DID YOU KNOW

The pioneers who settled on the near what is now the site of Springfield, MO did not do any banking for a period of fifteen years after they first established themselves here. Indeed, they did not need any bank or much money. They raised food for themselves and livestock; made their wearing apparel and many of their implements of agriculture.

The little frontier trading post of Springfield became of sufficient importance to require banking facilities in May 1845, when a branch of the State Bank of Missouri was established, with James H. McBride, president; J.R. Danforth, cashier; and C.A. Haden, clerk. This bank continued in business seventeen years when, to prevent funds being captured by the Confederate Army, the money in its vaults was taken by overland to St. Louis and there deposited... it, least that is the general understanding.

(The above article was copied from Past and Present of Greene County, MO, Fairbanks & Tuck, Vol. I, p. 510, published 1915.)
2007 Annual Meeting Report

We met at the Vera Chandler farmstead on Saturday, June 2, for our annual meeting. The Board of Directors met at 10:00 AM and the General membership meeting started at 11:00 AM with the election of officers for the 2008 year starting the meeting and then information on the cemetery. President Robb Chandler talked about the progress of second cleanup of the cemetery in 2-years. Meaning we had to do it again after the ice storm of 2007. At this time Larry Voris reported that the cleanup was about half done, 58 hours of work had been completed that should have been put towards filling sunken graves and getting ready for headstones. Bernie Stiver has retired from the board and Jackie Warfel is his replacement. We want to thank Bernie for the many years of work and support he has given to the restoration of the Union Campground Cemetery.

Mr. Luttrell entertained with music from the past while we were enjoying a great picnic lunch. We had a tour scheduled to the cemetery but, it was rained all during lunch and into early afternoon. The rest you will find in the meeting minutes from the Sec’y Elaine Mott.

Cemetery Work Log

It has been a long year working on the cemetery. It has been a lost year. We are right now at about the same place we were at this time last year. The ice storm was a disaster to the cemetery. There were limbs out of about every tree in the cemetery that had to be cleaned up. There were several trees that had to be removed completely. And a few more that we haven’t gotten around to yet. We burned six large brush piles to clean up the brush. We cut and hauled the larger diameter logs to the south end to be used for fire wood.

The area across the ditch on the southeast corner has been worked up and it will be pushed into the ditch for now.

We sprayed twice this summer and this made a big difference. The last time we sprayed we ran out of water and didn’t get the lower northeast corner sprayed and the southeast corner because the brush and logs hadn’t been picked up yet. The metal fence around the McMurry site took a hit from a big limb. It needs some repair. The fence along the side state needs some repair.

If you would like a complete work log, it can be e-mailed to you. We still plan a few more work days this fall. The leaves are starting to fall and it is hard to see the downed stones. This is the best the cemetery has looked since I have been involved.

Thanks to all that have helped.

171.5 hours to date Oct. 26, 2007
Larry Voris 69.0 hours
Hazel Voris 44.0 hours
Doug Rayl 23.0 hours
Ben Gravely 19.0 hours
Jackie Warfel 5.0 hour
Don Holdway 4.5 hours
Dorothy Holdway 1.0 hour

Fire Wood

There are several loads of fire wood at the South end of the cemetery. It will take a tractor to haul the logs out. Most of them are 4-5 feet in length. The road/path is too steep and uneven to get a vehicle into the cemetery. The wood is free to cemetery members. All others should make a donation to the cemetery association. If we haul the wood up to the road there will be a charge.

Work Schedule for 2008

Mark your calendars for next spring. We will need to rake the whole cemetery of leaves and small twigs. This material will be burned and then we can start the probing of unseen head stones and start marking the sunken graves. Then the sunken graves can be filled with dirt and leveled. This will be a big job too.

We will try to spray at least twice this next year trying to keep the vine, grass and brush under control.

Editors Note

As the printer is cranking out this newsletter I am looking out the window at ice on the window. It is not a good site to me. I keep thinking about the cemetery and also thinking that our trailer is in the barn and the temperature in Gulfport is 75 degrees.
IOW SPRINGFIELD HAS GROWN
A growing city of over 150,000 residents, Springfield, MO is often called the Queen City of the Ozarks. This third largest town in Missouri has a colorful past going back to 1829.

That Year John Polk Campbell of Tennessee carved his initials on an ash tree near the bubbling spring to stake a claim to the beautiful wooded land he wanted to own. The spring and tree are no longer there but Founders Park marks the site.

At the park a striking mural painted by public school students illustrates various events in the development of Springfield over the last century. People of all ages can come to learn and enjoy the heritage Founders Park commemorates. An amphitheater there is used for summer evening movies and other outdoor events.

In the foreword written by Springfield historian Lucille Morris Upton to Dick Grosenbaugh's book A MILLION HOURS OF MEMORIES, she writes: "Men and women who pioneered this area were well meaning, intelligent, ambitious, and industrious. They charted a rewarding course by which the city has been guided."

Mrs. Upton also states that settlers were searching for food and water. "One of these were plentiful where Springfield would be. Church services were held in homes until churches could be built and a school, taught by Joseph Rountree, opened in a log cabin.

Holcombe's History of Greene County Missouri, page 725, describe the usual plan of the first houses built by settlers. The roofs were made of clapboards held on by weight oak timber was used to make them. Holcombe describes the timber as "Close grained as iron and sound as a dollar." The doors were rough but the latch-strings were always hung on the outside and "He who pulled them was always welcome." according to Holcombe.

