

Ralls County Historical

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RALLS COUNTY MISSOURI HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 182

CENTER MISSOURI 63436

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~morchs/>

Ralls County Historical Museum and Library

120 East Main Street, Perry Missouri

Open Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday 10:00-5:00

Or Phone 573-248-6147 or 573-565-2025 for an appointment

Dear Ralls County Members and Friends;

November Meeting:

The Ralls County Historical Society will have its November meeting on Monday the 20th at Perry City Hall. The doors will be opened at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. Carl and Char Hirst will present a program on old stoneware. They have spent years researching stoneware and the sites in Missouri and the Illinois which it was manufactured. There were many of these sites in northeast Missouri and one was in Ralls County. If you have any jugs, crocks or other stoneware that you would like to get information on, please bring them with you. The meeting is open to the public and they are encouraged to attend. This will also be the society's last meeting of 2006, so dues for 2007 are now due. The single at \$10.00 and the family at \$15.00 memberships will remain the same, but a new life time membership will be available for \$100.00. A society membership would make a great Christmas present also.

September Meeting:

The society's September picnic meeting was one of the best attended meetings that we have had in many months. Reverend Richard Smith's program on black history and slavery was outstanding and well prepared. If you were unable to attend this picnic and you have another chance to go to one of his programs I recommend you go. As soon as his book is completed we will have them available for sale.

2007 Calendar;

All of the dates below are open as far as places and programs for the meetings. Please contact me with any ideas you may have for programs or locations. Also let me know of the many past programs or locations you would like to go back to have presented again. I would like to keep the meetings in or near in the county, unless it is shared with another group or society.

January 15;

March 19;

May 21;

July 16;

September 6; Saturday annual picnic

November 19;

Presidents View

The year 2006 will go down as a landmark in Ralls County history because for the restoration of our historic courthouse. As a society we can be proud of our contribution in getting the project off the ground, helping in passing the tax increase and in getting the restoration completed. The old landmark will be enjoyed and admired for many more generations to come. At sesquicentennial celebration of courthouse 2008 we hope to have a program that will allow us to share it all of Missouri and the whole nation.

This year we also opened the Center "Shortline" depot for limited hours and increased the items on display there. We hope to have it open at regular hours in the spring. There also plans to dedicate a room of the depot in honor of the late Bill Watt who donated many of the items on display and shared so much information on the history and people of the Shortline.

The attendance at the library/museum has grown as people become aware of the sources and files available for research at the library and the interesting items on display in the museum. Items and sources for both the library and museum continue to arrive weekly.

Thanks to all the members and friends of society that made 2006 another successful year

Ralls County Cemeteries; Spencer Township

Epperson Cemetery #43, Township 55, Range 4 range, Section 11; Information based on the late Mike Weaver's notes and records

Cook; Lucy B., born 1870, died 1900
Epperson; Joel H., born February 3, 1801, died September 6, 1875, married April 18, 1823 to Annie Alsman
Epperson; Sarah, born May 16, 1816, died February 28, 1872, 30 minutes after 11 am, wife Joel M.
Epperson; Joel, born March 2, 1828, died May 8, 1890
Epperson; Infant, born and died December 11, 1860, son of W. H. and Susan
Epperson; Edward B., born 14, 1867, died august 23, 1868, child of M. and M. E.
Epperson; Henrieta V., born 29, 1869, died January 11, 1880, child of M. and M. E
Epperson; Jessie M., born 16, 1880, died October 21, 1881, child of M. and M. E
Hayden; John, born January 25, 1769 @ Campbell County Virginia, died September 22, 1842 (no stone) Reverend
Hayden; Rachel, born January 18, 1774 @ Campbell County Virginia, died September 1842, wife of John (no stone)
Hudson; William H., died April 27, 1883, age 1 year, 9 months, 16 days, son of Joseph and M.M.D.
Wilts; Infant, born and died August 26, 1888, daughter of D.P and Mary M. D.,
Wilts; Infant, born and died June 5, 1889, daughter of D.P and Mary M. D.,

Wilts; Infant, born and died November 17, 1891, daughter of D.P and Mary M. D.,

Mount Sterling Cemetery, Township 55, Range 4, section 19; Information based on the late Mike Weaver's notes and records

