

# The Heritage News

Issue 11

Jefferson Heritage and Landmark

May, 1995

President	Becky Gagnon
Vice President	Glee Heiligtag-Naes
Treasurer	Betty Olson
Secretary	Lisa K. Thompson
Editor	Lisa K. Thompson

Jefferson Heritage & Landmark Society met Sunday, March 19 at Jefferson College. Mr. Jim Duncan presented a very interesting program on early French traders and their dealings with the Indians and settlers.

After a coffee and cookie break, the annual business meeting was held. Board members Della Lang, Frank Magre, Lisa Thompson, and Catherine Crawford whose terms were expiring, were re-elected.

Following the business meeting, the board members met to elect new officers. They are as follows; President, Becky Gagnon; Vice President, Glee Heiligtag Naes; Treasurer, Betty Olson; Secretary, Lisa K. Thompson. New by-laws were also adopted. The board will meet again on June 6 to discuss the future direction of the organization and ideas for projects and meetings.

Jefferson Heritage and Landmark Society is dedicated to the preservation of county history. We welcome those who may be interested to become members of the society. Annual dues are \$10 and may be sent to Mrs. Betty Olson, Treasurer, 721 W. Kelly St. DeSoto, MO 63020.

Jefferson Heritage and Landmark is continuing an ongoing search for old cemeteries located in the county which have not been previously recorded. A master list of these cemeteries is held at the DeSoto Library. The listing gives the location of the cemetery and the names and dates of birth &/or death of those who are buried there. It is very important to record these cemeteries as more are lost or destroyed each year. These records help greatly in family research. If you know of an old family plot or cemetery that you suspect may not have been recorded, or you would be willing to help record these cemeteries, please contact Lisa K. Thompson at 937-7990. Your help will be greatly appreciated!

## The Civil War

The Civil War in Missouri had many faces. There were grand battles of thousands of men, but mostly there were small fights between individuals or groups. These clashes and skirmishes probably gained no territory, changed no hearts, and won or lost little, but were important nevertheless.

Sixty percent of Missouri's men marched off to fight for one side or the other. Of the 110,000 men who fought for the North, 14,000 never came back. The Confederate's lot was even harder. Some 30 to 40 thousand men donned Confederate gray and one of every six died. Few states paid a heavier price than Missouri.

Jefferson County was not one of the areas in which large scale battles took place, but there were several occurrences which gave the people of the county alarm.

On September 27, 1864, Major General Sterling Price is credited with "winning" the Battle of Pilot Knob. The question then arose as to whether he would advance to attack St. Louis, or as it turned out, turn west. The answer was not evident to the forces of Major General W.S. Rosecrans, commanding officer in St. Louis. The following dispatches to and from the commander show the uncertainty which reigned and a portion of Jefferson county's involvement in the war.

### Jefferson Barracks, Sept. 27, 1864

Colonel Du Bois: Please send forward the cavalry to DeSoto as rapidly as possible. Colonel Catherwood reported to me at this point this morning, and will move on to DeSoto. A.J. Smith, Major General

### Saint Louis, Sept. 29, 1864, 12 noon

Maj. Gen. A.J. Smith: Your dispatch received. We heard you intended to fight the enemy this morning. Please send up a train with the arms and ammunition sent to DeSoto to await Ewing's orders. Let a non-commissioned officer come with them, with orders to see them deposited at the railroad depot and report in person to Brig. Gen. E. Anson More, State headquarters. What news from the front? Please have all preparations made for a move. Three thousand Illinoisians will arrive today.

W.S. Rosecrans, Major General  
(cont. on back)

## The Aftermath of War

By: Della Lang

The citizens of Jefferson County, like the rest of Missourians, were divided in their loyalties when the Civil War began. Most people hoped they could simply keep peace in the county and preserve the Union through compromise, but their hopes were quickly diminished. Ultimately, neighbors clashed with neighbors, former friends became enemies and church congregations divided.

There were no large battles fought within the borders of Jefferson County, but many small skirmishes throughout the war years. The aftermath of the war caused a bitterness and hatred that took at least a hundred years to heal.

Following the war, Missouri was the first of the slave states to free its slaves. Conservative Union men in Missouri favored gradual emancipation, but the Radical Union group wanted slavery ended at once.

The Radicals won the 1864 election and gained control of Missouri's 1865 Constitutional Convention. On January 11, 1865, the Convention issued a proclamation declaring that "*hereafter in this state, there shall neither be slavery nor involuntary servitude, except in punishment of crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, and all persons held to service or labor as slaves are hereby declared free.*" Governor Thomas C. Fletcher, of DeSoto, Jefferson Co., Missouri, signed the proclamation immediately, making Missouri the first slave state to officially renounce slavery.

