Newborn Fawn
Union Campground Cemetery
May 24, 1996
Photograph by: Doug Rayl

The fawn was discovered in the southeast section of the cemetery during the cleanup activities. Another fawn was also found nearby, almost hidden by dense undergrowth.
NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND PICNIC
Saturday, May 23, 1998
11:30 A.M.

Historic farm of Vera Chandler
4463 E. Farm Road 74
Springfield, Missouri

At the annual meeting last September the decision was made by those present to have just one meeting per year starting with the May 1998 meeting. The date of May 23 was chosen for this year's meeting and picnic and we hope it will prove satisfactory with most of our members.

The meat for the picnic will be furnished by Vera and her family as well as all picnic supplies, cold and hot drinks. You are requested to bring one of the following: a vegetable, a salad, or a dessert.

Members of the board are asked to come at 10:00 A.M. and the business of the day should be concluded in plenty of time for the picnic at 11:30 A.M.

Dues of $10.00 per person will be collected during the business meeting. If you will be unable to attend, please mail your dues to Mrs. Pansy Harvey, Treasurer, Union Campground Cemetery Association, 3822 E. State Highway AA, Springfield, MO 65803.

The program will be given by two of our Union Campground Cemetery Association members. (1) Betty Jane Rathbone Turner will recreate the life of Sarah Ann Warr Rathbone beginning with her family life in England, her marriage, and later her journey to America with her husband, Thomas Henry Rathbone. (2) Vera Chandler will portray the life of Fanny Sims, who migrated to Missouri from Tennessee with her family in the 1830s.

Directions to the Chandler farm: Take By-Pass 65 (east of Springfield) and go north. Just as you travel over the I-44 highway, start clocking your mileage and continue north for 4.8 miles to Highway AA. Turn left at AA and after .4 mile the road makes a "Y"; keep to the right and veer onto Farm Road 197. You will be going north again for a little over .2 mile where you will find Farm Road 74 on your left. Turn on this road and follow all the way to Vera's house, where the road makes a dead-end.
PLEASE INSERT IN YOUR UNION CAMPGROUND CEMETERY BOOKLET

Since the publication of our booklet a year ago we have documented the following footstones:

A.M.M. - Believed to belong at the foot of Alta M. McMurry grave.
G.W.F. - Believed to belong at the foot of George W. Freeman grave. His headstone was read in the 1960s but cannot be found in the 1990s.
J.F. - Believed to belong to one of the John Freeman graves (there are 3 John Freemans buried in the cemetery).
J.P.L. - Found in same area as headstone for James P. Lester.
J.W. - Unknown.
L.F. - Believed to belong at the grave of Lavica Freeman.
M.A.L. - Probably belongs to the Mary A. Looney grave.
M.E.S. - The only burial with the initials M.E.S. belongs to Mary E. Sage.
W.B.F. - Believed to belong at the foot of William B. Freeman grave. His headstone is missing.
W.J. - The only name we have to match these initials is that of Warren Jones. Location of his grave is unknown.

Please delete on page 10 of your booklet: under "Possible Burials" you will find the name of Erastus McMurry. His grave has been located in the Mt. Comfort Cemetery, Greene County, Mo. This has been documented by Hazel Voris and Bettie Hickman of our cemetery association. They visited the Mt. Comfort Cemetery and found his grave in Row #21 under a tree. The Ozarks Genealogical Society readings in 1992 of the Mt. Comfort Cemetery commenced at the northeast corner of the graveyard and then progressed to the western side. Row #21 is near the northeast/center entrance of the church. Another grave indentation is nearby and could be the grave of his wife.

Booklets still available! If you failed to buy a booklet last year ($5.00 per copy) we still have a few remaining copies. Call or write Hazel Voris, 2340 S. Luster, Springfield, Mo. 65804. Telephone: (417) 881-1587.

APPLICATION FOR GRANT MONEY

During the annual meeting last September it was announced an application for grant money had been made to Burlington Northern Railroad. Research materials were included with the application form along with photographs of the cemetery. Some weeks later we received a reply from the Burlington Northern Foundation saying they could not give us financial assistance.

An application to another foundation is currently in progress. If you are aware of other sources of grant money, and feel we might qualify, please contact Jean Rayl, 1853 E. Gretna, Springfield, MO. 65804. Telephone: (417) 881-4456.
Thomas Ellison, son of John and Polly Ellison, was born in 1794 in the State of Kentucky. In the early 1800s his parents moved the family to Bedford County, Tennessee, as evidenced by Bedford County Deed Book I, pp 250-252.

Thomas was married (1815) to Nancy (maiden name unknown). According to the 1820 Bedford County census, they had one son and one daughter. Sometime later, another son was born but died in 1827. While in Tennessee Thomas and Nancy were active in the Hopewell Congregation under the care of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. This would indicate the Ellison family was established in the Cumberland Presbyterian faith before migrating to Missouri.

Things most sought after as the pioneer families moved steadily westward were fertile land, ample water, plentiful game and heavily timbered areas. When such a place was found, it was sure to become a settlement. What is now known as the Valley Water Mill area along the Little Sac River, Greene County, Missouri, had all these elements. In this valley Thomas Ellison purchased 240 acres in Section 10, Township 29, Range 21 and 160 acres in Section 15, Township 29, Range 21 (U.S. Land Office Springfield, MO 1839-40, Vol. 6, pp 72, 74).

Thomas and Nancy raised a large family as was common during that period: Nancy, Alexander, John, Hancock A., James C., Jane C., Polly D., Elizabeth and Robert P. Jane married W. C. Caldwell and upon her death was buried in Union Campground Cemetery. Elizabeth married Theophilus C. Piper and two of their children, Robert L. and Sarah J., are buried in the cemetery.

Thomas Ellison died in 1858 and was buried in Union Campground. His coffin and box were bought from P. C. Beal for the sum of $15.00. A headstone similar in size and shape is nearby but the name and dates are illegible. It is surmised the stone probably belongs to his wife, Nancy. A third tombstone, same size and shape, has the name Thomas Patterson Ellison, born (no date) died September 23, 1840. His name does not appear on above list of children. His tombstone has the earliest burial date in the cemetery and occurred in the same month the trustees of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church purchased the land and established the cemetery, September 1840.
On the tombstone of Thomas Ellison is the birthdate of 23 July 1794. Research reveals this to be the earliest birthdate yet discovered in Union Campground Cemetery.

Genealogy furnished by: Ray Ellison, 1769 W. Colonial Street, Anaheim CA 92804
Ray is a descendant of Alexander Ellison.

OUR SYMPATHY
TO THE FAMILIES OF

Leonard A. Adams
B: 12/28/1910  D: 11/16/1997
Services held at 1:00 P.M.
Nov. 20, 1997 at Greenlawn
Funeral Home North with
interment at Greenlawn
Memorial Gardens, Spfd., MO.

Burnie Howard Huff
Services held at 1:00 P.M.
Jan. 7, 1998 at the Fair
Grove United Methodist
Church with interment at
Cedar Bluff Cemetery,
Greene County, MO.

TREASURER'S REPORT
April 1, 1998

Balance, August 1, 1997............................. $ 947.39
Receipts:
Membership dues...............$ 85.00
Sign Rental.................... 150.00
Donations...................... 100.00
Total Receipts.......................... 335.00
Total Balance and Receipts................. $1,282.39

Disbursements:
Newsletter expense........... 42.89
Safety Box Rental.............. 15.00
Insurance...................... 141.00
Total Disbursements............. 198.89
Balance, April 1, 1998................. $1,083.50

Cover Page of Newsletter
designed by
Elaine & James Mott

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