

# Northwest Missouri Genealogical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 382  
St. Joseph, Missouri 64502

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~monwmgs/index.htm>

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Vol. 27 No. 2

April/May/June 2006

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## Greetings from the Olympics by Dennis Nutting

The Olympics are finally here.

I know, most of you say "**Big deal, the Olympics**". However, when the Olympic flame is visible out your window, and you know your community has worked for many many years to prepare for this day, it is a big deal, especially to this boy from Missouri.

My family and I left St. Joseph in 2000 and moved to Torino, Italy. We knew then that in 2006 the Olympics would descend upon this city. We had no idea we would still be here, but here we are. The last few years have been filled with lots and lots of construction and roadwork. It seems every street in town was torn up and traffic, always a nightmare, was almost impossible. We told ourselves the temporary inconvenience would be worth it, and it was. Torino is ready for the games.

Surprisingly, tickets are easy to get but are very expensive. Tickets to the opening and closing ceremonies were 850 Euro (about \$1000.00) each. So, we watched on TV and out our window at the same time. The fireworks were fantastic. I did purchase tickets to speed skating, because they were inexpensive (\$65 each) and because we could basically walk from our house to the *Lingotto Oval*, where the races were held. We were fortunate to be there when the American Joey Cheek won the Gold Medal. It was very exciting, and a lot of fun. We sat with some other Americans from Wisconsin, some British, some Italians and some Hollanders from The Hague. It was exciting to see people from so many nations (we also saw Russians, Chinese, Japanese, Koreans, and more) all do the wave around the stadium together. Too bad the real world does not have such harmony and cooperation, but that is after all the point of the Olympics. Barbara Bush (daughter of the President) was also in the *Oval* that day, but we did not see her. (continued on page 13)

**Officers for 2005-2006**

- President.....Juanita Haskins
- Vice President.....John Hutchcraft
- Treasurer.....John Atkinson
- Recording Secretary.....Kenneth Cox
- Corresponding Secretary.....Phyllis Heath
- Past President.....Rose Hutchcraft
- Member at Large..... Dixie Painter
- Librarian.....Connie McCoy
- Asst. Librarian.....Phyllis Heath
- Membership.....Anita Thompson
- Publications.....Doloris Foster
- Publicity.....Rose and John Hutchcraft
- Journal Editor.....Anita Thompson
- Newsletter Editor.....Jo Mayse
- Program Chairman.....John Hutchcraft
- Internet Chairperson.....Charlene Miller

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**General Meetings:**

Fourth Thursday of April, June, September, and November at 7:00 PM

**Executive Meetings:**

Second Thursday of January, March, May, July, September, and November at 3:00 PM.

Both are held at the Genealogy Library, 412 Felix, St. Joseph, MO.

Society members are welcome to attend Board Meetings.  
Members and public are welcome at General Meetings.

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This newsletter is published four times a year by the Northwest Missouri Genealogical Society. It is a medium for the exchange of information between members. Readers are encouraged to submit articles. All contributions will be considered. Suggestions and criticisms are also welcome. Write: Northwest Missouri Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 382, St. Joseph, MO 64502, or phone (816)233-0524. The editors reserve the right to make editorial changes in manuscripts, which they believe will improve the material without altering the intended meaning. The opinions expressed in this periodical do not necessarily represent the view of the Northwest Missouri Genealogical society or its officers. Articles represent the author's opinions and ideas and do not necessarily have official sanction nor does inclusion here represent approval or recommendation.

## President's Corner

Isn't it good to see spring flowers and bushes blooming and the trees budding out with blossoms and greenery?

The library reopened March 1st and we have had people coming in daily to research. Most of our regular volunteers have been on hand to help them. The winter months was a time to rearrange some material, repair some, and just do things we don't have time for when we are open. Some of our volunteers work through those two months answering mail and taking care of the month to month things that go on even when we are closed.

The society has purchased a new printer on which to print the Newsletter and Journal. (Not for public use). In the long run, this will save the society the expense of having an outside company do it for us. The Journal that is coming out this month will be the first publication printed on it. In July the third edition of the 2006 Newsletter will be published using the new printer. Several of our younger volunteers are learning the ins and outs of how it works.

Also new in operation is the stair glide to the second floor where many of the Buchanan county records are stored. This will enable older volunteers and patrons to have an easier access to these records. It will come in handy to transport those big heavy tomes downstairs when copies are needed.

The general meeting is scheduled for April 27th. This is a dinner meeting, so plan to be here at 6:30 for dinner and then stay for the meeting at 7:00. Bring a covered dish and table service and the library will provide the meat, bread, and drinks. The society will elect a group of officers for the next two years and nominations will also be taken from the floor. Proposed officers to be elected are:

Corresponding Secretaries - Phyllis Heath and Dixie Painter

Treasurer - John Atkinson

Board Members at Large - Sarah Waugh and Carol Almanza

We will also have a speaker who will tell us about the old Civil War Fort Smith here in St Joseph. It is being restored by Civil War enthusiasts.

