

# The Clay County MOsaic

*"Fitting the Pieces Together"*

Quarterly Newsletter of the Clay County Archives & Historical Library, Inc.  
October-November-December 2011

## 2011 Executive Board

### Officers

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

### Directors

<u>Through 2013</u> Bill Matteson Joyce Schumacher	<u>Through 2011</u> Raymond Brock Bob Corum	<u>Through 2012</u> Patricia Rendon Frank McMillian
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### 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](mailto:info@claycountyarchives.org)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2011 is now in the books but I think we should review some of last year before we plunge into 2012.

One of the "cosmetic" improvements can be seen in our front yard. Robert Corum designed, built and planted a brand new sign, replacing the well-worn sign we've enjoyed for the last few years.

Thanks chiefly to the efforts of Steve Olson, we published the original "colorized" 1865 atlas. It is quite impressive and a great addition to our published atlas collection. It goes nicely with the 1865 index. I hope you got one under the Christmas tree!

The North Kansas City Public Library donated a collection of Missouri County History books to the Archives. We thank them for allowing us to preserve them rather than the alternative. (Reminds me of the old Maurice Chevalier joke, "old age isn't so bad when you consider the alternative." But, I digress.)

Carol Olson had the good pleasure to announce some new volunteers in 2011. Some were only temporary (an enthusiastic high school student) and some were not but all were more than welcome!

Ken Neth had been busy keeping property owners in line regarding the various cemeteries in Clay County. In fact, he had been looking for a lost columbarium. If anyone has seen it, please tell it to report in with Ken. ☺

We started a Speakers' Bureau to organize the content for our speaking engagements. We will continue to pursue this bureau in the new year.

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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 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.

## CRAWLING THROUGH THE CEMETERIES WITH KEN

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

Our cemetery count now stands at 346. Evelyn Petty had gone thru Clay county deeds when she was on summer break in the 1980's from her teaching position in Montana. Evelyn listed exceptions of one acre or less. She also went through original deeds and noted exception for graveyards. In going thru her records I have found gravesites not listed in our records and they have been added to our cemetery list.

## 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

## 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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued from Page 1)

Steve Hatcher has been working with me on updating our website. It has needed a facelift for a long time. We should have it up and running in a month. While we're on that subject, be aware that the Archives have a Facebook page, too. Log onto Facebook and then search for us. You can go there to see a picture of the Frank Hughes Memorial Library building (our home) and our new sign, as well!

We've been fighting a leaky roof in the Northwest room for a long time. The folks at the City of Liberty (our landlord) finally got the dripping stopped! We were even able to install a new ceiling to cover over the unsightly water damage.

We had our annual Volunteers dinner in July. As Donna Root wrote in her minutes of that day, "In the early evening of a blisteringly hot 100-degree day, we met in the cool, pristine whiteness of Mount Gilead Church. Many of our kinsmen had attended services in this little building since it was built 138 years ago, but we were there to celebrate the indispensable volunteers who keep the Archives operating year after year." Amen to that!

We are sorry to see volunteer Linda Smith (and her volunteer husband David) move to Iowa. They have been such good workers over the years and we will miss them much. Linda has been with us on and off since 1980! There aren't too many volunteers who go back that far! ☺ She had been doing such a fantastic job as the MOsaic editor.

Frank McMillian and Donna Root worked on a very impressive display board that will be shown in various locations (Libraries, City Halls, etc.) to advertise the activities of the Archives. Frank also overhauled our brochure; it is so much better!

I am so grateful to all of our volunteers who made 2011 a successful year. They'll make 2012 even better!

*Stuart E. Elliott*

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

**Saturday, October 26, 1872**

Cooler and more pleasant. Fire feels quite comfortable. Got new stove of Hicks – a good one too for the new room.

*Note: James M. Hicks operated a tin shop until after 1900.*

**Tuesday, November 5, 1872**

Election day, for State, county & Government officers. I am afraid Grant is again elected President of the U.S. Will be close between McCarty & Woodson for Senate.

*Note: McCarty carried Platte Co. with more than enough votes to overcome Woodson's majority in Clay and Clinton Counties. Thus ended the "gentleman's agreement" to alternate the Democratic candidate (and therefore the Senator) for this district between the different counties, this being the year for a Clay County candidate. The Republicans rarely ran in this election. Woodson and McCarty were both Confederate veterans and lawyers; what tipped the scales between them was probably that McCarty had been in the Mexican War.*

**Wednesday, October 6, 1872**

The election is over and the news is that Grant has again been elected. Mo. has gone Democratic in nearly every county.

