



Miller County Historical Society

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COMING EVENTS

APRIL 24, 2022—GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING—The Miller County Historical Society annual membership meeting will be held at **1:00 on Sunday, April 24th** at the museum. All members are encouraged to attend. If you are not a member but would like to join, please complete the form found on page four of this newsletter and mail it to the museum. We appreciate your support!

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2022 & MONDAY, MAY 9, 2022—DOCENT TRAINING - 10:00 a.m -12:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help staff the Museum any Monday, Wednesday, Friday, or Saturday from May through October. There will be a Board Member present each day, but one person is often not enough help. Duties will include welcoming visitors and being available for visitors' comments and questions as they move through the exhibits.

MAY 21, 2022—OPENING DAY— The museum will be opening for the 2022 season on Saturday, May 21, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Masks will be available but not mandatory. The museum will be closed on Memorial day, 4th of July and Labor day. There is no admission fee, but donations are greatly appreciated. We would love to have you stop by for a tour of the exhibits or to research your Miller County family history.

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

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Miller County Historical Society Officers and Board Members

President:	Bill Weidinger	Gary Carrender	Board Member
Vice President:	Cindy Hart	Greg Keeth	Board Member
Secretary:	Peggy Thompson	David Herren	Board Member
Treasurer:	Betty Kallenbach	Mike Wood	Board Member
Museum Director:	Karen Smith	Connie Prather	Board Member
Endowment Chair Person:	Judy Pryor	Carl Kemna	Board Member
		Cathy DeGraffenreid	Board Member

ALLEN SCHOOL EARLY 1900'S



Bottom row: Oscar Durham, Roy Allen, Alf Clark, Agnes Allen, Edna Durham, Ethel Evans, Anna Groff and Minnie Groff.

Second row: Myrtle Irwin, Minnie Hughes, Chester Groff, Emmett Allen, Hannah Hughes and Tilford Evans.

Third row: George Whalen, Ben Groff, Rosa Durham, Maude Cramer, Emery Robertson and George Irwin.

Fourth Row: M. Marchant, Anna Marchant, Ella Whalen, Edith Irwin, Belle Allen and M. Topping

The first school built near the Iberia community was located about one mile east of Iberia on the old Iberia-Dixon Road, also known as the Iberia-Big Piney Road. On January 29, 1870, Elias and Mary (Gardner) Allen, natives of Barren County, Kentucky, sold a half acre of land to the township board of education of District #3 for the total of \$1.00. It was named Allen School in their honor.

Some of the early students who attended the Allen school were from the families of Allen, Durham, Clark, Evans, Groff, Irwin, Hughes, Whalen, Cramer, Robertson, Dickerson, and Marchant.

THIS 'N THAT

- 1971 Missouri death certificates are now online at <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/records/archives/archivesmvc/deathcertificates#searchDB>
- The 1950 Federal Census will go online April 2, 2022. It may be a few weeks before it is indexed to search by name but you should be able to search by state, county, and enumeration district. familysearch.org, <https://www.archives.gov/research/census>
- Most of the indigenous people who once inhabited land in Missouri were forced to leave and resettle in Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma, Nebraska, and Kansas) during the Indian Removal Act of 1830. This LibGuide presents an overview of where to find information regarding the original seven nations of Missouri. libguides.jeffco.edu/missouritribes

Fled from Callaway to Miller County in Year 1832 to Escape the Cholera Plague

Many interesting stories are told by our older citizens when they can be persuaded to become talkative. John Pickering, who lives four miles south of Tusculumbia on State highway 17, comes of an old French family which settled at Cote Sans Dessein, Callaway county, in an early day.

The settlement was begun in the early part of the 19th century, in the year 1808 to be exact. It is in Callaway county on the Missouri river and is now known as Barkersville. The original name was given to the isolated hill 600 yards long and very narrow, standing in the river bottom and is what we would call a "lost" hill. It suggests that some natural convulsion has separated it from the Osage bluffs on the opposite side of the river.

In 1812 the little settlement was attacked by the Indians and a protracted siege was withstood by Baptiste Louis Roi, together with two men and two women.

That is the place where our story starts. It was from this settlement that Baptiste Denoya, the great grandfather of Pickering, Baptiste Roi, perhaps, and other Frenchmen of the settlement would come, paddling their canoes up the Osage river in search of wild game, such as the deer and turkey. In the fall they would lay in a supply of venison and turkey for the winter as game was not so plentiful in Callaway. After their extended hunt in the Osage hills they would start homeward. Denoya was a fiddler of some ability, and the other men would dance while Denoya would furnish the music. In those days every family had a little brandy handy, and these Frenchmen were no exception.

With a little brandy, the fiddle music and the dancing, those early settlers livened these hunts.

Then there came a time of distress and apprehension at Cote Sans Dessein. A cholera plague broke out in Callaway, Baptiste Denoya and his family and others, numbering twelve in all, fled from the settlement to escape the epidemic. They came in their canoes, paddling up the Osage river. They stopped at the mouth of Bois Bruhle creek, another place named by the French. Margaret Denoya (who later married a Roi), was the grandmother of Pickering, and a daughter of Baptiste. She was born in 1816, and was 16 years old when her father landed at Bois Bruhle.

Grief came to the family here when a son of Baptiste died. A settlement in those days took in several miles of territory, and there was only one family (Clark) in the whole neighborhood. There were no burial supplies; not even a coffin to be had. It was decided to bury the boy on the hill overlooking the Osage river and the creek. A grave was prepared, and puncheon, hewn from logs, were prepared and set up edge-wise in the bottom of the grave, one on either side of the excavation. The body was wrapped in a winding sheet, then lowered into the grave. Then another puncheon was placed over the body and the grave filled with earth.

Civilization has wrought many changes, but we have to admire the tenacity and hardihood of those early pioneers who braved the wilds and blazed the trail for those who later came to make their homes in the Osage valley.

D O N A T I O N S

Donations	William & Linda Giddings, Lynn Morrow, Marilyn Bosso, Michael & Nancy Carroll, William & Judy Kallenbach, Phil & Susan Wright, Bill Weidinger, Pauline Meehan
In Memory of Joe Pryor	Bruce & Sandy James
In Memory of Doris Wyrick	Jody Newman
In Memory of Dr. J.D. Blackburn	Brice & Betty Kallenbach, James Blackburn Family, Timothy & Amy Hadfield
Life Memberships	Travis Smith, Tory Smith

As always we are grateful for your generosity and support. Thank you!

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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 Ph: (573) 369-3500 email: millercountymuseum@att.net

Internet provided by:

Socket[®]

www.socket.net
1-800-SOCKET-3

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

*Thank you for your
continued support*