NOTICE
SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING AND PICNIC
Saturday, May 22, 1999
11:30 A.M.

4473 E. Farm Road 74
Springfield, Missouri

The Chandler family has once again invited us to their farm for our picnic and annual meeting. Directions to the farm are given below. We hope you will be able to join us and perhaps bring along interested friends and neighbors.

The meat will be furnished as well as iced tea, coffee, bread and soft drinks. Picnic supplies will be available. You are asked to furnish a salad or vegetable or dessert.

Membership dues will be collected at the meeting ($10.00 per person). Checks should be made to Union Campground Cemetery Association.

Board members are requested to be at Vera's by 10:00 A.M. for a brief meeting. We should be finished in time for the picnic.

PROGRAM
Immediately following the picnic, Ralph Leeson and THE OLD STUFF trio will entertain us with gospel music.
A MOMENT IN HISTORY
The Bedell Family

As you walk near the western edge of Union Campground Cemetery, you will notice several old tombstones bearing the name BEDELL. Inscriptions on the stones are as follows:

Mary Bedell
B: 14 Nov. 1851
D: 2 Sept. 1920

Nathan Bedell
B: 12 Jan. 1843
D: 27 Apr. 1912
Father

Harry Bedell
B: ----
D: 5 Dec. 1908

Quoting from an article written by Ora Elizabeth Logan for Ozark'kin, Vol. V, No. 1 (Spring 1983), the following account is given for the White Bedell family and the Black Bedell family (portions have been omitted because space is limited):

"David Hudson Bedell (a White man) and his father, David Bedell, arrived in Greene County, Missouri in January 1834. David Bedell had been a soldier in the Revolutionary War. They came by covered wagon from Baird's Forge in Burke County, North Carolina and settled in the vicinity of Ebenezer, about 10 miles north of Springfield. The wife of David Hudson Bedell was Marina Wallis, whose family also settled in that area. The Bedell and Wallis families homesteaded many acres north of, and including, Crystal Cave, and became prosperous farmers.

"Leanah Bedell, a slave, accompanied the Bedells to Missouri. Leanah was thought to have been born the latter part of 1818 in North Carolina. She had nine children (one of the nine was Nathan, listed above as buried in Union Campground Cemetery). The slave children of Leanah were given the surname 'BEDELL,' as it was customary for slaves to have the name of their masters.

"As the Black children grew, they farmed and worked alongside the White Bedell and Wallis families and became a close-knit unit. The group built a log church (Old Salem Methodist) and both Black and White worshipped together.

"Following the death of David Hudson Bedell, sometime in 1860, the Bedells found it necessary to divide their property, including slaves. The family members decided to sell the slaves within the family to keep them together, with the exception of Julia, who was sold and shipped to Texas...

"Details of the slave sale are as follows: Marina Bedell, widow of said David H. Bedell, chose to take as her dower slaves Leanah and Nathan, at their valuation, being $1,500.00, leaving a balance of $5,850.00 to be divided among the heirs... (other names of slaves were listed).
"There are numerous descendants of Leanah Bedell's children, and after five generations many of them continue to live in Springfield. The Bedells are all hardworking and industrious people, many working all their employed years for the Frisco Railroad. Many have excelled in education and music."

In November 1994 an interview was conducted with Mrs. Beulah Benton Bedell Beller of Springfield, Missouri. Her daughter, Kay Witherspoon, was also present. The interview was conducted by Jean Gaffga Rayl, member of the Greene County Historical Society.

Mrs. Beller had in her possession a family tree of the White Bedell family dating back to Colonial America. Recorded on this family tree the name of Nathan Bedell occurs on a listing of slaves, with birth date of January 12, 1843. According to Mrs. Beller, the land owned by the White Bedells was located in Township 30, a few miles north of Union Campground Cemetery. Many of the White Bedells are buried in New Salem Cemetery.

Genealogy furnished by: Mrs. Ora Elizabeth Logan, Great Granddaughter of George and Eliza (Bedell) Crittenden. Excerpts from Ozar'kin Vol. V. No. 1, published by the Ozarks Genealogical Society.

THE SEARCH FOR BURIAL RECORDS

Permanent burial records cannot be found for Union Campground Cemetery. If such records were kept in the old Cumberland Presbyterian Church, then the records were destroyed by fire. If burial records were kept by an individual, we have yet to find the name of the individual.

Several funeral homes in Springfield, Missouri were asked about long-ago burial practices in Greene County. They all said most old cemeteries did not keep official records and were not required to file reports with any agency. When deaths occurred in a community, graves were prepared by neighbors or by close relatives.

Only recently was an affidavit discovered verifying a death in the Dulin family (affidavit was dated Feb. 1866 with burial in Union Campground). A notation had been made at the bottom of the document to the effect, "No public records were kept at that time of death in that community."
CONGRATULATIONS!

On Saturday, December 12, 1998, Bernie Stiver was united in marriage to Reba Blair. The wedding was held in Bernie's home with members of the immediate family in attendance. The ceremony was conducted by Dr. Dan Stiver, Bernie's son. We wish Reba and Bernie many years of happiness and contentment.

Bernie is a charter member of our association and has been very active in the restoration of Union Campground Cemetery.

TREASURER'S REPORT
UNION CAMPGROUND CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
April 10, 1999

Balance, September 10, 1998..........................$1,662.63
Receipts:
  Membership Dues..................$10.00
Total Receipts..........................10.00
TOTAL BALANCE & RECEIPTS..........................$1,672.63

Disbursements:
  Newsletter expenses...........$ 61.69
  Attorney fee.................. 12.50
  Bank box fee................. 15.00
  Insurance..................... 140.00
Total Disbursements.............................229.19

BALANCE, APRIL 10, 1999..........................$1,443.44

Prepared by:
Pansy Harvey
Treasurer