



# Miller County Historical Society

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## CHILI LUNCH & VINTAGE CAR DISPLAY

Our annual **chili lunch and vintage car display** will take place on Saturday, October 19, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Music will be provided by the Joe Jeffries group. Larry Flaughner will be coordinating the classic car event. The show cars will be parked in the county courthouse parking lot, allowing visitors with special needs to park close to the museum building.

A lunch of chili, dessert and drinks will be offered for \$5.00/person. There will also be drawings for a “50-50 pot” and for the beautiful quilt made by Elva Steen. Tickets for both drawings are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.00. You need not be present to win.

***Hope to see you there!***

## OUR “WINDOW TO THE PAST”

Sadly, Miller County history has lost one of its most prolific contributors with the passing of Peggy Smith Hake on June 25, 2013. A charter member of the Miller County Historical Society, Peggy devoted many hours to that organization and to contributing volumes of written information about the history of Miller County and its people.

Her weekly column “*Windows to the Past*”, her newsletter “*Seeking ‘n Searching Ancestors*”; and her three books, **Iberia Academy and the Town, Its History**; **Pioneer Families of Miller County, Missouri**; and **They Left a Legacy** were the direct result of her passionate research to discover her past and to help others do the same.

Peggy’s smiling face and contagious enthusiasm for the history of Miller County will certainly be missed!



**Peggy Smith Hake**  
**10 August 1935—25 June 2013**

## RISING FROM THE ASHES

Disbelief and shock spread throughout Miller County as we received word that a fire had destroyed the historic “Wells House” on Highway 17. Some may not know it by that name as it has had several owners over the years, but the house was built by J.R. Wells, the first president of Anchor Milling Company in 1889.

You could not drive down Highway 17 without looking off to see the majestic three story landmark, which stood against the sloping green hillside.

Rising out of the ashes to everyone’s joy is a beautiful new house with many of the same landmark features that we saw in the original house. Owners, Glen and Vicky Andersen, say the design for the new home started with a photo that Vicky found. Glen took the photo and added a third floor and other features for the floor plans of their new home. When asked about the design, Glen stated that everyone had been so good to them after the fire, they wanted to build something the community would be proud of. Well done, Andersens!



### Judge Jenkins’ History of Miller County

Over the years we have had many requests for copies of Judge Jenkins books, **The History of Miller County, Volumes I & II**. As you know, these books have been out of print for a number of years and are no longer available unless you can find one for sale by an individual.

We are pleased to announce that the heirs of Clyde Lee Jenkins have graciously given us permission to share those books with you on our website <[www.millercountymuseum.org](http://www.millercountymuseum.org)>. We will be posting them in small installments for your reading and research pleasure.

Thank you Pauline, Clayton and Leila! We are very grateful to all of you for sharing your father’s legacy.

## THE ST. LOUIS NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER

On July 12, 1973, the top floor of the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) in St. Louis was destroyed by fire, resulting in the loss of millions of military records. Because of these losses researchers and veterans have, in the past, been forced to use alternative sources as references for military service.

Today the NPRC has a new facility and restoration of damaged records is underway. If you have written for records in the past and were told that the requested records were "lost", it is possible they could have resurfaced or may do so in the future. It might be beneficial to request those records again.

Record requests can take anywhere from two hours to six months. Requests regarding medical benefits or that are death-bed related receive top priority. Social Security benefits and other types of requests are next in priority. Genealogy and medal research requests receive the least priority.

As of 2004, records that are 62 years past the date of final separation from the military are archived and become available to the public. Access to records less than 62 years past the date of final separation from the military are restricted under the Freedom of Information Act to the veteran or his/her immediate next-of-kin.

Send your requests for military personnel records from 1917 until the present to NPRC, 1 Archives Drive, St. Louis, MO 63138

### This 'N That

- Several board members & "Monday" volunteers visited the Moniteau County museum for a day of exchanging ideas.
- Our ice cream social on July 20th was well attended and we were once again entertained by Joe Jeffries and his talented group.
- A database of Vietnam casualties can be found online at <[www.coffeltdatabase.org](http://www.coffeltdatabase.org)>
- We were pleased to have the Eldon Red Hatters visit the museum on September 9th.
- Please let us know if you would prefer to receive your newsletter by e-mail.

Museum hours are  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday  
10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Contributions & Memorials

Miller County Historical Society:	Peggy Smith Hake, John & Megan Pryor
Life Memberships:	Joyce Mace, Gail Young, John Stuart Fryer
MCHS Foundation Inc:	William & Geralene Harvey, Cynthia Worthington
In Memory of Peggy Smith Hake:	Joe & Judy Pryor, Lois Webb, Ialeen Duncan
In Memory of Sherril Steen:	Rex & Marilyn Whitaker, Jack & Doris Wiggins
In Memory of Sylvia Ramsey Long:	Lois Webb, Judy Wydick

Annual memberships are renewable in January of each calendar year. You can show your support for our organization and museum by filling out the application below and sending it, along with your payment, to the address shown.

Miller County Historical Society  
Membership Registration

*Please fill in the form and mark your membership choice below*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual membership—\$10  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Family membership—\$15  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Individual lifetime membership—\$50  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Institutional Sustaining Members—\$15 per organization

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Visit our web site:  
<http://millercountymuseum.org>

*Thank you for your  
 continued support*