We continue to need more volunteers. If you are interested in helping out call Connie McCoy. She is usually at the library on Tuesday evenings. Volunteers are needed to help researchers and to do all kinds of typing jobs among other things. Some of the typing can be done at home.

We look forward to seeing you at the April meeting and/or at the library.

Juanita

## From the Librarian

With the arrival of March, the library has reopened for business. Our hours are 2 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday; 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday; 12 to 4 p.m. on the first and third Saturdays. The non-member on site research fee is now \$3.00 per day. Members research for free. Our volunteer staff is ready to assist researchers.

Among the materials we have in our library are journals and newsletters from some genealogical and historical societies. These can be a valuable resource for researchers. Just how interesting and informative they are is something I am appreciating more since I became the librarian and peruse the new ones as they are received at the library. Below are some items I found interesting in recent newsletters.

- Nodaway County Genealogical Society in their *Smoke Signals* is listing Nodaway County Marriages June 1845-May 2003.
- Also in *Smoke Signals*, Nodaway County Genealogical Society is listing the 850 Nodaway county men in the service in 1942
- The Platte County Missouri Historical and Genealogical society is advertising a new publication, "History of Platte County, Missouri, A Proud Legacy." Order forms are available on their website [www.rootsweb.com/~mopchgs](http://www.rootsweb.com/~mopchgs)
- Miss Evelyn Petty, Clay county historian, passed away on November 29, 2005. A memorial to her is in the *Clay County MOsaic* for October-November-December 2005. When I researched my family in Clay County, I benefited from Miss Petty's work.
- Harrison County Genealogical Society's *Heritage Seeker*, February 1, 2006, reported that "The Tree Climbers" of Pattonsburg, Missouri (Daviness County) have started having meetings again after a period of being dormant after 1993.
- *Virginia Tidewater Genealogy Quarterly*, September 2005, has an article, "Don't Lose Your Data as Technology Changes" by Rod McDonald. It is a fun read with a lesson for all who store their genealogy data on computer.
- Holt County Historical Society is having a Genealogy and Family History Fair on April 22, 2006 in Fortescue, Missouri.

Next time you are at the library take a look at some of the quarterlies, journals, and newsletters. Maybe you will find some gems of information, too.

Connie McCoy

(Olympics continued from page 9)

We sat near the finish line and watched each skater as they lived out their personal Olympic dream. Only 3 received medals for this event, but each competitor fulfilled their dream of participating in the games. If not the fastest in the world, each was a champion in their own country and all have a right to be proud.

We were thrilled to see that the doping police raided only the Austrians, and not any Americans. The antics of Bode Miller and a few other Americans really left the local Italians with a bad impression. Some American athletes acted like stars, even before they proved themselves. Had the doping scandal also involved the Americans, it would have been really ugly. Unlike Bode, many competitors were deserving of the positive attention. The Italian female figure skater (Fontana) won no medals, but she won the hearts of the entire world with her performance that ended with her and us in tears. She had no "back story" like Bode, she did not need one. She cried, not because she lost, but because she was able to compete and proudly represent her country. We should all be proud of her. Are we proud of Bode? He did accomplish something. Because of his childish antics, drinking and inability to think before he speaks, he managed to alienate much of the world and reinforced the negative stereotype so many have of us. We have a satellite dish and receive NBC and have been watching Jay Leno and the *Tonight Show* gang who are in town covering the show. Most of the coverage has been good, but Bode, and NBC for presenting him to the world, did our image no good. Did anybody hear of Joey Cheek before the Games? I'll wager you will hear more about this fine young gentleman in the future.

More big parties await the million tourists who have come to visit us here in our home, and there is still a lot left for them to see and buy. Torino's normal population is 900,000 so we have doubled in size for these 2 weeks. We have friends visiting from the UK and we will head out to see more of the sights for ourselves. Later in March, the Para Olympics will descend on Torino with more excitement to complete the games. My son Austin and his classmates will get to see Wheelchair Curling when the para games are here.

One sad note, many of our American friends here in Torino have been working for the Olympics for the past two years. When the games are over, like gypsies, they move on. Some are off to Peking for the summer games. Austin's best friend Beau has already gone and his Olympic Dad will leave as soon as the games are over. We miss them already.

For this article I wanted to find some connection to genealogy, after all this is the Genealogy Society, but I can find none. As always I check every list of names for surnames I recognize, but alas there were none. No Nuttings competed for the gold. (continued on page 14)

(Olympics continued from page 13)

One thing I did notice was that the Polish athletes all had Polish names. The Italian athletes had mostly Italian and a few German and French names. But the American athletes had names from all over including Germany, Poland, Russia, England, France, and some names I have no idea where they are from. It makes me proud to see that we "yanks" seem to be cousins to everybody.