Although the new constitution promoted education in the state of Missouri, it also required the infamous "iron clad" oath which prevented former southern sympathizers from voting or holding certain jobs within the state. The new oath not only required allegiance to the Union from that day forward, but applied to all citizens who had ever taken up arms against the United States, or had ever sympathized with anyone who had.

Those who refused to take the oath, lost the right to vote in all elections, and in many cases also lost the right to teach, preach, and practice law or medicine. Any person attempting to preach or teach without passing the test oath could be fined not less than 500 dollars, or committed to prison for not less than six months, or both. If they lied under oath, they could be tried for perjury and imprisoned. The Oath of Loyalty was repealed in 1870.

## The Oath of Loyalty

Prescribed by

### The Constitution, Adopted in 1865

*I \_\_\_\_\_ do solemnly swear, that I am well acquainted with the terms of the third section of the second Article of the Constitution of the State of Missouri, adopted in the year eighteen hundred and sixty five, and have carefully considered the same: that I have never, directly or indirectly, done any of the acts in said section specified: that I have always been duly and loyally on the side of the United States against all enemies thereof, foreign and domestic: that I will bear one faith and allegiance to the United States, and will support the Constitution and laws thereof, as the supreme law of the land, any law or ordinance of any state to the contrary notwithstanding: that I will to the best of my ability, protect and defend the Union of the United States, and not allow the same to be broken up and dissolved, or the government thereof to be destroyed or overthrown, under any circumstances, if in my power to prevent it: that I will support the Constitution of the State of Missouri: and that I make this oath without any mental reservation or evasion, and hold it to be binding on me.*

The convention had agreed to submit the new Constitution to a vote of the people, but to insure its passage, they declared that no one be allowed to vote unless they took the oath. The oath prevented at least one-third of the Missouri citizens from casting their vote, but even with that "ace in the hole," the Constitution passed by a very slim margin - a mere 1800 votes.

The following list from *The Leader* gives the names of Jefferson County men who were rejected in 1866 under the Loyalty Oath Act, or for other unspecified reasons:

**Rock Township** - Meinrad Riebold and Francis Jackson.

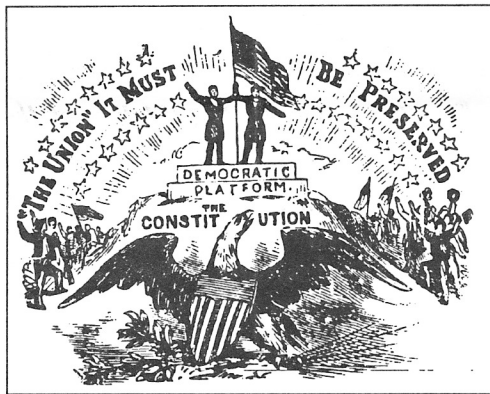
**Joachim Township** - W.J. Null, T.A. Null, J.W. Null Junior, Josiah Null, James B. Gamel, G.W. Salsman, P.H. Beeren, John Herrington.

**Central Township** - Dilly Husky, E.F. Honey, Jas. P. Hesser. Others listed as "objected to:" John L. Thomas, Abner Green, Jas. J. Williams, Isham Williams, Jas. Col's Power, R.T. Cook, Jas. Barclay, Andrew Huskey, John Carver, John Carver, John Shelton, C.W.S. Vinyard, Marian Johnson, Alvin Wilson, W.A. Hensley, Martin Husky, G.J. Johnson.

**Big River Township** - W. Gibson, Ezikel Withett, S. Pounds, C. Frost, W. Mothershead Jr., G. Davis, M. Williams, T. Johnson, J.R. Thomas, Jacob Wilson, Alfred Williams, Isam Williams, E. Pardney, M. McKee, J.P. Lee, Wm. McKay, Samuel Wiley, James A. Wilson, J.O. Wideman, J.A. Wideman, W.P. Williams, A.A. Rodgers, C. Johnston, J.J. Carrow.

**Valle Township** - C. Herbert, John F. Perkins, Joshua Cape, W.G. Walker, John Cole, Asa Stephens, John Moon, S. Cole, William Smith, W. Holman, Eli Donnell, W. Williams.

☞ Union men - if you do not register, you can not vote.



