

## Information Sheet

**R**      **Walnut Grove Booster Club.**  
**767**      ***Old Timers Reunion, 1964.***  
            **One booklet.**

This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri](http://The State Historical Society of Missouri). If you would like more information, please contact us at [shsresearch@umsystem.edu](mailto:shsresearch@umsystem.edu).

This is a booklet published by the Walnut Grove Booster Club for its "Old Timers Reunion" celebration held on 15-20 June 1964. Walnut Grove is in northwestern Greene County, Missouri.

The Walnut Grove Booster Club was organized in 1961 to promote the economic and cultural development of the small community. In 1964, under the leadership of city councilman Jimmy D. Cummins, the society undertook its most ambitious project, a six-day "Old Timers Reunion," which included such activities as a carnival, gospel singing, a fiddlers' contest, square dancing, a quarter-horse show, and an "old fashioned" style show. This 84-page booklet was published and sold as a program and souvenir of the event.

The Walnut Grove community was first settled in the 1830s, acquired a post office in 1853, and was incorporated in 1866. In 1885 the arrival of the Kansas City, Clinton & Springfield Railroad cemented the small town's position as a rural trade center. A bank was established in 1890, and the central area was platted in 1923 and re-incorporated as a fourth-class Missouri city in 1934. The official population of 264 in 1880 had grown to only 310 in 1940, but fifty years later, in 1990, reflecting the town's location in the growing Springfield area, the population had risen to 549.

This booklet includes a schedule of events for the reunion and brief histories of the town, its churches, and its fraternal organizations. There is a photograph of the membership of the Booster Club, with many of the members in "old time" clothing. Of particular interest is "The Reign of the Regulators," a brief account of vigilante justice in post-bellum Greene County. There are many advertisements for area businesses. An 8x10 glossy print of the membership of the Booster Club, taken on 15 June 1964, is included with the booklet.

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*9 April 2002*

*Doug Keeney*

*Purchase*

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Busy Bee Club (Walnut Grove, Mo.)  
Calvary Assembly of God Church (Walnut Grove, Mo.)  
Christian Church (Walnut Grove, Mo.)  
Concord Baptist Church (Walnut Grove, Mo.)  
Cooksey, Clyde  
Cumberland Presbyterian Church (Walnut Grove, Mo.)  
Cummins, Jimmy D.  
Daughters of Rebekah. Helping Hand Lodge No. 130 (Walnut Grove, Mo.)  
First Baptist Church (Walnut Grove, Mo.)  
Freemasons. O'Sullivan Lodge No. 7 (Walnut Grove, Mo.)

Fundamental Baptist Church (Walnut Grove, Mo.)  
Greene County (Mo.)  
Harold Missionary Baptist Church (Walnut Grove, Mo.)  
Looney, Homer C.  
Merry Makers Extension Club (Walnut Grove, Mo.)  
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Walnut Grove Booster Club  
Walnut Grove Extension Club  
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