

The Clay County MOsaic

"Fitting the Pieces Together"

Quarterly Newsletter of the Clay County Archives & Historical Library, Inc.

April-May-June 2011

2010 Executive Board

Officers

President.....Stuart E. Elliott
1st Vice President.....Steve Olson
2nd Vice President.....Shirley Fansher
Corresponding Secretary.....Ann Henning
Recording Secretary.....Donna Root
Treasurer.....Scott R. Cole

Directors

<u>Through 2013</u>	<u>Through 2011</u>	<u>Through 2012</u>
Bill Matteson	Raymond Brock	Patricia Rendon
Joyce Schumacher	Bob Corum	Frank McMillian

Committee Chairs

Records Use & Preservation.....Carol Olson
Membership.....Shirley Fansher
Properties.....Steve Olson and Scott Cole
Cemeteries.....Kenneth Neth
Computer Use.....Stuart Elliott
Volunteer Coordinator.....Carol Olson
Way and Means.....Sallie Hobbs

Organizational Representatives

Clay County Parks.....Elizabeth Gilliam Beckett
William C. Corum Chapter SAR.....Bill Matteson
Clay Co. Patriots Chapter DAR....Beverly Corum
Alexander Doniphan Chapter DAR.Nancy George
City of Liberty.....Jonna Wensel

Newsletter Staff

Linda Smith
Shirley Fansher

MOsaic by Internet

If you would like to receive your future newsletters online, we will need to have your e-mail address.

Please send it to:

info@claycountyarchives.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Clay County Archives, since its beginning in 1979, has never been staffed by anyone other than passionate, dedicated volunteers. The Archives was founded by people (including Bill and Vera Eldridge, Bill and Louise Hawkins, Patty Rendon, Ron Fuenfhausen and others) who would not stand to see historical county records continue to rot in a ramshackle, weather-exposed county building. They came together to rescue those records and to preserve them for future generations.

That volunteer spirit continued over the years to identify and acquire as much historical material as possible to save it from almost certain oblivion. Those records also include information from family members with local ties as well as many other organizations in the county who have decided to give it to us to hold for posterity. Since the County has witnessed our dedicated efforts over the years, they continue to work with us to preserve county records for the future.

The Archives volunteers work not only to keep this treasure out of the ash-heap of history, but they organize it, index it, publish it and provide it to those who would like to enrich their lives and the lives of those around them by ingesting and disseminating the incredible history in our little corner of the world.

And in doing so, the volunteers honor the lives, efforts and hardships of our ancestors by not allowing them to be forgotten. We owe much to those who came before us so we volunteer our time and labor to see that even those who come after can also know of our ancestors and their place in our lives.

In that spirit, the Board of Directors (also volunteers, by the way) has always had an eye toward recognizing the selfless work of the volunteers. For many years the board has held an annual picnic in their honor. This communal meal has been very well attended and appreciated by those who share the common goal (and passionate, dedicated support) of historical preservation.

This year is no exception. The Board has

(Continued to Page 8)

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 1 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 printouts	5 cents per page
Outsize copies	50 cents per page
Photographs	
Standard Quality	50 cents
Archival Quality	\$5.00

Personal imaging will be charged at the above rates.

“LOVE OUR EARTH” QUOTES

In this issue, you'll be seeing some “Love Our Earth” quotes. They come from the “All About Thyme” newsletter, which may be found at www.abouthyme.com. Here's the first:

“The question is not whether land belongs to us, through titles registered in a courthouse, but whether we belong to the land, through our loyalty and awareness...In belonging to a landscape, one feels a rightness, at-homeness, a knitting of self and world.”

*Scott Russell Sanders,
American Novelist and Essayist*

SPECIAL GIFTS PROGRAM

Benefactors -- \$1,000 & up (cumulative)

Patrons -- \$500-\$999 (cumulative)

Contributors -- \$100-\$499

Friends -- \$25-\$99

BENEFACTORS

Martha Yancey Alison
Arlyne K. Boggess and Waller I. Huffman
Dan E. Boone
Clay County Protective Association
Scott and Ann Cole
Stuart E. Elliott
Linda K. Erkelens
Shirley Fansher
Jerry and Pat Henderson
Dail R. and Sallie Hobbs
Daniel and Mary Pence
Beverly Sue Raile
Patricia J. Rendon
Leonard and Jane Pickett Sharon
Jack Watson

PATRONS

Doug Bogart
Ray and Linnea Brock
Millicent Daugherty
Kathryn Duncan
William W. Fish
Ken Neth
Carol and Steve Olson
Ed and Kathi Rule (Corner Café)
Karen Warren

2011 PROGRAM

CONTRIBUTORS

Bob Corum
Keith Nelson
Sylvia Wees

FRIENDS

Beth Beckett
Reta McCall Gaebler
Doug Kinney
Estella Morrison
Jill and Michael Weiland

MY FAVORITE BASEBALL QUOTE

“If a woman has to choose between catching a fly ball and saving an infant's life, she will choose to save the infant's life without even considering if there is a man on base.”