### The Exemption Act of 1863

Under an Act passed on March 9, 1863 during the midst of the Civil War, all men over the age of eighteen were required to enroll in the Missouri militia forces or pay an assessment which would help to fund the local militias. To qualify for the exemption from service, men were required to pay a 1% tax on the real value of their property, plus a \$30 flat tax. For a variety of reasons many Jefferson County men chose to pay the assessment, rather than to serve at that time. Some men were obviously too old to serve, some believed the war was unconstitutional, and others sympathized with the south.

Lieutenant John Vineyard acted as the Jefferson County Commissary of Exemption's. He was

responsible for collecting the taxes and keeping the records. Since the record for the first year is more than six pages long, we are only listing those who were named as "Southern Sympathizers." It is impossible to determine if this was an admission on the part of the men involved, or if this was simply an opinion expressed by the Lieutenant. Following each name is the age, township of residence, and taxes paid. If they did not own property, they paid the \$30 flat tax. (The original documents are on file at the Archives in Jefferson City.)

- Bage, Samuel, 37, Joachim, \$35.00
- Byrd, L.K., 24, Platen, \$32.15
- Blue, John, 19, Platen, \$30.00
- Byrd, G.W., 19, \$30.00
- Berry, James W., 23, Platen, \$30.00
- Byrns, Wm. C., 36, Merrimac, \$32.60
- Baile, Henry, 20, Merrimac, \$30.00
- Bailie, James, 27, Merrimac, \$30.40
- Buren, Jno. Y., 33, Joachim, \$39.80
- Brown, Thomas, 29, Big River, \$35.00
- Ede, Henry, 25, Rock, \$30.00
- Frazier, Jno., 22, Platen, \$30.40
- Frazier, Samuel, 23, Platen, \$36.85
- Frazier, Julian, 29, no res. given, \$30.00
- Frost, Geo. E., 37, Big River, \$42.10
- Gamel, Jno. H., 26, Joachim, \$30.85
- Hensley, A.W., 24, Joachim, \$30.40
- Hensley, J.M., 28, Joachim, \$36.45
- Hensley, James O., 29, Joachim, \$30.00
- Hendrickson, Wm., 30, Joachim, \$30.00
- Kyle, Simeon, 30, Merrimac, \$31.95
- Lee, Oliver H., 21, Big River, \$30.00
- Lee, O.F., 31, 31, Hemetite, \$36.55
- McCormack, Geo., 22, Platen, \$30.60
- McCormack, Geo. W., 24, Platen, \$34.30
- McCormack, Hardy, 19, Platen, \$30.00
- McCormack, Jno., 26, Merrimac, \$30.85
- McCormack, P.A., 25, Platen, \$30.50
- McCormack, Wats, 25, Platen, \$30.50
- McCormack, Wm. S., 26, Platen, \$35.45
- McClain, J.T., 24, Platen, \$31.75
- Martin, S.D., 18, Big River, \$30.00
- Medley, Lee, 24, Platen, \$30.00
- Medley, James A., 36, Merrimac, \$30.00
- Moren, Thomas, 67, Merrimac, \$37.40
- Moran, Edw., 30, Merrimac, \$34.25
- Null, W.J., 26, Joachim, \$30.60
- Null, Thomas A., 24, Joachim, \$30.00
- Noce, Anthony, 27, Platen, \$31.10
- Null, F.A., 19, Joachim, \$30.00
- O'Brien, Michael, 20, Merrimac, \$30.00

O'Brien, Orren, 18, Merrimac, \$30.00  
 O'Brien, Peter, 22, Merrimac, \$30.00  
 Pension, Lud. C., 22, Platen, \$32.15  
 Porter, Jas. W., 20, Platen, \$30.50  
 Porter, R.J., 24, Platen, \$30.00  
 Ready, W.H., 25, Merrimac, \$30.50  
 Rowe, John, 35, Big River, \$32.55  
 Ramey, Wm., 31, Merrimac, \$30.00  
 Seals, J.C., 32, Platen, \$75.00  
 Sneyder, Chas., 50, Merrimac, \$30.00  
 Stroup, And., 32, Big River, \$30.25  
 Sale, Joseph, 29, Merrimac, \$39.95  
 Thompson, G.W., 19, Platen, \$30.00  
 Taylor, J.T., 34, Platen, \$31.50  
 Waggoner, J.H., Platen, \$30.00  
 Wiley, Jno., 27, Big River, \$30.00  
 Wilson, Robt., 35, Big River, \$40.00  
 Wideman, J.L., 23, Big River, \$30.00  
 Wideman, T.H., 24, Big River, \$32.00  
 Williams, Wilson, 56, Big River, \$31.00  
 Williams, A.S., 32, Central, \$31.10

