan Chapter NSDAR, reprinted the Clay County Missouri Sesquicentennial Souvenir 1822-1972. It can be purchased at the Clay County Archives and the Clay County Museum for \$25.

The Alexander Doniphan Chapter NSDAR donated the first royalty check to send a veteran on the September 11, 2015 World War II Honor Flight to Washington, D.C.

~Nancy George
Archives Volunteer

***Northbounder: Style and Story* Features the Clay County Archives**

Local photographer and filmmaker Brad Austin has recently launched an exciting new way to share stories about the Northland. Twice each month, Brad is producing “webcasts” that can be viewed via the *Northbounder: Style and Story* website. A portion of each 30 minute episode covers a history related topic. The second *Northbounder* episode, which was released for viewing in March, features the Clay County Archives. Many thanks to Carol Olson, Chris Harris, Nancy George, Steve Olson, and Tony Meyers who lent their talents to help produce the Archives segment. Everyone did a great job while explaining the research information and services that are available at the Archives. Episode 2 also features stories about the Liberty North High School Rugby program and the Parkville Frame Gallery.

You can enjoy *Northbounder* episodes (for free) by pointing your internet browser to www.northbounderkc.com/episodes. You can also view them on your smartphone using the *Northbounder* app. If you sign up for emails or “like” the *Northbounder* Facebook page you’ll be notified as future episodes are available. Please be sure to spread the word to your Northland friends.

Tony Meyers – Archives Volunteer



Northbounder: Style and Story is available on Facebook, on Smartphones and via the internet at www.northbounderkc.com



The Archives was featured in a recent episode of Northbounder: Style and Story



These images, and many others were used to showcase the Archives in Episode 2 of Northbounder: Style and Story

Explore Liberty's Heritage

2015 Walking Tours

All guided tours are free and open to the public.
Tours begin at 10 a.m. Be sure to wear comfortable shoes.
For more information call 816-439-4537.

Saturday, May 2

William Jewell College
Tour meets at the back entrance to the Pryor Learning Center (Parking Lot side) on the WJC campus

Saturday, June 6

New Hope/ Fairview Cemetery
Tour meets at the stone arch entry to the cemetery on Shrader Street

Saturday, July 11

Dougherty Historic District
Tour meets at Rotary Park, corner of Franklin and Gallatin Streets

Saturday, August 1

An 1860s Tour of Liberty
Meet at the fountain in front of City Hall, 101 E. Kansas St.

Saturday, September 12

Jewell & Lightburne Historic Districts
Tour meets at the parking lot at the corner of Franklin and Lightburne Streets

Saturday, October 3

Mt. Memorial Cemetery
Tour meets at the entrance to the cemetery. (Enter William Jewell College campus from Miller Street and continue up the hill.)



The City of
Liberty
Missouri

Co-sponsored by the City of Liberty's Preservation Office (www.ci.liberty.mo.us)
and Historic Liberty, Inc. (www.HistoricLiberty.org).

ARCHIVES GIFT SHOP

ATLAS

Reprint of the 1865 Clay County Historical Atlas, with features in color, just like the original!
Includes an index. \$22

THE STORY OF LIBERTY...from settlement to suburb, a movie available in two formats:
DVD—\$15 each
S-VHS—\$10 each
(add \$2 for shipping and handling)
The VHS version is available in two formats, for older model players and for the current model players. Specify which of the formats you desire.

GREETING CARDS

Note Cards—10 \$7.50

DOCTOR ON THE WESTERN FRONTIER

The Diaries of Dr. William Wallace Dougherty, 1854-1880 \$17

LOST VOICES ON THE MISSOURI

(Dougherty) \$64.95

IKNEWFRANK...IWISHIHADKNOWN JESSE

Family, Friends and Neighbors in the Life and Times of the James Boys \$30

GUERRILLAS AND OTHER CURIOSITIES

Bud, Donnie and Me \$25

MISCELLANEOUS / BOOKS

1877 Historical Atlas of Clay County	\$15
Every-Name Index to 1877 Atlas	\$13
Clay County Births, 1883-84	\$9
Clay County Deaths, 1883-84	\$9
Divided Loyalties	\$40
Clay County Historic Map (not available to be mailed)	\$15
Early Days in the West	\$18
DAR Sesquicentennial Book	\$30

DIVIDED LOYALTIES - Civil War Soldiers Buried in Clay County **\$35**

Biographical narratives and genealogical information for more than 800 soldiers and family members. Published to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

DISCOVERING HISTORIC CLAY COUNTY, MISSOURI **\$30**

Information on more than 1,100 historic sites and points of interest throughout Clay County. Includes photos, descriptions and maps.

Please make your check payable to:

Clay County Archives

And mail to:

P.O. Box 99

Liberty, MO 64069

All prices include mailing fees. If you wish to pick up in person,
please contact us for pricing and to ensure availability.

WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.CLAYCOUNTYARCHIVES.ORG



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Our Mission

To procure, preserve, restore, maintain, study, and promote manuscripts, instruments, records, charters, evidence, and documents of a public or private nature which may have statistical, legal or historical significance to Clay County, Missouri, its government or residents, or such documents as might be desirable to the association and to encourage public interest therein.