Dave Barry

ARCHIVES GIFT SHOP

OUR NEW PUBLICATION

Reprint of the 1865 Clay County Historical Atlas, with features in **color**, just like the original! Cost is \$20, which includes sales tax, plus \$2 for mail delivery.

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 & for the current model players. Specify which of the formats you desire.

GREETING CARDS

Christmas cards – 12 for \$10

Note cards 10 for \$5

DOCTOR ON THE WESTERN FRONTIER

The Diaries of Dr. William Wallace Dougherty, 1854-1880 \$12, plus \$5 for mail delivery

I KNEW FRANK...I WISH I HAD KNOWN JESSE

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

Hardback: \$55.00 members

\$60.00 non-members

Soft cover: \$17.00 members

\$22.00 non-members

GUERRILLAS AND OTHER CURIOSITIES

Bud, Donnie and Me

Soft cover: \$15 members

\$17 non-members

MISCELLANEOUS BOOKS (all postpaid):

1877 Historical Atlas of Clay County 15.00

Every-Name Index to 1877 Atlas 13.00

Clay County Births, 1883-84 7.00

Clay County Deaths, 1883-84 7.00

DAR Sesquicentennial Book 18.00

Every-name Index to DAR Book 11.00

Please make your check payable to:

Clay County Archives

And mail to:

P. O. Box 99

Liberty MO 64069

OF INTEREST TO GENEALOGISTS

Try Flickr <http://tinyurl.com/4kr3fyz> for nearly 10,000 photos of the graves of Civil War Veterans.

www.bloodandfrogs.com has “Jewish Genealogy and More”.

Legends of America (www.legendsofamerica.com) calls itself “A Travel Site for the Nostalgic and Historic Minded”. Here’s what their home page says: “When you travel, do you often wonder what happened at “this place” in the past? Who lived here? What were they like? How did they live their daily lives? If that’s the case for you, here at *Legends of America* you will find content-rich travel destinations of the American West, including Route 66, ghost towns, outlaws, treasure tales and even a few ghosts that we bump into along the way. Filled with both vintage and current photographs, *Legends of America* focuses on small out of the way places and hidden attractions that appeal to the nostalgic and historic minded, giving you more than just a paragraph, we will take you there!” Take a look at this site. I think you’ll enjoy it. (Be sure to click on “Civil War Sesquicentennial” under “Featured Articles.”)

The Archives now has more information on the Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference, to be held in Springfield, Illinois on September 7th through 10th, 2011. We have several large brochures containing information on the classes and sessions offered, including *In the Heartland*, which details the localities and records of the Midwestern United States and *They Came From*, featuring topics relating to research outside the U.S.

RECENT ACCESSIONS

Jeanine Critcher papers, including miscellaneous papers, pictures of Archives volunteers, etc., donated by Nancy Boland.

Official Manual, State of Missouri, 1997 – 1998 and 1999 – 2000, donated by Betty Bauman.

These items are available for our patrons to use in their research. Thank you to these generous donors.

LOVE OUR EARTH

“I’d put my money on the sun and solar energy. What a source of power! I hope we don’t have to wait ‘til oil and coal run out before we tackle that.”

Thomas Edison

**EXCERPTS FROM OUR
PUBLICATION, "DOCTOR ON THE
WESTERN FRONTIER: THE DIARIES
OF DR. WILLIAM WALLACE
DOUGHERTY,
1854 – 1880"**

Saturday, March 9, 1872

Cloudy and cold. Froze hard last night. Mr. Smith was found dead this morning under the bridge by the Brick Steam Mill. He seems to have slipped over the bridge and fallen on the rocks below, or he may have been foully dealt with, as it is said threats were made the night. He was intoxicated at the time. Chapter Meeting to night. Cow looks worse.

Note: The dead man was Owen M. Smith. He was 35 years old and left a wife and several children. According to the Liberty Tribune, there were some who thought it was suicide and others murder. In the 1870 Census, Owen was listed as a railroad worker living in Liberty with a wife, Irene. He was born in Illinois. In the 1880 Census, Irene was living with her father Andrew J. Turpin, a Liberty tailor.

Wednesday, March 27, 1872

Mr. Newlee went to see Dr. Carter to day.

Note: Frequently called in, Dr. Carter was known as the Indian Doctor. He used herbal medicines and was not a favorite of more conventional doctors. He lived in Missouri City, but had patients over the county and in Ray County. He was from a long line of physicians, both in England and America. His grandfather Richard came to this country before the Revolutionary War, settling in Virginia. The older Dr. Carter's university studies were blended with a study of Indian medicines. His son, our Dr. Carter's father, also named Richard and a physician, spent months at a time with the Indians.

Tuesday, April 2, 1872

Very pleasant day. Election for City officers. Excitement among the Negros & Irish. Several fights.