**Monday, October 30, 1872**

"Tippy" our little pet dog died Saturday night.

**Wednesday, January 1, 1873**

New Year's Day. A happy New Year to each and all, to every living creature, but especially to those who are my best friends. Fire in town tonight, or rather this morning at 3 a.m. Bill Austin's livery stable burnt up.

**Friday, January 3, 1873**

The horse disease or epizootic seems to be getting better.

*Note: Epizootic (also spelled "epizooty") is a term applied to a contagious disease attacking numbers of animals at the same time and place. It was also a derogatory term used to accuse a human being of continued griping about mysterious ailments.*

**Saturday, January 25, 1873**

The cold weather has been very intense all over the United States. Said to be the coldest winter for 5 years taking an average. The northern states have suffered awfully. Many persons reported having frozen to death in sight of their homes on account of the snow storms.

**Friday, February 14, 1873**

Party at the Arthur house tonight.

*Note: In 1855 a group of investors, including prominent citizens and merchant Michael Arthur, came together for the purpose of building a hotel in Liberty. It sat off the southeast corner of the square, where fountains are today.*

**Monday, March 17, 1873**

Called yesterday to see Dave Thorp's little girl Minnie, bad case of croup & will turn to diphtheria I'm afraid.

**Wednesday, March 19, 1873**

Been to Thorp's again, no better.

**Thursday, March 20, 1873**

Been to Dave Thorp's. I think the child will die, poor little girl, tis a sweet child, and is very anxious to be relieved, but I fear there is no relief this side of the grave.

**Friday, March 21, 1873**

The child at Thorp's died yesterday. I did not want to see the last moments. I saw one very near and dear to me die with the same disease, and oh how terrible that scene. I can never forget it.

**Sunday, March 23, 1873**

Called again to go to Dave Thorp's to see his only remaining little boy who is down with cerebra spinal meningitis. Poor Dave, he has his share of afflictions, his poor wife has more than the usual lot to bear in afflictions.

## 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

But Frenchmen are the most Amusing men in the World, even when you can't understand a word they're saying (you can usually make a rough guess and not be far wrong, HOWEVER.) very attentive and charming they are to the ladies, always...I was having a perfectly swell-elegant time and after a few days I had picked up bits of their Saucy songs, or funny expressions and it intrigued them, no end, when I'd out with one of these, as we drove gayly along, or sat in the cool of the Summer evening, sipping our Aperitifs.

I must introduce you to our old Director, there he was a sweet old thing...he talked very little English, and that little was in a bad way...and he had the funniest expressions! When he wanted us to stop playing cards or to come in from the lovely Patio and do our Pooblic the honour of appearing for them...instead of saying, Get Dressed For The Show – he'd excitedly start yelling, Dress You! Ze Show Ez Coming – Dress You! so we called him Old Dress You, Bless You...Well, after my first appearance, I came off in not too good a temper – if you get what I mean – my music had been played badly, the Electrician had messed up mi lights – but good! and I wasn't too pleased with the audience either and I was hoping that would be my last glimpse of Milldekerke – Forever-More-and-Anon! and Old Dress You, came up to me back-stage and said, You Are Happy, yes? – Ze Pooblic, He EEZ Nice for You? – and with a sweet, sweet smile, I said – For My Money, Ze Pooblic, He Ez Lousy – in fact, He Stinks! (I mean once a lady, always a lady, that's what I say)...Poor old Dress You, not understanding, but assuming from my saccharine smile that everything was Kopasetic, -- beamed on me an purred, Ahhhhhh, Zat Ez good – I am Zo-o-o- Happ-ee...Well, that was much too good to let pass, so I told him it would be a nice idea, when Florence and Alvarez had finished their dancing, he should shake Alvarez' hand and tell him he is very good – in fact he stinks...Which he did, yes he did – GOSPEL TRUTH! and when Alvarez looked incredulous, he went ahead and assured him it was quite true – they both did!...I was standing there in Stitches, by then and Florence looked at me and drawled, What Goes On Around These Parts! I wish I had a picture of Alvarez' face when he was so seriously shaken by the hand and told what even his best friend wouldn't tell him --- We all had a good laugh over it – even old Dress You (after we had to draw pictures for him - )

He said he would use that as a Standing joke to play on American acts...I'll bet they just love that!