Wm. S. Null  
 Wilton Senter  
 C.C. Fletcher  
 John Stubinger  
 James Hamel  
 J. Buxton  
 Alonzo Bell  
 F. Arnold  
 Reusin Gowan  
 W.H. Dodson  
 R. Hendrickson  
 Rudolph Haverstick  
 R.W. McMullin  
 Wash. Williarns  
 R. Wood  
 Alfred Richter  
 H. F. Ahlvers  
 Peter Williams  
 J.M. Jackson  
 W.J. Maness  
 Fred Brysdoff  
 F. Louck  
 Thos. Cook  
 J.N. Whitehead  
 J. Harmony  
 C.W. Nelson

B.F. Maness  
 P.N. Hunt  
 G.W. McFry  
 Landon S. Williams  
 Thomas McGee  
 John Schorr  
 James Davis  
 Anderson Russell  
 Pick Cross  
 Chas. Miller  
 Gust. Thumbolt  
 S.G. McGee  
 Herman Richter  
 John T. Huskey  
 John Gulley  
 John Hunt  
 D.F. McKee  
 D.A. Sullens  
 R.G. Whitehead  
 Geo. Scamman  
 Wm. Davis  
 John Rowe  
 \_\_\_ Lyon  
 R.E. Keeney  
 Elbert Ogle



There were no known Jefferson Co. newspapers printed during the Civil War. According to an article supplied by Della Lang; "The first newspaper published in Jefferson County was *The Herald*, which was established at DeSoto in 1859-60 by E.E. Furber, and published until the outbreak of the war caused its suspension." There are two possible reasons for its suspension, shortage of paper and supplies due to the war, or it was shut down by the Union Army for political purposes. (Furber may have been a Democrat.)

The next newspaper to publish in DeSoto was in 1869, and was politically Republican. The *Jefferson County Leader* began publishing at Hillsboro in 1866.

The following articles are from the *Jefferson Co. Leader*.

**Friday, August 10, 1866:**

The soldiers' meeting convened at the Court House on Monday evening. Lieut. John Williams was made chairman and Capt. E. Amor, secretary. The following ex-soldiers were appointed delegates to the convention which meets at St. Louis today:

E. Amor	John Williams
Herman Godkin	Henry Meires

and all other soldiers that indorse (sic) this call.

**September, 1866**

Members of the Radical Union citizens of Big River Township met on September 10, 1866 to elect delegates to the Radical Union Convention.

Willard Frissell was called to the chair and Zebulon Pritchett was elected secretary. The chairman explained the object of the meeting, whereupon Dr. Amandus Crull moved for appointment of a committee of three to draft resolutions expressive of the views of the Radical citizens of said township. The chairman appointed Dr. Crull, John Craig and H.E. Hyatt, said committee. During the absence of the committee, the following persons were elected delegates to the County Convention: C.L. Foster, Wesley Scaggs, G. Rogers, James Davis, Willard Frissell, W. Muse, R. Carter, W.A. Jackson, Florian Jenni, A. Crull, and A. Pritchett. For Justices of the Peace, E. Maness and F. Jennie were nominated, and for Constable, C.L. Foster.

The following is a list from *The Leader* of United States pensioners residing in 1884 in Jefferson county, Missouri, showing reasons why entitled thereto and the rate of pension per month.