Wednesday, April 3, 1872

Very muddy. The election resulted in J.G. Adkins, Mayor; Council, Jas. Gillespie, C.A. Newlee, W. Wysong, & Harper. Bird Treas., Simerall Recorder, J.M. Sandusky Atty., W.W. Everett Marshall.

Note: James M. Sandusky was born January 7, 1849 in Jassamine County, Kentucky. He graduated from

William Jewell College in 1866 and attended Kentucky University until 1869. He studied law with Samuel Hardwicke, and was admitted to the bar in 1871. He became a County Judge in 1887.

Friday, April 19, 1872

Meeting of Club – good time. Several were there and warm discussion. Student accidentally shot himself in the thigh, not bad wound.

Monday, April 22, 1872

Concluded to go St. Joseph to the State Medical Association. Dr. Richey went with me. Got to Cameron at 11 & staid balance of the night.

Tuesday, April 23, 1872

Got up early, took breakfast at House and left on train at 8 o'clock. Found good many Drs. already arrived. Had good time all day. Staid at the Pacific house. Took supper at Pattee house.

Thursday, May 2, 1872

The Cincinnati Convention creates more excitement than anything else, as to who will be the nominee.

Friday, May 3, 1872

Heard this morning that Horace Greely & Gratz Brown were nominated at Cincinnati. Hurrah for Greely & Brown.

Tuesday, May 14, 1872

The following named Drs in town to witness the operation of ovariectomy on Mrs. Swearngen by Dr. Wood: Morton, Allen, Marsh, Ritchey, Johnson, Bernard, O'Neal, Dixon, Bogie, Hallas, old Dr. Essig & Son, and myself. Serious operation. Many adhesions. Operation one hour & 20 minutes. I think the patient will die from her condition.

Note: Mrs. Molly Swearngen/Swearingen was the wife of Richard Swearingen. She died on May 17, 1872.

Thursday, May 23, 1872

Went to see John Robinson today & got thrown in the creek. Mare mired down and threw me over her head.

GYPSY NINA'S BOOK

In this issue we continue reprinting Gypsy Nina's book, which she wrote in 1939, just as World War II was beginning and she was touring Europe.

Gypsy Nina's real name was Helen Swan and she was a Liberty girl.

My Book by Gypsy Nina

Why, Lor' love you, - I would be the very last person on the face of the earth to talk out of turn and get Any country in trouble...daresay I could go for days without uttering a sound, - if I thought I was going to do anybody any Good by it - But what Harm could it possibly do to write things home - just the way they happened - how everything was turned up-side-down and all higgledy-piggely...how they practically slammed Frontiers in our faces, and we had to wait 14 days for a visa from France and couldn't get any money from England (never mind money - not so much as a scrap of mail came thru' for weeks) I mean, after all, it IS exciting, and your folks like to know what is going on, don't they?...However, - when I am in a foreign Land, I try to be the best little Foreigner that Ever landed... and if they came along and told me to stand on my head on Main Street at high noon - I'd act like I was pleased to accommodate them - I always say, you should be able to adapt yourself - that's what I always say... Lord, don't you hate those 'mericans who go abroad and drive themselves and everybody else within ear-shot crazy - forever wailing about the lousy Coffee (I myself don't care for it) - I must admit there ARE some things in Yurope that make you think - Why in Heck can't they do things like WE do - but coffee! - how can a person get all worked up into dither over such a little thing is beyond me - isn't it you? I mean, Life's too short!...But I'll tell you when I have to wait 2 weeks for a dress to be cleaned in London - or ride in their antiquated Taxies, that looks for all the world like Black Marias - and I get insulted by their more Antiquated drivers... or when I fall down-stairs, for the simple reason that No one in all France would think of turning on enough electric light so as a person could see the stairs ---- or when I can't get a decent glass of orange juice in all Yurope....now those things I call important...and more than one good old-fashioned brawl I've had over them too, I might tell you...but I think I was quite justified - and don't run away with the Idea - for one moment, that I'm one of those 'mericans that think Nothing is any good except in America....where was I? - Oh yes, still in my note-book....

Well, my friend Florence sang a different tune when I outs with it, that I'm going to put HER in my book...(I only told her MAYBE, but she was so carried away with the idea, I had to go ahead and do it then, Y'understand) and she seemed real interested then, and helped me to remember different little

things that had happened...I must tell you how funny she thought I was, the first time she saw me...

It was a hot day last July - and I DO mean HOT - and I'd just arrived from London, bag and baggage - I'd had a perfect swine of a trip, what with one thing and another...to start it off with a bang, while I was getting my Paris train, in London, one of their (then) fashionable station bombings had occurred...but in the station I was in, no less! (wouldn't you know they'd pick that one, when there are dozens of others floating around) Well, that is a very Cute experience, when you have time...to think you have just missed being blown to shreds...on account of, the maniac that left the Hot Pineapple had decided on the check-room across the way, instead of the one you're just coming out of - which...y'see what I mean?...and after that, things went from bad to lousy, - no accommodations, no connections and what-the-devil-not! Until, as I told you - I wouldn't wish that trip onto a dog!

