

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 Am	2
Feature Story	3
Volunteer Spotlight	4
Local Events	4
Research Tip	5
Donations	5
Mystery Photo	6
Publications	7
Archives Info	8

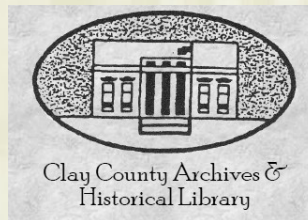
In an effort to bring news directly to you (and in a timelier manner) we’ve decided to have our volunteers write about their projects and put them here, right on the front page. This, then, is the first President’s Message to be submitted as a sort of “President pro tem”.

When I am unable to gather and disseminate it myself, you can hear it directly from those who do the real work at the Archives!

~Stuart Elliott

As researchers know, cemeteries are a great source for genealogical information. Part of our mission at Clay County Archives and Historical Library is to document cemeteries in the county. I would like to share a recent success story that highlights that aspect of

our mission. Lizzie Price Johnson,



daughter of Richard Montgomery Gano Price and Lucy Slaughter Price, donated \$250,000 in 1926 to William Jewell College. Part of that endowment was to perpetually maintain the family cemetery, Price-Slaughter-Nichols. Although Lizzie is not buried there, her parents and siblings are.

It came to the Archives’ attention recently that the cemetery, also known as Strawberry Patch Cemetery, had been neglected and become overgrown. Over the years with changes in personnel, the

responsibility for cemetery upkeep had been overlooked. Diane Davidson, one of our volunteers, contacted William Jewell College to advise them about the condition of the cemetery. When William Jewell College realized it was responsible for the cemetery, the college quickly took action to remove the overgrown brush. The college has put procedures in place so that the Price-Slaughter-Nichols cemetery will not be forgotten again.

The cemetery committee and its volunteers are continuing the work of committee chairman Ken Neth. The Clay County Archives has information on more than 300 cemeteries. The volunteers continue to verify the location, burials and condition of Clay County cemeteries.

~Elna Cox
President, pro tem

If you order via Amazon, please consider using Amazon Smile, and making the Archives your charity of choice.



2018 Executive Board

Officers

President	Stuart Elliott
1st Vice President	Nancy George
2nd Vice President	Elna Cox
Corresponding Secretary	Ann Henning
Recording Secretary	Audrey Lammers
Treasurer	Scott R. Cole

Directors

<u>Through 2018</u>	<u>Through 2019</u>	<u>Through 2020</u>
Ray Brock	Steve Olson	Keith Nelson
Bob Corum	Patty Rendon	Joyce Schumacher

Committee Chairs

Records Use & Preservation	Kevin Fisher
Membership	Jane Sharon
Properties	Bob Corum
Cemeteries	Ken Neth
Computer Use	Stuart Elliott
Volunteer Coordinator	Jane Shepherd
Ways & Means	Tony Meyers

Organizational Representatives

Alexander Doniphan Chapter DAR	Jerre Robertson
City of Liberty	
Clay County Parks	
Clay Co. Patriots Chapter DAR	Lois Long
William C. Corum Chapter SAR	Michael Robertson

Newsletter Staff

Keenan Glidewell Barker
 Stuart Elliott
 Shirley Fansher
 Jo-Jean Chamas

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

CLAY COUNTY, MISSOURI SEAL

It is ordered by the Court that the Clerk procure a Seal of Office, and a good and substantial screw; and that the device of said seal be the Goddess of Justice with a pair of scales suspended in her hand, and the words "Seal of Clay County Circuit Court, Mo" be inclosed in the circle of said seal; and it is further ordered that said seal be made use of by said Clerk as the seal of this Court as soon as a screw can be obtained

In November 1825, the Circuit Court of Clay County, Missouri, authorized the procurement of an official seal and described the design as follows: "the Goddess of Justice with a pair of scales suspended in her hand and the words 'seal of Clay County Circuit Court, Mo'" within a circle. Though this documents in administrative action of the Court an early seal of the County Court, it is the reference to needing a "screw" for the seal that prompted interest.

A year later, the court authorized payment to William L. Smith for "a screw and apparatus for Circuit Court seal".

124	<p><i>November Term 1826</i></p> <p><i>The following accounts against the County, for public services in this Court are allowed, and ordered to be certified to the County Court</i></p> <p><i>William L. Smith, as well for public services in this Court as for a screw & apparatus for Circuit Court seal</i></p> <p><i>thirty-eight dollars and seventy-three cents</i></p>
-----	---

Early seals apparently used a screw to make the impression on the paper. The earliest device that may be similar to what was purchased in 1825 is from the Office Museum and was patented in the 1850's. The Clerk was reimbursed \$38.73 cents. It is only a guess that this device resembles what was used in Clay County in 1826.