I was not booked, following Middlekerke, but Florence and Alvarez and I were having so much Fun by then, that I decided I'd go to Brussels with them for a week – as I'd never been and I was just dying to get a Charm for my bracelet of-you-know-what if you've ever been to Brussels –

It was so interesting for me to travel with them – they both spoke French fluently, and as all European acts do, live simply, in places not frequented by The Great American Tourist...It so happened that we got into a place in Brussels we couldn't quite make out who DID frequent! It seems Florence had a hotel recommended to her – and while Alvarez did the Orchestra rehearsal, we went to book our rooms...We found this small hotel – and the Manager was very nice, and said he'd be pleased to have us – however, he had No room available, for Alvarez – Too bad, we said – it was just Alvarez' tough luck – he'd have to look some place else...The man gave us a Very marvelous rate – also a key to the front door which he said we must lock when we came in and also went out – and we said, All Right, we'd come back a little later with our luggage...

We met Alvarez and broke the sad news and went with him to find a place and got Him settled – and came on home about 6 O'clock and let ourselves in the front door...There was nobody about, so we went up and found our rooms for ourselves...I says, I suppose This Is An Old Belgian Custom – I was in kind of a lather about having to do my own Bell-Hopping and hadn't noticed anything until Florence said, GET THIS!...I took one look, and says, You Get It – I don't Want Any Part of It!...Shades of Pink satin! it was like a bridal chamber --- the walls over the bed were cut out into little Alcoves and Quilted with pink satin – and there were pink satin drapes, eider-down, and lamps, and a thick pink rug – even a radio (but it wasn't pink satin) and you'll never believe it – but it's the Truth as I Live and Breathe— A PRIVATE BATH!—Well, I mean, after all anyone who has traveled in Yurope knows you don't get this sort of room at any price certainly not for 15 francs a night...and I was all for taking our bags and as silently stealing away like the Arabs – or at least as silently as we'd come in...but Florence was Intrigued – and called my attention to a Triangular mottled pane of glass in the door...I'd never seen anything like that and didn't fancy it at all...but since we seemed to have the place to ourselves we decided to look things over...So, she went outside and looked in at me, and I went Out-side and looked in at her and we both agreed that we could see nothing from the outside, but a face against that pane gave a Most ghastly effect to the one Inside...And the keyhole...Lor' love you – it was big enough to get a bird's eye view of Staten Island thru'...but by that time, I didn't give a Farthing HOW big it was

To Be Continued in the next MOsaic

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

**October 13, 1911**

The Anti-Horsethief Association

Among those who went to the Central Protective association meeting at Omaha this week were Andy **Loughery**, J.T. **Stark**, Fielding **Kenley** and T.H. **Lasselle**. The *Times* quoted Mr. Loughery as saying, in passing through Kansas City, that automobile owners could form an effective organization and prevent the theft of motor cars, just as the farmers organized in 1873 to put a stop to horse stealing. He is treasurer and one of the oldest members of the association. His local lodge of the association is Sugar Tree Grove No. 10, of which not a member has had a horse stolen in the last 20 years.

**October 20, 1911**

Barrel Opening

The semi-annual barrel opening by the women of the Baptist church will be at the home of Mrs. I.R. **Martin** on next Monday afternoon. The ladies hope the barrels will all be full.

**November 3, 1911**

Tossed by a Cow

A cow driven by a college boy made things interesting on South Leonard street Monday evening. The student had considerable trouble in driving the cow on the concrete paving and she became vicious. A number of children playing in the yard at Chas. **Sevier**'s home attracted her attention and she made a dash for them and caught young Bob Sevier on her horns, throwing him ten feet in the air. He was bruised about the body, and bled considerably from the nose. It is not thought however that he is injured internally. The other children escaped her by getting behind a swing. The brute was finally driven away with clubs.

**November 17, 1911**

Big Shoal Cemetery Fence

The churchyard and cemetery at Big Shoal church have been enclosed with a neat and substantial iron fence, similar to that at Fairview, with the exception of the stone posts. It is a splendid piece of work, constructed by **Vanlandingham** and **Daily**, and adds greatly to the appearance of the premises.