And I arrived in Cannes to find the place Alive with much American Tourist - and I simply couldn't get an accommodation...I taxied from one hotel to another all over town - back and forth, and forth and back with the meter knocking the francs down as fast as they appeared on the clock - and my voluble, hare-lipped driver the while entertaining me in French So I wouldn't notice....Lord! I couldn't understand plain French - never mind when it's hare-lipped....anyway - That'll be the Day! When I get so carried away by any language that I don't hear every click on the meter - I mean, if I'm paying, that is.....so I wasn't a bit entertained, and I didn't care tuppence who knew it! I was tired out, hot and so hungry I could eat the Leg of a Priest - and wished terrible things onto whoever had thought of booking me in Cannes...

I had gotten out at Hotel Deuz Plages to see if they had a room for me, and sure enough they didn't - and as I fumed my way out of the joint, a great handsome fellow came forward and said Wasn't I Gypsy Nina? And I said Yes, What Was Left of her! and it was Alvarez, a dancer whom I'd known in New York more years ago than I need mention - Gosh, it seemed so good just then to see someone from home I could have kissed him - I even forgot the taxi meter knocking itself out, outside....and he was really sympathetic about my hard luck in getting settled and suggested I try the small Pension where Florence, his partner was stopping.....

So off I pop again, arriving there just at dinner-time - all the guests were at their tables under the trees in the front garden you know - with the gravel all over the yard the way everyone has down there - and Florence said I sailed in, with silver foxes flying in the breeze - and literally hundreds of pieces of baggage....into this tatty 35 franc-a-day pension, and she said, GET HER!

To Be Continued in the next MOsaic

**MISCELLANEOUS GLEANINGS
FROM MICROFILM
OF EARLY CLAY COUNTY
NEWSPAPERS**

Articles from the Liberty Tribune

July 12, 1895

Excelsior Standard: The Lathrop *Monitor* says that some pilfering scoundrel, who fears not God, nor regardeth man, visited Dr. A. W. **Robertson's** chicken yard this week, and stole 50 to 60 of his fine eatable spring chickens. Any person who would steal chickens from a doctor, preacher or editor, should be placed in solitary confinement and fed only on gizzard for the rest of his unlawful and unnatural life.

Articles from the Smithville Democrat-Herald

January 21, 1927

NEW CHEVROLETS HERE

The C.C. Kindred Motor Co. received a carload of the new 1927 model Chevrolet automobiles Saturday. The cars are very beautiful and have numerous improvements.

In the shipment was included one of the entirely new models, the cabriolet, which was delivered Tuesday to Mr. **Norton**, a Liberty banker.

February 18, 1927

A DEMENTED MAN WAS FOUND HERE LAST FRIDAY

As Henry **Stewart** drove into town last Friday afternoon and passed the residence of W. R. **McClary** he noticed a car stuck in the mud. The owner of the car asked Mr. Stewart to use his team in pulling the car out. Mr. Stewart complied, and having been advised by the stranger that he was going to St. Joseph, he towed the car to the pavement in front of the new Christian church. As Mr. Stewart drove off he was attracted by seeing the man climb upon the hood of his car instead of in the seat. He notified Marshal Tom **Ravenscraft** who placed the stranger who was apparently demented, in the city jail. The man could not talk but mumbled almost continually. Deputy Sheriff James **Lowe** happened in town and Marshal Ravenscraft turned the prisoner over to him to be taken to Liberty. After reaching Liberty the prisoner became violent and tore his clothes from his body.

By a water receipt Sheriff **Clark** identified the man as Harry F. **Anderson**, 2313 College street, Kansas City, and communicated with a sister, also of Kansas City, who took her brother home Sunday. The lady told Sheriff Clark that Anderson had been

drinking large quantities of corn liquor. About an hour before the arrival of his sister, Anderson came to his senses.

March 18, 1927

HEN PARTY

A party for all who are interested in the progress of the Methodist Sunday school will be given at the church next Tuesday evening.

Program starts promptly at 8 o'clock. Adults are asked to bring a hen or the price of a hen. The money will be used for improvements in the elementary departments.

We want every member of the church and friends who will to come. A good time is assured.

Teachers.

Our Lady Attendant

The lady attendant has become an indispensable feature of the modern funeral service. Nowhere is the feminine touch more appreciated than in this line of work, which calls for sympathy, tact and devotion.

We are very proud to include a lady attendant as one of the outstanding features of our service. She is available for all cases where her presence is valued or desired. In training and experience she is well fitted for her work, and our clients have repeatedly praised her considerate service.

McComas
Undertaking Co.
Phone 25F12
Smithville, MO.