ARCHIVES BENEFITS FROM STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

Samantha, Shaneann and Emily are among those bringing fresh eyes to the work of the Archives these past few years. Students from area high schools, William Jewell College and Park University work with the historic records at the Archives and get community service hours or class credit for their efforts.



Samantha (Sam) Nguyen participated in a Park University Intern program that offered her credit for volunteering at the Archives. During her semester as an Intern, Sam learned all aspects of the various Archives' projects in progress. Partnering with regular volunteers, Sam helped with everything from processing paper court records to imaging city records and maps - creating documents from the images.

Shaneann Foss and Emily Hemphill assist with abstract indexing, review and consolidate family files and help with other projects as requested. These students, and others from William Jewell and area high schools have moved projects forward while gaining an appreciation for local history.

Putting in an hour or two a week, student volunteers are greatly appreciated at the Archives for their important contributions that enrich the collections.



LOCAL EVENTS

Historic Pharis Farm

Family Fun Day
August 25, 2018
4:00—8:00 pm
20611 County Road EE
Liberty, MO 64068
816-736-8500



The Atkins-Johnson Farm and Museum

Big Shoal Country Fair
September 8, 2018
10:00 am—4:00 pm
4109 NE Pleasant Valley Road
Gladstone, MO 64119
816-423-4107

RESEARCH TIP

A while back we discovered an online resource that is fantastic. If you haven't tried www.historicaerials.com then you are missing out on some great maps. The site allows you to go to an area on a modern aerial photo map and zoom in or out to the level of detail you need. But it also allows you to then switch to one of several older aerial photos of the same spot. Of course there were no aerial photo maps in the 19th century and few until the late 20th. But then you can also choose from several years of USGS topological maps and see how the roads and rivers and residences looked at points back in history. This is really good stuff if you are a map geek or just curious and have time to kill.

But then in doing some research for some areas I was familiar with I noticed that some houses I knew were built in the early 1950s didn't show up till maps from several years later. Even major changes in waterways that we know happened in the late 1940s didn't show up for another decade. So using these maps to try to date when your house was built or when some new road was opened must be taken with a grain of salt. Maybe a heavy scoop of salt. It seems that production of those topo maps must have taken years of work prior to them getting published. So the real changes on the ground likely happened a few years before the date shown on the maps.



Enjoy the maps but do be aware of the fairly lengthy time discrepancies.

Steve Olson
Archives Member & Volunteer

RECENT DONATIONS

Donations of Material

Bonnie Knauss—Ray County Reflections—2 copies

Frederick Kidd—Box of Frango chocolate candy

Donations of Money

L. J. and Marlene Frakes

Steve Haymes

Marilyn Chamberlin

Patrick and Patricia Rendon

Jane Sharon

THANK YOU

DEAD FERDINAND?

ARCHIVES PHOTO COLLECTION INCLUDES MYSTERIES WAITING TO BE SOLVED

The Archives photograph collection contains many photos that are not yet identified.

Contact the Archives by email (info@claycountyarchives.org) with any information that might put a name or family connection to the unidentified man in the photo below.



Postcard photo with W. C. Wilmott on left.
Unidentified man on right.

**ARCHIVES
GIFT SHOP**

ATLASES

Reprint of the 1865 Clay County Historical Atlas, with features in color, just like the original!
Includes an index. \$22
1877 Historical Atlas of Clay County \$15
Every-Name Index to 1877 Atlas \$13

THE STORY OF LIBERTY...from settlement to suburb, a movie available in two formats:
DVD—\$17 each
S-VHS—\$12 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

IKNEWFRANK...IWISHIHADKNOWNJESSE

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

Civil War Monuments & Memorials
In Western Missouri \$22
Clay County Births, 1883-84 \$9
Clay County Deaths, 1883-84 \$9
Clay County Historic Map \$15
(not available to be mailed)
Clay Co. Sesquicentennial Souvenir \$30
Doctor on the Western Frontier \$17
Early Days in the West \$18
Lost Voices on the Missouri \$64.95

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.

HISTORY OF CLAY COUNTY, MISSOURI—NATIONAL HISTORICAL COMPANY, 1885 \$30

Indexed and Reprinted by the Clay County Archives and Historical Library

PORTRAITS OF A FRONTIER COMMUNITY \$25

The Jacob T. Hicks Glass Plate Photo Collection

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.

January—March 2018

WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.CLAYCOUNTYARCHIVES.ORG



Street Address

210 E. Franklin, Liberty, MO 64068

Mailing Address

PO Box 99, Liberty, MO 64069

Phone

816-781-3611

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.

Clay County Archives & Historical Library, Inc.
PO Box 99
Liberty, MO 64069