J.D. **Wason** and James Vanlandingham have been overseeing the work, and they give much praise to Mrs. R.H. **Storms**, Mrs. Wm. **Hey**, Mrs. Wm. **Holt** and Miss Mary **Land** for their assistance during

the work in that they furnished dinner every day and otherwise lent a helping hand.

Judges Froze Out

Mr. **Arnold** of the electric line took Judges **Miller**, **Robb** and **Thompson** in an auto on a tour of inspection of the line between Liberty and Excelsior Springs Saturday. At least they started out in the balmy sunshine and south breeze and reached the halfway point when the blizzard and below-zero weather overtook them, when they started for home.

But, as is often the case with an automobile, it balked when most needed, and they were compelled to walk through the mud to Excelsior Springs, where they took a train for home. Judges Miller and Thompson again made the trip on Tuesday and were well satisfied with the condition of things for the country as they found them.

They Ate 'Possum

A bright and happy gathering of young people of Liberty enjoyed greatly the kind hospitality of Major John **Murray**'s home last Friday evening, when Miss Pinto Murray gave a 'possum supper to her young friends.

The guests began arriving at 7 o'clock. The spirit and enthusiasm of an extended good time prevailed and from the first arrival to the last goodbye, the visitors experienced not a dull moment. Games, full of sweet and innocent fun, were participated in, and then that supper – the 'possum, sweet potatoes, corn bread, chili and worlds of good things, was enough for kings to feed from. Dan **Carr** did the carving, and he did it well. Credit is also due Orville **Montgomery** for 'possums.

Mrs. Murray, with the valuable assistance of Miss Minnie Murray, Miss Gladys **Thompson** and Miss Pinto, saw to the serving of the plates and they all have the thanks from appreciative young folks. Then after the dinner the whole house was used in playing games and when "winkum" was thought of and played the boys batted both eyes and would have winked a hundred if they could have had that many, as every wink meant a girl in their chair, and all the girls seem so sweet and lovable. And at the height of their amusement no bad and gloomy thoughts of school on the morning rose up to confront those boys and girls, as among this younger set social events are held only on Friday night. And to close such a perfectly good time a great, red harvest moon came out and smiled on the young guests as they departed for their homes along silvery pathways and cheery "good night" calls came ringing back to their kind hostess and another happy evening in the social life of these girls and boys, long to be remembered, was ended. Those present:

Messrs. James **Lawson**, Lorenzo **Lindau**, Lewis **Dougherty**, Lewis **Gittings**, Booker **Bagby**, Orville Montgomery, Fred **Courtney**, William **Robb**,

(Continued to Page 10)

November 17, 1911

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

William **McClintic**, Bub **Yancey**, Norwood **Clardy**, Dan Carr and Robert **Gilmer**.

Misses – Margaret **Roberts**, Ruth Gittings, Ora Lee **Risk**, Gladys Thompson, Minnie Murray, Leola **Stockham**, Pinto Murray, Margaret **Norton**, Ruth **Campbell**, Margaret **Williams**, Jessie **Blythe**, Nadine **Fischer**.

**November 17, 1911**

Name It Harlem

Of all the new names suggested for the A.S.B. Bridge in the metropolitan papers, the most appropriate is the "Harlem bridge." And why shouldn't it be, with most of the structure in Harlem, and the town may become a city of 100,000 inhabitants. Through floods and adversity Harlem has remained on the map, and it is but proper to honor the name and recognize her struggle for existence, when prosperity is dawning upon her, by so naming the bridge.

Will Harlem Lead?

A visitor in Liberty Wednesday said that within ten years Harlem would be the largest city in Clay county, with Liberty a fashionable suburb.

Don't Dodge the Sheriff

Some of those who make a practice of dodging officers when wanted as a witness may be interested in knowing that there is a statute which makes such action a misdemeanor and punishable by a fine of \$500 or imprisonment for one year. It is not the duty of an officer to chase witnesses all over the county. If a man knows the sheriff wants him as a witness, he places himself liable to prosecution if he dodges.

Monument to Oliver Cowdrey

An imposing granite monument to the memory of Oliver **Cowdrey**, David **Whitmer** and Martin **Harris**, witnesses to the authenticity of the Book of Mormon, was unveiled with imposing ceremonies at Richmond, Mo. Wednesday. A feature of the program was a concert given by 21 members of the Mormon Tabernacle choir of Salt Lake City, who came in a special train to take part in the services.

