



Miller County Historical Society

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**CHILI SUPPER AND CAR SHOW
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9**

Where has the summer gone?! It seems like only yesterday that we held open house to begin our museum season. Now it is time for our traditional chili supper and vintage car display, marking the official end to this year's season.

Jack Brumley and his crew will coordinate the car show and Connie Prather is in charge of the kitchen. We will begin serving at 11 a.m. and tickets are still just \$5.

Entertainment will be provided by Joe Jeffries beginning at 12:00 and we will draw for our raffle quilt about mid-afternoon. Quilt tickets are 6 for \$5 and will be available at the door.

It's a fun event and we hope you'll come join us!



Karen Smith captured this great photograph of the old bridge at the moment of implosion

A SPECIAL PIECE OF HISTORY

For those of us who were able to participate in the events surrounding the opening of our new Osage River bridge, it was exciting to be part of history in the making, beginning with construction to dedication, parade, picnic and implosion.

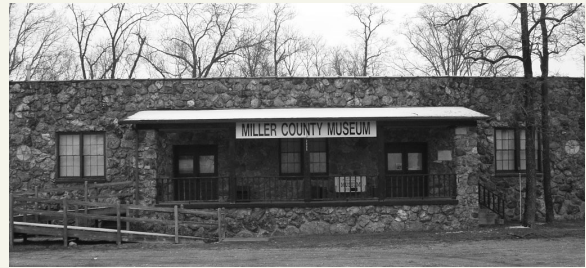
MODOT donated the original plaques from the bridge and thanks to the tenacious efforts of

Tommy Snodgrass, we also have several pieces of the bridge itself. Dianne Berkbigler is assembling all these mementos and will be working over the winter to create a full display featuring the bridges of Miller County. This will be ready for our spring opening and located in the lower level of the new addition that has evolved into our "transportation exhibit".

MUSEUM ENJOYS FORWARD MOMENTUM

While foot-traffic through the museum has been a little slower this summer, possibly because of economic issues, our special events have been very well-attended. We appreciate the continued public support.

There does seem to be an upturn in attendance by first-time visitors and people coming to central Missouri specifically to see us. We have also had a noticeable increase in contacts from people outside of our area, making personal research inquiries. Because our library material is expanding, we've been in a better position to offer assistance.



We have been entrusted with a number of high-quality artifacts this year and appreciate the fact that we're gaining your respect as a repository for family and local history. It is very rewarding for those who have devoted their time and energies during this rebuilding period. Thank you for your confidence and support!

Copies of Dwight Weaver's latest book, "Historic Bagnell Dam Boulevard", are now available in the gift shop.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Carolyn Levell donated a framed copy of a 1912 soils map of Miller County. It not only shows the lay of the land but also identifies landmarks such as schools, churches, mines, etc. This is an excellent reference resource and we have it on the wall of the school room. Thank you, Carolyn, this is a great addition.

Stephen Barnhouse gave us a box of research files compiled by his father August Barnhouse, now deceased. August Barnhouse published several books about Miller County and we have copies of those in our research library. This additional material has been incorporated into our genealogy research files.

PRESERVING CEMETERY RECORDS

Carol Ebeler compiled a very thorough census of the St. Lawrence Cemetery, including a plat map showing the location of each burial. She recorded this, along with other biographical information on each individual, on a computer spreadsheet. We received a copy of these records and have added them to our research files. We also received copies of burial records for the Livingston Cemetery from Catherine Ponder and Phyllis Steen. Thank you all.

Keeping copies of these important records on file at the museum not only helps to insure the information will not be lost but also creates a valuable resource for researchers.

If any of you have these types of records at your disposal, please consider sharing a copy (in whatever format) with our library.



P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E

Last month the Miller County Historical Society participated in the new Osage River Bridge opening ceremony and celebration. I was very impressed by the degree to which the entire Miller County community worked together to make the occasion by many accounts one of the most successful public events our county has enjoyed. Some of the older people said it reminded them of the very elaborate celebration held in 1933 for the opening of the bridge we just replaced. The honorees who were first to cross the new bridge last month in the parade were selected based on the criterion

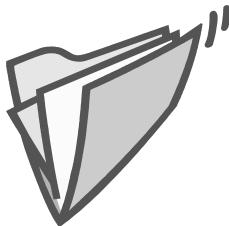
that they had crossed the old suspension bridge many years ago. We were careful to insure that these honored guests were residents of different areas of the county to ensure the entire county was represented. The Eldon High School provided its very excellent band to lead the parade. Financial support for the celebration at the Riverside Park truly was county wide. Many volunteers from both sides of the river came to help set up and take down the park displays as well as clean the park afterward. If you were not able to come to the area for the bridge opening refer to these websites from our Soci-

ety web page to view many excellent photos of the activities both the day of the celebration as well as a couple weeks later when the old bridge was imploded. See "Progress Notes" for August 23 and 30 and September 6 and 13 at www.millercountymuseum.org



**Joe Pryor,
our
President
And
Goodwill
Ambassador**

**W o r k R e s u m e s o n
P r o b a t e R e c o r d s**



Doris Wiggins and Betty Kallenbach have been working throughout the summer preparing folders to hold the second batch of probate records. We will resume a full preservation schedule on Monday, October 18. This is a huge project so we welcome any and all help...no

special skills required. Hours are 10-4 on Mondays throughout the winter. Come join us!

Last winter the Americorps volunteers gave us a hand and we are hopeful they will be available to help again.

Karen Smith and Jodie Newman have continued the more skilled work of preparing the first batch of files for microfilming. We've been in contact with John Korasick of the Missouri State Archives and hope to begin the filming process sometime this winter.

A B I G B o n u s !

As a result of the organizational skills of Larry Flaughter, the dedication of his energetic committee and the support of merchants and the community at large, the bridge dedication was carried off in grand style and was a special event that will long be remembered by the folks of Miller County.

The celebration was first class, came together smoothly and was well within budget. In fact, there was an appreciable sum remaining after all the bills were paid and the committee generously voted to donate these proceeds to the Miller County Historical Society. We certainly appreciate the unexpected revenue and are grateful to everyone who made it possible

The museum committee will be meeting later this month to determine where we can put this windfall to the best use. Thanks to everyone who made a contribution.

For those of you who pay your dues, annually, we are now accepting dues for 2011. We have noticed that some of you have begun sending your payments in the last few weeks and wanted to let you know they will be attributed to next year's membership.

The following people have made significant cash donations since our last newsletter. Thank you!

Don Pemberton, Cape Girardeau, MO

Lois Webb, Stillwell, KS

Sharron & Tom Wehage, Portland, OR

Joe & Judy Pryor, Sunrise Beach, MO

Will Lupardus & Whitney, Kroenke, Los Angeles, CA

William & Gerry Harvey, Indianapolis, IN

John Pryor, Amesbury, MA

Osage River Bridge Dedication Committee

See you at the chili supper!

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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<http://millercountymuseum.org>

*Thank you for your
Continued support*