April 1, 1927

FELL FROM LOAD OF HAY

Mr. and Mrs. James **Walsh** of near Paradise were hurt Thursday of last week while riding home on a load of hay when the hay slipped, causing them to fall. Mrs. Walsh wrenched her back, while the prongs of a pitchfork stuck in the upper lip of Mr. Walsh's mouth, causing him to faint. Mrs. John Walsh of Plattsburg went down to their home Sunday morning to be with them a few days, returning home Wednesday, says the *Leader*. She reported both as getting along nicely.

April 8, 1927

FIDDLIN' FOOLS AT K.C. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Fiddlin' Fools from Smithville went to Kansas City Wednesday to play at the noonday luncheon of the Chamber of Commerce held at the Kansas City Athletic Club.

(Continued to Page 7)

**MISCELLANEOUS GLEANINGS
FROM MICROFILM
OF EARLY CLAY COUNTY
NEWSPAPERS**

(Continued from page 6)

This was quite an honor as this is Kansas City's largest club. 250 members were present and they were liberal in their praise of the music. Among many who introduced themselves to the musicians and congratulated them was Postmaster W.E. **Morton**.

Henry **Field** announces regularly that the Fiddlin' Fools will be the big attraction at the opening of his new studio at Shenandoah. The date has not yet been announced.

W. Innes **Patterson**, director, has received the six records made by the orchestra. They are at the music room of S.A. **McComas** who will play them for you. He will be glad to take your order. Delivery will be made in about ten days.

July 15, 1927

“NOT GUILTY”

Mr. and Mrs. Oral **Madden** of Madden's café at 2553 East Broadway, Excelsior Springs, were acquitted by a jury in Justice **Chinn**'s court this morning of illegally possessing liquor.

The trial was the outcome of a raid staged last Friday evening under the direction of Constable Charles **Berry**, who with officers Geo. **Offutt** and Joe **Brock**, operating under a search warrant, returned to the city hall with 80 pints of “home brew.”

At the trial this morning the officers testified to what they had found, Berry testifying that a test had shown the brew to be intoxicating. The state was represented by county Prosecutor Fred **Courtney**. The defendants were represented by R.P. **Duncan**, who offered no testimony whatever and who did not address the jury.

The verdict was returned, “not guilty”. The jury was composed of John **Judd**, foreman, Pittman **Dickey**, Walker **Allen**, John **Sullivan**, Jas. **Hurt** and A.J. **Albright**.

August 5, 1927

ANNUAL FOX HUNT

The meeting of the Missouri Fox Hunters association will be held the week of Sept. 26 to 31. The meet will be held at the **Watkins** farm. “Here the people assemble for a week's outing in the open,” says the *Excelsior Springs Standard*. Watkins farm furnishes the ideal setting, situated as it is in the heart of a virgin forest. Many visit this old homestead for its historical traditions alone. On the farm is a famous old woolen mill, the looms still containing the wool when it shut down years ago. The

machinery is still intact, the building a stately old brick structure.

September 9, 1927

SOME HARD LUCK

Willie **Harward**, for whose arrest a warrant has been issued, charging him with deserting his bride of two days and absconding with \$150.00 given him by his father-in-law to pay a note, and with trading the family car in on a new car in which he escaped, started his marital career in hard luck, says the *Excelsior Springs Daily Call*.

The day Mr. Harward married Miss **Nance** they bought a milk cow, taking her to the Nance home. She was milked that night, but was found in the morning dead, with a broken neck. The same night all their chickens were stolen.

September 23, 1927

RETURNED STOLEN CAR

While attending the races last Friday afternoon, Bernard **Borgmier** had occasion to return to his car, which he had parked inside the entrance, but found that it was gone. He refused to believe the car had been stolen because it was of little value, being a 1923 model Ford coupe, and decided he had forgotten where he had parked it.

Waiting at the track until the races were over, and until all but two of the hundreds of cars had been driven away, and neither of the two remaining cars being his, he knew his had been stolen. Late that night he got his neighbor, James **Venrick**, to drive him to the fairgrounds. Mr. Borgmier had figured that anyone who stole such a worthless car would bring it back, and he was right. The car was found parked at the extreme north end of the fairgrounds, a long distance from where it had been parked.

Whether the car was taken by mistake or whether it was only “borrowed” is not known.

PASSING OF JANE MILNER

The Archives lost a good friend with the recent passing of Jane Milner. Jane was one of our founders and a long-time volunteer and board member. We extend our sympathy to her family.

LOVE OUR EARTH

“We all moan and groan about the loss of the quality of life through the destruction of our ecology, and yet each one of us, in our own little comfortable ways, contributes daily to that destruction. It's time now to awaken in each one of us the respect and attention our beloved mother deserves.”