Baumgarner; Christian, born March 10, 1830, died June 3, 1891
Baumgarner; William, born January 28, 1827, died November no day, 1909
Bramblett; Josie, born August 18, 1880, unreadable, daughter of H. M. and L.C
Brice; Mary J., born December 4, 1859, died January 19, 1886, wife of J. H., daughter of W. and L. Clary
Briggs; Delaney, born December 3, 1844, died December 21, 1918
Briggs; Emma E., died September 26, 1856, age 8 years, daughter of W. G and R.
Briggs; Rodie, (Rhoda Wright), born 4, 1810, died March 10, 1887, wife William
Briggs; William G., died Janary 22, 1886, age 72 years
Briggs; Wright, born April 12, 1842, died October 20, 1883, son of William G. and R.
Briggs; Infant daughter of D. F. and K. W. born July 23, 1887, died August 5, 1887
Briggs; Infant son of J. B. and M. E. no dates
Clary; Lydia, born 1834, died 1922, wife of R. W.
Eden; Robert S., born 1882, died 1885
Epperson; Nannie (Helms) born 15, 1860, died April 29, 1896. First married John T. Robinson, second married Joseph Richard Epperson
Fox; Ida E., died February 22, 1917, age 56 years
Hamilton; William E., born and died 1884, son of A. C. and A. D.
Hayes; J. W., died May 14, 1884, age 31 years, 8 months, 17 days
Helms; Lizzie, born April 10, 1841, died June 21, 1886, wife of P. T.
Jones; Caroline, born December 22, 1847, died June 20, 1886, wife of W. Y.
Jones; Charles, born august 1, 1868, died September 1, 1896, son of W. Y. and C. A.
Jones; Mary A., (Young) born November 29, 1852, die January 9, 1900, married April 17, 1888 William Y.
Lasbrook; Emma, (Robinson) wife John Will, daughter of John H. and Catherine Robinson. "no stone" Mike Weaver
Roberts; John E., born 1843, died 1905
Roberts; Josephine, born 1852, died 1922, wife John E.
Robinson; Catherine, born May 19, 1828, died October 26, 1885, wife of John H.
Robertson; Leonard, died April 2, 1892, age 25 years, 9 months, 1 day
Robertson; John H., born October 27, 1830, died June 14, 1884, age 51 years, 7 months, 17 days
Robertson; John T., died February 12, 1889, age 34 years, married November 4, 1880 Nannie Helms. (She second married January 25, 1894, Richard "Bud" Epperson

Scott; Roberta, born October 22, 1892, died December 19, 1892, daughter R. and E. J.

Shelburne; Tommie, died May 23, 1884, age 1 year, 24 days, son of T. and C. P.

Stambaugh; Eulah, born November 16, 1872, died August 21, 1901, wife of J. M.

Stambaugh; Infant, born and died July 22, 1901, son J. M. and Eulah

Thomas; Mattie B., born August 14, 1882, died June 28, 1887, daughter of S. and M. A.

Thomas; Nora B., born March 10, 1870, died March 18, 1887, daughter of S. and M. A.

Walton; Henry, died June 4, 1890, age 64 years

Watts, Lucy A., (Robinson) born September 1, 1856, died October 5, 1901, wife of Charles, daughter of John H. and Catherine Robinson

Watts; Infant son of C. L. and L. A. born and died September 6, 1890

Bit Of Ralls County History

History of Hays Creek Congregation, ninetieth Anniversary; Perry "Enterprise" August 31, 1933

The history of the beginning of this congregation is a matter of record as follows. – "Record of the Congregation or Church of Christ, known as Hays Creek Church, organized June 18, 1843, at Scott School House, by Timothy Ford and George Waters, James L. Alford, clerk." – Nine people, – Lucy Alford, Elizabeth James, J. L. Alford, J. A. Alford, Ppwhatan Bryant, Catherine Bryant, Harrison P. Haley, William Bryant and Albert O. Alford were constituted a church and became the charter members of Hays Creek congregation. During July and August of that year, (1843) four others were added. Of course all these charter members have long since gone on to the great beyond. There was one added to the church in Oct., 1844, Solomon Petty. For seven years there is no record of any additions to the church, but in 1851, at a meeting held by Led. Chas. Levah, a large number were added. (There is one record of a baptism in 1849) In the year 1852, a meeting was held by Elder Timothy Ford and seven members were added to the church. From 1852 to 1855, Brother Ford preached for the congregation and there were frequent additions to the church. A revival was held in August, 1856, by Elder J. J. Errett and the minister Timothy Ford at which time seven more were added. The record is incomplete for the next few years, as the great Civil War was on. In Aug. and Sept. 1863 there were 2 added to the church. The next bit of record was in the year 1869, when a meeting was held by Elder S. P. Johnson in which a large number were added, a total of 44. At that time the oldest living member of the Hays Creek Church became a member. She is Mrs. Fanny Alford Liter, now living in Center. Mrs. Volumnia Alford Carroll united with the Hays Creek Church in August, 1863, just 70 years ago, and is still living although her membership was moved to Liberty church and is now in the Christian Church at Vandalia.

J. P. Alford, a brother came into the church at the same time and is still living, his membership being in Vandalia. He is still interested in Hays Creek Church and helps to keep the work going and the building in repair.

The congregation had for its first meeting place the Scott School House and later the congregation met in the Adiel church. About the year 1870, the congregation built the present meeting house, which is today in good condition. It has recently been re-covered with patent water-proof shingles and re-painted and thus may continue for many years, a sanctuary for worship. Hay Creek is a historical old church and a land mark, dear to many hearts. At the time of the building of the church, James L. Alford, Thompson Alford and Isaac Rowland were Elders and G. W. Payne, James M. Rowland and G. B. Ogle, Deacons. These men were leaders of vision and took the task of oversight of the congregation seriously.

