

# Ralls County Historical

Volume 6 - Issue 3

May 2007

**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;**

## **Ralls County Historical Society May Meeting**

The regular Ralls County Historical Society meeting will be held May 21 at the Oak Hill rural school between Hannibal and New London in Ralls County. From New London take State Highway V east out of New London about four miles to State Highway T, then turn north or left on T (old 79) about one mile to Oak Hill Road, turn right on Oak Hill Road and the school is a short distance on the left. From Hannibal take State Highway T (old 79) south about five miles to Old Hill Road, turn left on Oak Hill Road and again the school will be a short distance on the left. Oak Hill road and State Highway N are together. The doors will be opened at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. There will be a display of rural schools of Ralls County. Please bring any rural school pictures or items you would like to share. The public is welcome to attend.

## **Ralls County Courthouse Sesquicentennial;**

At a public meeting on May 15<sup>th</sup> we announced that the Ralls County Courthouse will celebrate its Sesquicentennial (150 years) on July 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> 2008. With the input from the public who attended the meeting and the planning committees and boards many great events and programs for celebration were discussed. We have already started our efforts to find the funding for this project and that will continue until the first day of the celebration, but by August 31 we should have an idea of the moneys that would be available so final planning can be done. There is a major need for volunteers from now to the opening day, so find you can help in anyway, please contact us as soon as possible. With teamwork and hard work from the citizens and friends of Ralls County we can celebrate this old Landmark's birthday and show off the results of restoration completed in 2006. If you have any idea for the celebration please let us know as soon as possible so we can see we can fit them into the event.

Ralls County Historical Society, PO. Box 182, Center MO 63436, e-mail [rwleake@aol.com](mailto:rwleake@aol.com) or call Ron Leake at 565-248-6147 for more information.

## **Greenlawn Chapel Homecoming**

Friends of the Greenlawn Chapel will hold their annual Homecoming on Sunday, May 27, 2007 at the historic church located three miles north of Perry on Route J.

This year's theme will honor the Chapel's recent acceptance to the National Register of Historic places and the plaque will be presented during the Homecoming celebration.

The celebration will last from 6-8 o'clock in the evening as we sing, give thanks, and share Greenlawn memories. Light refreshments will be served.

The public is invited to attend. Please come, bring a friend, and a lawn chair or two.

Any questions, call Ron Leake at the Ralls County Historical Society. (573-248-6147)

### **Center Depot;**

Both our Shortline people "Super Stars" John Rogers and Rev. Conrad Cheatham are on "Injured Reserve" for a while. The reopening of the Center depot may be delayed or only open on a limited times till John recovers fully. When Conrad is able and we can schedule it we want to have a dedication of a room of the depot to the late Bill Watts. You can help at the depot on Friday, Saturday or Sunday let us know, even if it is limited to a day or two

### **Monroe City Sesquicentennial;**

We will have a booth on Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> if you can work one of those days let me know.

### **Items Donated In April to the Library**

**Leo and Eva Chism;** They have donated over 75 books and more than 100 CDs from their genealogy library. Some of the areas covered by these books are Champaign County Illinois, Clark County Illinois, Meade County Kentucky, Washington County Indiana and others. There are also area histories and both family and general genealogy books. I'm still sorting and rearranging them so we can include them into our library.

**Rouse Jarman;** donated a book with the histories, burial listings and maps of Bethlehem, DeMoss and New Oakland cemeteries. He also donated a digital record of all markers at Bethlehem and is working on also doing DeMoss and New Oakland.

**Margarethe Price;** he has donated the complete year of 1955 issues of the Perry "Enterprise"

**Mary Hoit;** she donated a large collect of photos, albums, family histories and other interesting items in memory of her late husband Donald

**Mike Lanier;** The postmaster at New London allowed us to copy a 1823 document appointing Achilles M. McGinnis as the third postmaster of Ralls County and it was signed by John Mclean US Postmaster General at the time.. The New London Post Office has opened in 1820 before Missouri was a state

**Russell Itschner;** He donated early papers and documents of the planning of the Clarence Cannon Dam and Mark Twain Lake.

**Porter Moss;** Bethlehem and DeMoss church records

**Society Purchases;** "Missouri Courthouses" Building Memories on the Square, 1962 and 1964 Mark Twain year books, and Monroe County Sesquicentennial Cookbook 1831-1981

### **Marion-Ralls County Archaeological Society Show;**

The Marion-Ralls County Archaeological Society will have an Indian Artifacts Show June 16 and 17 at the Admiral Coontz Armory in Hannibal. The hours will be Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The address of the armory is 301 Warren Barrett Drive. The set up for members of the Marion-Ralls County Archaeological Society will be free and for non-members there will a \$10.00 charge for a set up. For more information call John Chapman at 573-735-5100 (home) of 573-735-4757 (work)

**2007 Dues are due;** The dues for 2007 where due the first of January. If you have not renewed membership please do. Your support is needed to continue our ongoing and future projects. The single at \$10.00 and the family at \$15.00 memberships will remain the same, **also a new lifetime membership is available for \$100.00.** Please send your checks to our Center MO address above, stop by the museum or pay at the meeting

### **Ralls County Cemeteries; Salt Lick Christian Cemetery (Part 1).** Township 55 Range 4 Section 1

Alexander; Gladys O., born 1904, died 1984

Alexander; Alphonso, born 1895 died 1977

Alexander, no name, born July 29, 1925, note date  
 Alexander; William E., born July 2, 1923, died January 6, 1997

Alexander; William E., born November 14, 1860, died January 3, 1900

Andrews; no name, born October 14, 1927  
 Andrew; no name, born February 20, 1925, Married November 13, 1948