Ed Asner

7TH CAVALRY MISSOURI VOLUNTEERS, COMPANY I

I came across an interesting list in some pages from an old *Kansas City Genealogist* magazine. A Sergeant John Shaver had compiled a list of the 7th Cavalry Missouri Volunteers, Company I, covering 1861 to 1862. In his list he showed names, ranks and descriptions. His descriptions were what made his list so interesting. Here are a few of my favorites:

Lieutenant John Allen	Resigned early; amputated leg.
Sergeant Homuth	A Dutchman and the camp snitch.
Sergeant Mosbarger	Wrote a song about each battle.
Sergeant Chrisman A. Parker	Presented himself as a Christian man, but was the camp scamp in reality and was finally found out.

ENLISTED MEN

James Canacy	Avoided women.
Theodore Ellers	“Dutchman” honest; ready for battle; provided the camp with entertainment when he fell in the vat.
William Kirby	Conscript for John Hall gave Bill his horse and back pay to take his place.
John Miser, Sr.	Wounded at Lone Jack; struck by ball in shoulder; cracked the bone; dug the ball out and continued to fight.
Adam McCulugh	Old fellow but a fast runner; he escaped from rebels by outrunning them.
George Nelson	Tall, black whiskers and keen eye; caught while scouting; he acted deranged and they let him go.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

(Continued from Page 1)

planned the picnic for the 3rd Tuesday of July (the 19th) at 6:30 p.m. Thanks to the generosity of Beth Beckett of the Clay County Historic Sites (and an Archives Board member and volunteer), it will be held at historic Mt. Gilead near Kearney. It’s easy to find: if you travel on I-35 to 92 Highway, turn west on 92 for a few miles until you come to Plattsburg Road. Turn north and drive about a mile until you see Mt. Gilead School and Church on the left.



All are welcome, including current and past volunteers as well as their families. Please bring (in addition to yourselves) a dessert or a covered dish to share with your fellow volunteers.

It is said that volunteerism in America began with the first colonists, when they agreed to band together for common survival. Later, Ben Franklin organized it in 1736 with the first volunteer firehouse. The American Revolution was replete with many patriots who supported the cause of our freedom.

I would not rank the Archives volunteers with those exalted individuals, but you could if you’d like!

Stuart E. Elliott

LOVE OUR EARTH

“We are not sufficiently grateful for the great symphony of natural sound which insects add to the natural scene; all those little fiddles in the grass, all those cricket pipes, those delicate flutes, are they not lovely beyond words when heard in midsummer on a moonlight night?”

Henry Beston, The Outermost House

Never heard of Henry Beston? Me neither, but from www.henrybeston.com you can learn a lot about this writer-naturalist and his wife Elizabeth Coatsworth Beston, also a writer.

**100 YEARS AGO
EXTRACTS FROM THE
LIBERTY TRIBUNE**

April 7, 1911

Steer Missing.

Please count your cattle, he may be in your bunch. Clay Co. phone 102, Missouri City exchange.

Lemar **Mereness**

April 14, 1911

Miss **Richardson** Returns.

Miss Richardson, an expert corsetiere from the designing rooms of the Redfern corset establishment, New York, will beginning on Monday and continuing the ensuing week, pay a visit to the Frank **Hughes** store. This is the second of Miss Richardson's visits here and she was well liked on the former one. Miss Richardson will be glad to meet the ladies at the parlors of the Frank Hughes store anytime next week.

It is not the custom of the Redfern company to send such an experienced lady to a town the size of Liberty, and very seldom ever outside of the larger cities, but Miss Richardson stated that never before, not even in the larger cities, did she fit more corsets in one week than at Liberty on that visit, and this alone calls for her return visit. Any lady may be fitted by calling at the department, slight changes are shown in the new Redfern models over those of last season. The corsets more than ever emphasize youthfulness in the lines of the figure.

April 21, 1911

Workmen while making repairs at Mr. and Mrs. John M. **Newlee's** home, the Mrs. Ann **Miller** place, found a sword of a type used during the Mexican War. It was in a wall at a place where an old porch joined the main part of the house. Clarence **Thorp** was given the sword by Mrs. Newlee and he prizes it very highly. No name nor inscription was found on the handle or blade.

H.C. **Pfeiffer**, of the Mineral Springs company, Excelsior Springs, was in Liberty last Friday on business matters and talking the waters he ships – "Coney Island Lituia," "Saline Sulfur," "Salt Soda" and "Siloam No. 2."

Bridge Draw Stuck.

The Eli was one hour and 45 minutes late Sunday night coming out from the city, and all other trains that have to pass over the Burlington bridge were delayed. The bridge draw was opened for a boat to pass and could not be thrown back in place.

Rev. **Hayne**, who was invited to deliver the baccalaureate sermon at the closing exercises of the Kearney High school there that night, and intended to go on a Rock Island train, was forced to go to Kearney in an auto in order to keep his engagement.

May 5, 1911

As to a New Hotel.

