

The Searcher

Garfield County Genealogists

January 2012

December Meeting

The December meeting was held in the multi-purpose room at Central Christian Church, and featured entertainment by the musical Stewart family. Their performance included a bell choir, singing, and a string quartet. Everyone in attendance enjoyed their wonderful show!



LEFT:
The Stewart
Family
String Quartet

RIGHT:
Maxine Shepard

BELOW LEFT:
The Stewart
Family
Bell Choir

BELOW RIGHT:
Food and
Fellowship



Following this was a presentation by Maxine Shepard, in which she gave a review on a new book, entitled "The Vanished Herd." This book, written by Jim Fulbright and Albert Stehno, is a history of the Cherokee Strip Cowpunchers' Association, and the cattlemen and drovers of early-day Oklahoma. Maxine's cowboy ancestors are included in this book, and she has met the authors.

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December Meeting - continued from Page One

A short business meeting was then held in which new officers were elected. Our officers for the year 2012 are: Harold Cooper, president; Beverly Evans, vice-president; Connie Hammond, parliamentarian; Marilyn Cooper, corresponding secretary; Verna Johns, recording secretary; and Peggy Lewis, treasurer.

After the meeting concluded, there was plenty of food and fellowship at the annual Christmas Tasting Party!

January Meeting

Be sure to watch your E-Mail for details about the upcoming meeting in January!

Searching and Researching

The internet has changed genealogy in important ways. The ability to start a search right in your own home, at any time that's convenient, has brought many new people into the hobby, and has made it into a big business. That is all good, but it has created a few problems, too.

Beginners think that they can find everything on the internet, and when they can find someone else's family tree posted that relates to their family, they often just accept that information as reliable. Too often, though, there could be an important mistake in someone's research that gets perpetuated when the next person accepts it as accurate. This calls for verification.

There have been many books published over the years on family lines, and most of these books have used credible sources for their information. If you are fortunate enough to be researching a family with a long history in the United States, you will probably be able to find a book about this family line, and possibly be able to tie your family in with it.

The Garfield County Genealogists has a collection of some of these books in the Public Library. Although some of them have disappeared, the remaining books are very interesting sources of important information. Try browsing through them sometime!

Membership Anniversaries

December: Rick Boggs
Paul Victor Farlow
(*New Member!!!*)

January: Glenn Downing
Margaret and Don Douglas
Betty and Don Herth

**LDS Family History Center**

Are you in need of a quiet place to work on your genealogy research, away from the distractions of the home or the outside world? Think about a visit to the LDS Family History Center.

LDS Family History Center
419 N Eisenhower
Enid, Oklahoma
Open Wednesdays, 12-6 P.M.
For an appointment, call Debbie Cox
(580) 747-4685

Bicycles, Books and Baseball

By Gene Heitfeld

Editor's Note: Having gone camping in October, 2010, the author was busy riding bicycles and reading books. Continued from the November and December issues....

Part Three—Baseball:

Our autumn camp-out was really enjoyable, just like we had hoped it would be. We were spending considerable time reading our books, and occasionally we would take a break to ride our bicycles around the park. There was a lot of nature to see, but no crowds of people, which is just how we like our get-a-ways to be. The only thing that was missing was a television, so that we could watch the World Series!

I know how silly it sounds to be worried about watching TV when camping, but this was the World Series, after all! It only happens once a year, and it is a tradition for us.

When I was young, the New York Yankees was the team that was in the news all of the time, and Mickey Mantle was the sensational player of the day. But the Yankees had always been popular, I guess. An older friend of the family used to tell about how wonderful Babe Ruth had been, marveling at "The Babe's" ability to point his bat at a section of the stands, and then hit the ball there!

I am still a Yankees fan, even though it is not popular to be one now, for some reason. In the recent era under the management of Joe Torre, the Yankees became the finest, most consistently interesting team in Major League Baseball, in my opinion. And, I also liked the St. Louis Cardinals under the management of Tony LaRussa. But even if one of my favorite teams is not playing in the World Series, I just like to watch it anyway, and pick a new favorite in that particular series. That is



what happened this time. The Texas Rangers were playing against the San Francisco Giants, and I just wanted to see them play.



We couldn't watch the game on TV, since our camping place was in a fairly remote area, but we decided to see if we could find a radio station that would be carrying the games. I wasn't too optimistic about that, because only a few stations came in there. But then I remembered back to the old days, when all

we had was AM radio, and how we could hear stations at night all the way from Chicago to Laredo. I gave it a try.

Sure enough, by waiting until near game time, I did find a station that was broadcasting the games with Rangers team announcers. We made ourselves comfortable, me with a snack and a bottle of beer, and Jeanette with her book, and we enjoyed the game.

In this age of television, I had forgotten the joy of listening to the announcers describe every moment, and every detail of the game. My imagination took over, and before I knew it, I was "watching" the game in full color! I could see every pitch, every hit, and every run. It was great!

When our camp-out came to an end, we realized that it had been one of our best. We had gotten to ride bicycles, read books, and watch the baseball World Series - three of the best things in life! Plus, we had been able to let our imaginations run free.

Imagination is a wonderful thing. Without it, life can become dull, and good ideas may never see the light of day. In this modern age, it seems to be neglected, deemed to be unimportant and irrelevant. But if we would exercise our imaginations, who knows what great new ideas we might have, and what wonderful things we might yet see!

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Baseball is an American tradition. This photo taken in early-day Enid is entitled, "Opening of the Base Ball Season Western Association- Enid, May 7, 1908." Photo courtesy of Lois Burdick.

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On the Web at: www.garfieldokgen.org