Many of the local Italians are just wishing the games would get over so they can have their city back. Others are enjoying the moment and believe in the official slogan, "The Passion Lives Here." And, we can also say "That boy from Missouri lives here too."

Ciao from Torino!

Dennis Nutting

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### IN MEMORY

Richard A. "Dick" Heath passed away March 12, 2006 in St. Joseph, MO. He was born January 4, 1931 in Mound City, MO. He attended Mound City Grade School, Lafayette High School, and St. Joseph Junior College. He was employed by the News-Press and Gazette from June 1947 until May 1966 and again December 1968 until his retirement in 1996. He also worked for Townsend Newspapers from May 1966 until December 1968.

He was member of Wesley United Methodist Church and a member of Ducks Unlimited and the National Wild Turkey Federation. Mr. Heath was an avid duck hunter.

He is survived by a son and daughter-in-law David and Kerri Heath; two daughters and their husbands, Gail and Andy Kramer, and Melanie and Chris Wertin; two brothers and five grandchildren.

Services were held at Heaton-Bowman-Smith and Sidenfaden Chapel with interment at Memorial Park Cemetery in St. Joseph, MO.

Dick Heath was the husband of Phyllis Heath who is a charter member of the Northwest Missouri Genealogical Society. She is currently the corresponding secretary of the Society. She has been a volunteer since 1979 and has helped with the Journal, membership, and various other duties. She has been and still is an instrumental part of our Society.

## Donations

Juanita Haskins     Clinton County Marriages Index  
                          Volume 4    June 1897 - May 1904  
Sue Payne            Lafayette High School Yearbooks 1945 through 1949  
Marshall White     Bashors Across America by Mary Whitney  
Al Showalter        Donald and Ruth Showalter of Nebraska  
                          (Family History)  
Charles and Claudetta  
  McCorkendale     Blend of the River by J. Ralph Brazelton

## New at the Library

Mt. Olivet Cemetery Records 1960 - September 1990

## Monetary Donations

Louise Campbell -- Faucett, MO  
Donald Norris -- Universal City, TX  
Linda Cratty -- Pahrump, NV

## New Members January/February/March

Leola M. Ripperger R149 9887 Georgetown Dr. Pilot Grove, MO 65276  
Jo Lynn Shineman S343 905 Depot Rd. Rock Port, MO 64482  
Michael & Mary Goff G123 744 Highland Dr. Leavenworth, KS 66048  
John Rietz R150 538 Fifth St. Ann Arbor, MI 48103  
John Jeffers J62 3205 Ravens Crest Dr. Plainsboro, NJ 08536  
Debra Hoelscher H216 3945 W. Rose Ln. Phoenix, AZ 85019  
Don Ray Draper D141 531 Young Ave. Batavia, IL 60510  
Dave Zerler Z18 2811 Pembroke Ln. C-27 St. Joseph, MO 64506  
Don Siner S345 15255 W St. Omaha, NE 68137  
Mark Wilson W209 1524 Roosevelt Ave. Ames, IA 50010  
John Rider R151 3002 N. Grant St. Enid, OK 73703  
James C. Christie C216 64 Alberta Terr. Walnut Creek, CA 94596  
Victoria L. Sullivan S346 9304 Avenida de la Luna NE  
                          Albuquerque, NM 87111

**General Meeting:** April 27, 2006 at 6:30 PM at the Northwest Missouri Genealogical Society Library, 412 Felix in St. Joseph, MO. This will be a dinner meeting. The Society will furnish meat, drinks, and bread. Please bring your own table service and a covered dish. Bob Ford will be our guest speaker and we will also elect new officers. (See the President's Corner for details).

**Members** -- Please remember to check the label on your newsletter to see when your membership expires. Enclose a **SASE** (self-addressed stamped envelope) if you want a membership card returned to you when renewing by mail. Annual dues are: \$15.00 in the USA, \$20.00 in Canada and Mexico, and \$25.00 in other countries.

**COMING EVENTS:**

**22 April 2006:** Genealogy & Family History Fair at Fortsecue Church Building in Fortescue, Mo. This is sponsored by the Holt County Missouri Historical Society.

“So, just who do you think you are? Beginning Genealogy” and “Genealogy Questions & Answers” will be presented by **Sarah Waugh of St. Joseph, MO.** Sarah is a former president of the NW Missouri Genealogy Society and Elder Hostel instructor.

“Identifying Photographs through period clothing” will be presented by **Laura Waugh of St. Joseph, MO.** Laura will entertain and educate about how to identify photographs by clothing. She is an expert seamstress and sews her own period clothing in minute detail for the era she represents. If time permits, she will be glad to help you put a time line to your photographs,

“Census records 1790-1930” will be presented by Janice Schultz, the Branch Manager of the Genealogy & Local History Branch of Mid-Continent Public Library in Independence, MO.

“Recipe for Success: Using National Archive Records to Enhance Your Genealogy” and the D.A.R. will also be a part of this program.

For information and to register go to:  
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mohchs/index.html>

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