Messrs. **Ringolsky** and **White**, the Elms proprietors, in their statements to the court Monday said the plans for rebuilding the hotel was first to make it cost \$242,000, but that they could not arrange for the money. They now have plans for a \$175,000 hotel, and feel hopeful of financing the enterprise. The second Elms cost \$160,000. They got \$90,000 insurance on it. (*Note: The hotel had been destroyed by fire for the second time in October of 1910.*)

Mr. Ringolsky said they hoped to begin building another hotel in 30 days.

Painting the Court House.

Steve and Will **Morse** have been painting on the court house this week. Steve in painting the dome and "woman," was stung several times as the bees that have a nest in the goddess are still at home.

May 12, 1911

Train into Birmingham Depot.

When within 50 feet of the Birmingham depot, a car just behind the engine in a work train jumped the track, breaking its couplings, and plowed its way through the waiting room on the east end of the building Tuesday afternoon about 5 o'clock. Several people were on the platform but had time to scatter before the car crashed into the station.

The agent was in his office at the time and he jumped through a back window. Boards were knocked into his office with force enough to have seriously crippled him. The depot was badly damaged.

A team of horses standing close to the depot became frightened and ran away when the car collided with the building.

The Burlington's "Dude" train was held about two hours and it was near 8 o'clock when it reached Liberty. In the depot at the time of the mishap were several boxes of dynamite and if this had been jarred off, Birmingham would not be on the map now.

The work train was running about 10 miles an hour when the car left the track. The train is used at Harlem in hauling dirt and had run down to Birmingham for something.

(Continued to Page 10)

100 YEARS AGO
EXTRACTS FROM THE
LIBERTY TRIBUNE
(Continued from Page 9)

June 2, 1911

New Dam at Smithville.

The *Smithville Herald* said **W.H. Patterson**, owner of the mill there, will build a new dam across Little Platte river, and use the water again for power. And the public may use it for fishing and boating. The dam will have an elevation of over seven feet and some estimate that this will give the river a good depth for five or six miles up the river. Naturally, this will make splendid boating and better fishing. A motor boat could well be used in such a depth of water.

June 9, 1911

Doctors Buy Auto.

Liberty physicians have held off buying automobiles on account of the streets and country roads, but as both are being made better some of our doctors have invested during the past week. Dr. **R.E. Sevier** placed an order for a Maxwell runabout last week and Dr. **John Rothwell** had delivered to him Monday an Everett, which seems to be a splendid car. It was purchased through **Boggess & Lightburne**. The doctor has been taking lessons from Mr. Lightburne and will soon be tooting his horn over the roads.

June 16, 1911

Big Shoal Cemetery.

A committee appointed is at work to raise money for building a fence and putting Big Shoal cemetery in better condition. It is the plan to build an iron fence on the south and east sides. An effort will be made to raise \$500.

This is a matter that good interest should be taken in, and those having relatives buried there will no doubt cheerfully aid in the work. Many other persons feel an interest in the old burying place and should subscribe.

The committee appointed is composed of **W.H. Holt**, **R.H. Storms**, **J.D. Wason** and **J.T. Price**. Mr. Holt and Mr. Storms were in Liberty Wednesday on business connected with the work. Give or send the committee your subscription.

Clay County Rogers Graduates
Kansas City Times

Just twenty-one years ago in the month of May, when the hills of Clay county were verdant

with their mantle of grass and foliage, a chubby baby arrived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. **D.W. Rogers**. When the glad news of the arrival was known to the neighbors, they came and brought with them suggestions for a name. Everything from Absalom to Zachariah was submitted.

Mr. Rogers was a farmer, but he was also a poet, even though he didn't write verse. So while out in the field when he looked about and gazed upon Clay county, wearing its best clothes, the proud father, instead of writing a poem to nature, received an entirely different impression. All the names from the neighbors were rejected.

When the list of graduates from the Kansas City School of Law was announced yesterday, among the names was that of Mr. Clay County Rogers. As the name was read from the graduation platform many of those present were struck by its oddness, perhaps. But Mr. Clay County Rogers, the same baby who is now grown up to be a man, is a member of the law firm of Metcalf, Sherman & Brady in the Scarritt building. For the last three years he has been attending the law school here. The family moved here about a year ago. The father now has a grocery store at 715 West Eleventh St. They live at 1603 Wyandotte St.

June 16, 1911

Fox Den on the Square.

Five foxes make their home under buildings on the east side of the public square. When young they were brought into town and kept at **Miller's** meat market. They got a little shy as they grew older, and having freedom made their den under a building.

They have a good time at night in **E.D. Moore's** real estate office, finding a way to come in the rooms. Mr. Moore sometimes, when at his office at night, sees them come in and curl up on the richly upholstered chairs and couches. Mr. Moore has to make customers as comfortable as possible while he has his deals on.

The other night the foxes had a chicken dinner in the office, as Mr. Moore found where they had scattered the feathers over the floor.

LOVE OUR EARTH

"It is well that you should celebrate your Arbor Day thoughtfully, for within your lifetime the nation's need of trees will become serious. We of an older generation can get along with what we have, though with growing hardship; but in your full manhood and womanhood you will want what nature once so bountifully supplied and man so thoughtlessly destroyed; and because of that want you will reproach us, not for what we used, but for what we have wasted."