An interesting part of the record is in the fact that the church had colored members. The record of the Negro members gives only the given names as – Sarah, Joe, Jack and Ben. Following the building of the new church, the congregation grew rapidly, the years 1870, 1871, 1872 and 1873, show a large increase in membership, a total gain of about 75. A great revival came again in 1876, under the ministry of W. H. Hook, when 20 more were added to the church. During the days of the early history of the congregation, instances are on record of discipline, when members were excluded from the membership for failure to live up to the standards of the church membership. Several instances are recorded of those who apostatized.

From 1876 to 1884 there were frequent additions to the church and in 1882 Elder F. B. Corwine held a revival meeting, which strengthened and inspired the church. A meeting was held by Elder J. W. Monser in 1886, and in 1887, C. H. Winders, a home boy, assisted the pastor. R. L. Wilson held a meeting in which there were 10 added. The former ministers up to this time have passed away, but Bros. Winders and Wilson are living, the former at Indianapolis and the latter at Monroe City.

Brother Winders has, at a number of times preached and held meetings at his old home church. Besides Brother Winders, Bros. Claud E. Hill and Chas. C. Hill have gone into the ministry from the Hays Creek Church.

In Nov., 1888, Brother H. F. Davis and Brother C. H. Winders held a meeting in which 15 were added. In 1889-90 E. W. Herndon was minister of the church and was assisted by Elder J. A. Heddington in August, 1890, and a second meeting in Sept., 1891, nine were added, Brother Claud E. Hill being one of the converts.

The church called Brother J. D. Greer in 1892, and he continued as pastor for 2 years. About this time, Bros. R. D. Chinn and John Giddens preached for Hays Creek occasionally.

From 1894 to 1897 Bros. J. J. W. Miller of Pike County, Ill. was minister and held a number of meetings. Brother Miller was a great preacher, very eloquent and convincing in his sermons. He opposed instrumental music and organizations such as S. C. E. and Missionary societies, in the church as unscriptural.

In 1898 another meeting was held by Brother C. H. Winders at which time 14 were added to the membership. The next year, Brother F. A. Mayhall held a meeting, with fifteen additions to the membership. Brother Mayhall also served the church as pastor for some time. In the year of 1900, in November, Reverend J. H. Coil held a meeting resulting in 6 additions. The next minister was Claud F. Witty of Pike County, Ill., who was regular minister for some time and also held a meeting in November, 1901.

In 1903 Brother C. H. Winders held another meeting in Aug. with five additions to the church. The record shows one addition in 1905. In 1906 Brother J. D. Greer held a

meeting in which there were 15 added to the membership. Brother Greer held another meeting in 1907 with 13 added. In 1908 Brother J. M. Rhodes assisted Reverend Greer in a meeting with 4 additions. Brother Greer was minister here for a number of years, 1907, 1908 and 1909. In the last two years there was an increase of 17 members. Brother H. S. Mavity was called as pastor in 1910, and at regular services in April there were 5 added to the church. In 1911, Brother E. B. Redd held a meeting in September and 2 were added to the church. Reverend McMahan also preached in a short meeting with one addition. O. C. Kisor was regular pastor in 1911. Reverend Holly M. Hale was called as pastor and in 1913 was assisted in a revival by Brother McMahan with 11 additions. There is no record until the year 1920 when Evangelist B. G. Reavis held a meeting with 3 additions and later on in the same year held a second meeting with 7 added.

Reverend Lee was minister in 1921, and held a meeting in August of that year. He was succeeded by his wife, who was pastor in 1922. She held a meeting in October. There is no record of a 1922 meeting. In 1923, Reverend Frank B. Ward, then of Perry held a meeting in August.

In June 1924, Brother Reavis held a third meeting. Leslie Harper, singer, with one confession. No record for 1925.

The meeting in 1926 was held by Brother M. D. Dudley with no additions.

In 1927, Brother C. H. Winders held a meeting with one addition to the church. Brother J. C. Bennett was called as pastor in the year 1928 and in the fall the meeting was held by Brother J. W. Pearson of Perry, with 8 added. Reverend Bennett has continued as pastor until the present, 1933. The next meeting was in September, 1929, also conducted by J. W. Pearson with one added.

Since that time Reverend John Golden and Brother Bennett have each held a meeting, the latter closing his meeting on account of continued rain. In this year the meeting began on Monday, August 14, conducted by Brother Pearson, his third meeting and closing on Sunday, 27, the date of the reading of this history.

The following ministers are some who have served the congregation as pastor, Elders. Henry Branstetter, J. B. Corwine, Robert Chinn, J. J. W. Miller, F. Boyd, Rufus McLeod, Claud F. Witty, J. D. Greer, H. S. Mavity, Robert Sallee, H. M. Hale, O. C. Kisor, Harold Kimes, C. Wilson, J. E. Lerton, J. A. Lee, Mrs. J. A. Lee, L. H. Otto, George E. Jones and J. C. Bennett.

An anniversary celebration was held at Hays Creek Sunday afternoon, Aug. 27, conducted by Brother Pearson, in the presence of a large congregation. This historic congregation has had a remarkable history and promises to do a great work in the future. The many friends of this church join in wishing many more years of usefulness for this good church and look forward to celebrating the centennial to 1943.

Ron Leake