Sophie Wunsch	Antonia	dependent mother \$8.00	
Charles Retting	Antonia	gun shot wound of left thigh	2.00
Adolph Kassel	Antonia	heart disease	12.00
Sarah Fulton	Avoca	widow	8.00
Anna Hamilton	Crystal City	widow	8.00
James H. Baldwin	DeSoto	gun shot wound of left thigh	8.00
Joseph Walther	DeSoto	wound of right arm	17.00
Susannah Maness	DeSoto	widow of 1812	8.00
Rhoda Lewis	DeSoto	dependent mother	8.00
Lucinda Gowan	DeSoto	widow of 1812	8.00
George Staetzel	DeSoto	gun shot wound of left shoulder	8.00
Charles W. Harmony	DeSoto	gun shot wound of right shoulder	4.00
Samuel Washburn	DeSoto	gun shot wound of right arm & hand	1.00
Michael Dickeman	DeSoto	gun shot wound of back	4.00
William Lorenz	DeSoto	gun shot wound in side	8.00
John C. Watt	DeSoto	Typhoid Fever	8.00
Michael Raymond	DeSoto	injury to abdomen	4.00
Letha J. Davis	DeSoto	widow	8.00
Margaret Rolf	Dittmers Store	widow	8.00
Charlotte Johnson	Dittmers Store	widow	8.00
Isaac E. Pounds	Frumet	chronic rheumatism	4.00
Armstrong O'Hara	Hematite	shell wound of head	4.00
Robert Richardson	Hematite	gun shot wound of left hand	2.00
Rebecca E. Tow	High Ridge	widow	8.00
Mary Enwright	High Ridge	widow	8.00
William Sipp	High Ridge	minor	10.00
Benjamin M. Lanham	Hillsborough	gun shot wound in left hip	2.00
John T. Huskey	Hillsborough	rheumatism	18.00
Dorothy Frazier	Hillsborough	dependent mother	8.00
Landon Z. Williams	Hillsborough	wound right forearm	8.00
Elvira Adams	Hillsborough	widow	8.00
Rebecca Dearing	Hillsborough	dependent mother	8.00
James J. Wilson Sr.	Hillsborough	disease of lungs	8.00
Joseph Burkhart	Hillsborough	gun shot wound of left arm	8.00
David Clifton	Hillsborough	minor	12.00
William C. Reif	Hillsborough	gun shot wound of head	2.00
Isaac M. Isley	Hillsborough	chronic bronchitis	6.00
Henry Kyle	House's Springs	disease of lungs	6.00
Seth Irwin	Kimmswick	gun shot wound in left breast	12.00
Margaret Reis	Kimmswick	dependent mother	8.00
Lucinda Wilburn	Kimmswick	widow	8.00
Catharine Haffner	Kimmswick	dependent mother	8.00
Fred Beyersdorf	Kimmswick	loss of left arm	18.00
Barbara Genelch	Maxville	dependent mother	8.00
Constantine Meyer	Maxville	gun shot wound left lower jaw	4.00
Newton Goff	Morse's Mill	chronic diarrhea & curv. of spine	12.00
Sarah L. Kane	Morse's Mill	widow	8.00
Margaret Hanoy	Morse's Mill	widow of 1812	8.00
Ellen Adams	Pevely	dependent mother	8.00
Patrick O'Loughlin	Pevely	injury of breast & head	4.00
Nancy Lavelly	Rush Tower	dependent mother	8.00
Reuben Waggener	Rush Tower	survivor of 1812	8.00
John Priester	Rush Tower	gun shot wound in right hand	6.00
Jane G. Brooks	Rush Tower	widow of 1812	8.00
Henry W. Meyer	Sandy Bridge	shell wound right leg	2.00
Arcady Lee	Sulphur Springs	widow	8.00
Lydia A. Franklin	Sulphur Springs	dependent mother	8.00
Philip R. Haverstick	Victoria	shell wound head & deaf	8.00
Andrew J. Dickerdorf	Victoria	affection of spine	8.00
Christopher Ruppel	Victoria		
Ira C. Bonnel	Victoria	injury to abdomen	18.00
Susan Perry	Vineland	widow	20.00

(cont from front)

**Jefferson Barracks, Sept. 29, 1864, 3:30 p.m.**

Major General Rosecrans: How soon will my brigade be relieved at Meramec Bridge? I ordered the arms and ammunition back from the bridge yesterday. Will inquire what has become of them. No special news from the front. Cavalry left Pevely about 3 p.m. Report says rebels are coming into Pevely on the Farmington Road.

A.J. Smith, Major General

**Saint Louis, Sept. 30, 1864, 5 p.m.**

Major General Rosecrans: A guarded train has been to DeSoto today. All quiet and undisturbed to that place. Private citizens have walked up on the road track from the Knob and report three bridges and two or three water and station houses burned, leaving Irondale Thursday morning. I respectfully ask permission to run a reconnoitering train with military guard down the road as far as first burnt bridge as soon as practicable, and if not incompatible with demands for troops in other quarters that Colonel Rankin's Jefferson County's militia may be distributed on the bridges north of Mineral Point.

S. D. Barlow

Jefferson Heritage and Landmark Society  
Editor Lisa K. Thompson  
c/o Becky Gagnon  
6413 Reynolds Creek Rd.  
Hillsboro, MO 63050

**Jefferson Barracks, Oct. 1, 1864,**

General Rosecrans: Shall I order the cavalry to return to the Hillsborough road crossing of the Meramec?

A.J. Smith, Major General

**Saint Louis, MO., Oct. 1, 1864**

Major General Smith, Jefferson Barracks: Order them to connect your headquarters with the headquarters of the cavalry advance. The cavalry must of course extend their surveillance over and command the Gravois road leading to Hillsborough.

W.S. Rosecrans, Major General



DESOTO LIBRARY  
712 S. MAIN  
DESOTO, MO

63020