Theodore Roosevelt, 1907 Arbor Day Message

CRAWLING THROUGH THE CEMETERIES WITH KEN

By Ken Neth (Known around the Archives as Mr. Cemetery.)

A new burial site has been added to our cemetery list. The *Liberty Tribune* of 1958 refers to the discovery of an Indian burial site at Richfield Road and Rush Creek.

In the past few weeks we have had a number of requests for cemetery location, which we could help locating.

Karen Mische has been wanting to put up a sign at the Sublett Family Graveyard on H Highway, but has run into a roadblock. The graveyard was reserved by will, but around the turn of the (1800 – 1900) century, the title company/attorney dropped it from the new deed, so currently it is not shown on county records. This means she will have to go to court to get a quit-claim deed from the adjoining property owner

BEN AND JERRY'S CEMETERY

Ben and Jerry's ice cream plant in Waterbury, Vermont allows visitors to mourn and laugh at the same time. For in a cemetery there, with amusing epitaphs, are memorialized the flavors that didn't make it.

One enters the Flavor Graveyard through an arch with what may be a raven on top. It is laid out as a regular cemetery would be. There are a well-maintained fence, ornamental trees and a mixture of sun and shade where one may visit memorials of their favorite, long-gone Ben and Jerry's ice cream flavors.

"Holy Cannoli" has a gothic-shaped stone with a winged ice cream cone and the following epitaph:

Now in front of the pearly gates,
Holy Cannoli sits and waits.
What brought its ruin no one knows,
Must have been the pistachios.
(Don't you just want to say "Burma Shave" here?)
1997-1998

The stone dedicated to "Dastardly Mash" suggests the cause of its unpopularity:

Here the brazen
DASTARDLY lies.
Some say that raisin,
Caused its demise.
1979-1991

Sadly, peaches from Georgia could not be kept fresh during their truck ride to New England:

FRESH GEORGIA PEACH
Fresh-picked peaches
Trucked from Georgia
Tasted great but couldn't last
'Cuz Georgia's quite a-ways away
& trucks don't go that fast.
1986-1991

Ethan Allen, famous for leading a private militia, first against authorities who wished to annex land he owned and then against the British, appeared in ice-cream form in 1988 as Ethan Almond. Unfortunately he met his demise that same year:

R.I.P.
ETHAN ALMOND
In memory of nuts
And Green Mountain boys,
Here history shuts
The pint lid on their joys.
1988-1988

Leaving the cemetery, we might ponder the age-old philosophical question: how can one make pleasure last? Then again, we may simply use the lesson that some ice cream flavors disappear, and quickly order a double scoop!

From the AGS Quarterly, The Bulletin of the Association for Gravestone Studies, Winter 2011

LIBERTY'S 2011 WALKING TOURS SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

The City of Liberty and Historic Liberty, Inc. have announced their schedule of Walking Tours. All tours begin at 10:00 a.m. and generally last about an hour. There is no charge and the public is invited to attend. Tours are on foot, so wear comfortable shoes.

July 9th New Hope and Fairview Cemeteries. Tour begins at the stone arch entry on Shrader Street.
August 6th Historical Murals. Tour meets at the Lewis and Clark Mural at the corner of Mill and South Water Streets.
September 10th Historic Trees. Tour meets at Rotary Park, corner of Franklin and Gallatin Streets.
October 1st Mt. Memorial Cemetery. Tour meets at the entrance to the cemetery. (Enter the William Jewell College campus on Miller Street and continue up the hill.)

If you have any questions, please call the City of Liberty at 816-439-4537.

ARCHIVES ANNOUNCES ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP PICNIC

The Archives Board of Directors invites you to attend our annual picnic:

When: July 19, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

Where: Mt. Gilead School and Church
15918 Plattsburgh Road, Kearney

Please bring a covered dish or dessert; table service and drinks will be provided. Dinner will be held indoors.

Please RSVP at 816-781-3611.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Two events of interest to Archives members are coming up on September 10th.

The Friends of the Atkins-Johnson Farm will hold an Old Time Country Fair from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., followed by a potluck dinner at 5:00. The dinner is for members only, but the Fair is open to the public. There will be music, food, games and craft demonstrations and sales. For more information, contact the City of Gladstone at 816-436-2200.

The Shoal Creek Living History Museum will hold a reenactment of the Battle of Liberty from noon to 3:00 p.m. The Civil War battle was fought near Liberty on September 17th, 1861. Senator David Rice Atchison led 600 Missouri State Guard troops against the 3rd Iowa Infantry. For more information, call 816-792-2655.

The Clay County MOsaic

Clay County Archives & Historical Library, Inc.
210 E. Franklin StreetP.O. Box 99
Liberty, MO 64069(816) 781-3611
info@claycountvarchives.org