Holcombe continues to state that friendliness and sociability were practiced by all the residents and new neighbors were accepted quickly into the settlement. Some of the early social contacts were: dances, pie suppers, political speeches, baseball games, church and school programs and almost any public gathering. Dancing and pie suppers were popular with the younger set and many romances began there and blossomed into marriage. In the Springfield Missouri Republican dated April 25, 1913 an article about a May Day celebration at the State Normal School states in part: "The festivities of the day include a May Pole dance. The evening feature will be a concert by the school band, assisted by several of the city's musicians. A carnival of free side shows, balloon ascension, comedy farce productions, fortune telling and minstrel shows will entertain during the intervals."

At the time Springfield and North Springfield consolidated there were only two parks, Lafayette and Washington. They are now on the city's historic sites register. The Springfield Missouri Republican dated April 27, 1913 states that Doling Park lake was cleaned, the park had been enlarged and improved and there would be moving pictures each evening. Also H.L. Hoover's band was to furnish music every Sunday afternoon.

Another park, was located near the Assemblies of God Headquarters. White City Park once included a large roller coaster and other rides and formal gardens. Later it was used as a site for a regional fair and then as White City Baseball Park. Source: A Million Hours of Memories by Dick Grosenbaugh.

"On August 10, 1861, Army units from the Civil War clashed near Wilson's Creek. This was the first major battle west of the Mississippi River. Union General Nathaniel Lyon was killed, more than 1,800 were wounded and 535 men died. For the next two years possession of the city passed between the Confederates and the Union sides. In January, 1863 Confederate forces under General Marmaduke marched up South Street, shelled the square and seized the town in the Battle of Springfield. Union troops fell back to Lebanon, then to Rolls and regrouped. When they returned to Springfield, the Confederates had withdrawn. The city stayed under Union control until the end of the war."

-continued page 4, bottom of column 2-


After a slow but steady growth the population of Springfield was 3,563, but with major military activity some residents left for safer places. After the war and the coming of the railroad, new people from different states who had been attracted to the area's beauty wanted to move to Springfield with their families. Source: A Million Hours of Memories by Grosenbaugh.

Today with the population crowding 200,000 people, Springfield still appreciates her heritage. Although the city has grown in every direction with new construction, the Mid-Town district is now a part of the National Register of Historic Places.

Springfield has grown in every direction with new construction, the Mid-Town district is now a part of the National Register of Historic Places. The area contains nearly 500 buildings, one of the largest concentrations of historic homes in Springfield. Many prominent citizens, merchants, railroad employees and professionals built their houses near Drury College in the late 19th century. Many other lovely turn of the century homes were built over the city. Each year Mid-Town, the east Walnut Street Neighborhood and local clubs offer open house events so the public can visit some of these turn of the century homes.

Prepared by: Mabel Carver Taylor

Bernie Roy Stiver

Bernie Roy Stiver was born September 8, 1924, on the family farm north of Springfield. He died Wednesday, September 26, 2007, at James River Care Center with his wife at his side. He was 83 years young. Bernie graduated from Fair Grove High School in 1941. He attended SMS as an Agricultural Major for two years and worked in Springfield for several years. He met Wilma Kauffman at a USO dance and married in February 1948. In 1950 he joined his parents, Roy and Irene Stiver, on the family farm. To this union Bernie and Wilma welcomed Sharon in 1950 and Danny in 1954. Their marriage lasted 49 years until Wilma passed to join her heavenly Father. Bernie served as a volunteer at St. John's Hospital where he met another volunteer, Reba Blair. They married in December 1998 and have happily shared their lives for nine years. Bernie spent most of his life as a dairy farmer north of Springfield. For the past 20 years he has raised beef cattle until his retirement at age 82. He was an active member at Pleasant Home Baptist Church. Services were held Saturday, September 29, 2007, at Pleasant Home Baptist Church at 2 p.m. Internment followed in Greenlawn Cemetery.

Prepared by: Mabel Carver Taylor
THE UNION CAMPGROUND

Larry Voris, Corresponding Sec'y
2340 S. Luster
Springfield, MO 65804

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Vol 2, Issue 26, Fall 2007

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Don Holdway 2009
Douglas Rayl 2010
Jackie Warfel 2010
Hazel Voris 2010

Cemetery Location:
US Hwy 65 North of I-44 at Valley Water Mill Road, Springfield, MO.
Address all inquiries to:
Robb Chandler, President
Union Campground Cemetery Assn.
4875 E. Cimarron Lane
Springfield, MO 65803
417-833-4501

UNION CAMPGROUND CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
TREASURERS REPORT
Balance, May 3, 2007 $4,034.53
Receipts:
Dues $40.00
Sign Rent 150.00
Donation 40.00
Total Receipts 480.00
Total Receipts & Bal. $4,514.03
Disbursements:
Bank box rental 20.00
Maintenance 119.45
Newsletter Fall 2006 101.97
Total Disbursements: 241.42
Balance Oct. 25, 2007 $4,272.61
Respectfully submitted,
Pansy Harvey, Treasurer

If you were born before 1950
You were born before television, penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, Zerox, plastic, contact lenses, frisbees, and the pill. This was before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and ball-point pens. And there were no pantyhose, dishwashers, clothes dryers, electric blankets, air conditioners, drip dry clothes and before man walked on the moon. We had never heard of FM radio, tape decks, computers, artificial hearts, yogurt and guys wearing long hair and earrings.

Trail Notes
The chips that were placed on the trail into the cemetery are about all gone. We need to start thinking about replacing them. The trail is starting to wash in a few places. Talked to Chris at Ryan's Tree Service and he will try to get us some chips. This is a no charge service when they are working in the area. 865-1600

Someone ask the Undertaker, “Do you believe in the survival of the fittest?” He replied, “I don’t believe in the survival of anybody, I’m the Undertaker.”

If the funeral procession is at night, do folks drive with their headlights off?