Bird; John L., born 1874, died 1929

Bird; Alice, born 1874, died 1955

Bird; Elizabeth A., born October 14, 1885, died December 18, 1926<sup>[1]</sup>

Bird; Lawrence, born 1885, died 1960

Bogue; Mary Julia, born 1886, died 1929, wife of J.D.  
 Bogue; Jefferson Davis, born 1862, died 1941

Bouge; Sadie, born 1889, died 1919, wife of Arthur  
 Bouge; Arthur, born 1885, died 1957

Booker; Bessie, born 1897, died 1973

Brashears; W. N. Co. E. 39th MO Inf. (nothing else readable)

Brashears; Rosa E., born June 21, 1881, died Feb 2, 1950  
 Brashears; E. W. (Mort), born December 31, 1871, died May 1, 1940

Brashears; Edward Morton, born 1872, died 1940 (could be E. W? dates close)

Brashears; Esther E., born 1900, died 1933

Brashears; Mary E., died November 15, 1930<sup>note-id: ftn2"</sup>  
[, age 80 years](http://webmail.aol.com/Shared/empty.htm#_ftn2)

Bunnell; George W., born May 21, 1915, died April 15, 2000

Bunnell; Ethel Palow, born November 21, 1924, died February 18, 1992

Burnett; B. Virginia, born 1918, died 1974

Cooper; Ollie, born 1882, died 1966  
 Cooper; Morris E., born 1874, died 1936

Couch; Benjamin T., born 1876, died 1920  
 Couch; Susan G., born 1877, died 1952

Couch; Maggie daughter of William, born February 8, 1879, died August 6, 1880, daughter of William

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<sup>[1]</sup> Missouri Death Records

Couch; William W., (William A. on Mrs. Davis list), born December 28, 1834, died February 14, 1908

Couch; Morris Ellis, born 1874, died 1936<sup>2</sup>[3]

Couch; Sarah, died January 8, 1934, wife of William

Crousore; Curtis, born 1882, died 1979

Crousore; Marcus Leo, born 1909, died 1967

Crousore; Elizabeth J., born 1875, died 1941

Culbertson; Fannie A., born Sep 15, 1860, died August 18, 1916, wife J. B.

Culberson; James B., died October 24, 1933, age 74 years<sup>3</sup>[4]

Davis; Kathryn L, born May 21, 1946, died July 10, 1964

Davis; Beulah M., born 1893, died 1967

Davis; James S., born 1885, died 1975

Davis; Samuel born 1841, died 1909

Davis; Martha J., born 1848, died 1926

Dickensheets Edith E., born July 9, 1878, died March 16, 1932

Dickensheets; Elba, born January 28, 1874, died October 15, 1947

Dickensheets; Lavena B., born August 19, 1912, died April 10, 1990

Dickensheets Samuel R., born October 20, 1904, died April 19, 1992

Eddingfield; Rose Cleo, born 1900, died 1988

## Bit of Ralls County History

### New London "Record" September 7 1865. (Both articles)

We learn that our enterprising friends Perry Crosthwait and R. A Mayhall, are erecting a large woolen manufacturing establishment near Lick Creek Post office. Having recently purchased the farm owned by Dr. Salling, they design laying out a town to which they invite all good industrious mechanics wanting a location for business. This is a central point between Mexico, Hannibal, Paris and Louisiana situated in a rich farming district, contiguous to numerous banks of good coal and doubt not ere long we shall see a thriving village there. We also understand that a company from Kentucky have leased the land adjoining said place, for the purpose of boring coal oil and design operating shortly. We say, go ahead. This is what we need in our State, enterprising men, who are willing to risk their capital in developing the resources of our county, manufacture our home products, bore into the earth and bring to the surface its hidden store of wealth and make them serviceable for man.

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<sup>2</sup>[3] Added from Mrs. Davis list not on Sheila Lugena list.

<sup>3</sup>[4] Added from Mrs. Davis list not on Sheila Lugena list.

**Petroleum:** Other counties have been boasting over their oil wells and prospects for oil and it now comes our turn to do the same. W. A Brooks & Co. of Kentucky, have leased the farms of B. F. Tominson, H. B. Fagan and J. L. Richards on Lick Creek, for the purpose of boring for oil. Mr. Brooks pronounced a finished geologist and he states that the prospects are more flattering than in any other county he has yet vested. He tried to lease several other tract of land in the same vicinity and for the same purpose, but holders were not willing to lease them. We learn that the company will begin operation. We shall speak further of this matter in a short time.

**New London "Times" June 26, 1866**

Perry—This little town, which we visited on Saturday last, presents a prosperous and flourishing condition, although much can yet be done to improve it appearance, quite a number of handsome frame dwellings and business house have been erected and other are on the way of construction. A little judicious advertising by the owners of lots and the business men of the place, will attract the action of other, give tone and energy to its business houses and manufactures and soon the now little twin of will swell to such vast proportions as to surprise even the residents. It is a good situation for a manufacturing tow, from the fact that coal is a abundant and cheap and wood plentiful and of good quality. We wish the town of Perry and its enterprising citizens in their laudable efforts to build up a city.

**New London Record, April 25, 1867;**

T. F. Gill esq. of Perry, inform us that a gentleman of that village, while digging a well and after he had dug down about nine feet was startled by a noise immediate beneath him resembling the escape of steam from the valves of an engine. Mr. Gill says at first it was the general impression among the Perryites that the gentleman was about to invade the regions of his satanic majesty and the noise was a warning for him to desist or the consequences might be serious, but upon a closer examination it was ascertained to be the escape of a certain kind of gas generally found in great profusion in the vicinity of oil regions. It has long been our opinion that petroleum could be found in large quantities in the famous Lick Creek country and this gas found as above named only the more fully confirms our convictions. If the Moberly Railroad should be built, we doubt not will be shipped from that point in large quantities.

Ron Leake