David Whitmer, a well-known citizen of Richmond, it will be remembered, was custodian of the Book; which was kept under lock and key at his home in that town.

\$1000 Clay County Chicken

The White Orpington Cockerel sold last week by Mrs. Will **Irminger** to John T. **North** for \$32.50 is now valued at \$1000. This bird was raised by James L. **Thompson** and is a son of the prize bird sold by him to Mrs. W. C. **Dunn** of Independence for \$60, now valued at \$1000, as evidenced by the following item from the Topeka State Journal of Dec. 7, issued during the state poultry show at that place:

"One of the interesting exhibits in the show is a \$1000 White Orpington male bird being shown by Mrs. W.C. Dunn of Independence. The name of this prize specimen of the bird tribe is "Rectifier Superior," and his feathers are of the purest white – in fact, in the fact lies the great value of the bird. The class is a comparatively new one and trouble the fanciers have experienced is that a yellow tinge will so often insist in cropping out."

### **CRAWLING THROUGH THE CEMETERIES WITH KEN**

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

Our cemetery count now stands at 346. Evelyn Petty had gone thru Clay county deeds when she was on summer break in the 1980's from her teaching position in Montana. Evelyn listed exceptions of one acre or less. She also went through original deeds and noted exception for graveyards. In going thru her records I have found gravesites not listed in our records. They have been added to our cemetery list.

### **RECENT ACCESSIONS**

Cemetery Log Book- Lilly Cemetery, Clinton Co., Newelee Farm, Kearney Christian Church donated by Kermit B. Karns.

Family Group Sheets for the St. John, Moody, Foster, Gibbons, Wood, Hall, Woolsey, Faubion and McKay families donated by Nancy St. John Vossell.

1909 Tatler yearbook of William Jewell College and a Sesquicentennial Souvenir Program donated by Lisa Ledbetter.

1924 Halferty Reunion picture and news article about the reunion in Paradise, Missouri from Betty Barr.

Consumer Cooperative Assn. (Farmland Industry) Directory; 2 WJC Videotapes; 1999 Sesquicentennial Barbecue; 2003 Tornado; 1992 Kearney Business Directory; 1976 Kearney United Methodist Church Cookbook; 1980 Antioch Community Church Cookbook; 1980s Westview Elementary School Cookbook, Excelsior Springs donated by Ann Henning.

## Volunteering at the Archives

Archives volunteers had a revitalizing break when the Archives was closed for the holidays. As of the 9<sup>th</sup> of January, all are back in their familiar places. And, yes, when you come in you will find that most of us have a specific place where we sit or work. A computer station, desk, or someplace that seems to feel we are in the right place.

A big thanks you to all of our volunteers. They are the lifeblood of this organization. You've seen a few new faces this year but we need many more. If you can make time to assist with some of the projects that have been on the back burner for a while we can use you!!

ONE OF THE BIG ONES RIGHT NOW, we need a newsletter editor!!! Newsletter comes out 4 times a year. We can show you how, and help you with content, we need your creativity and time.

Also, need workers for the Criminal Court records – read the cases, extract the names and put them on the front of the file and then go on to the next one. Just need a good pair of eyes, legible handwriting and some of your spare time.

Are you good at scanning photos? The process has a learning curve but we have a stack that need to be done. Instructions are available.

The proposed book on the “Civil War Soldiers Buried in Clay County” now has 3 researchers working on it and they are making a lot of headway. It is becoming a reality instead of just a good idea.

The cemeteries are an ongoing project. Cutting and filing obits, updating the computer and filing the cards. We will be having a cemetery tour for volunteers as soon as Ken's knee feels better. We have done these in the past, it helps us to know where some of the smaller cemeteries are located. Ken picks an area of the county, we pile into cars and visit the cemeteries and it is Steve Olson's job to find a restaurant with PIE and coffee.

We always need volunteers to help with the public and mail requests. Want to learn—just follow us around, we'll point you in a direction and answer any questions you may have. I think that is about the only way to learn, just by doing.

So come on in and begin doing. Let us know what you are interested in and we'll find something for you to do. We have a micro and refrigerator if you want to stay all day.

Contact the Archives 781-3611 or Carol Olson 452-3540



*Just a reminder*  
*Annual Membership*  
*Is due January 1*

**The Clay County MOsaic**  
Clay County Archives & Historical Library, Inc.  
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