



# **The Border Star**

**Official Monthly Publication of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri**

• **Founded 1992**

• **Incorporated 1994**

***"Studying the Border War and Beyond"***

**February 2008**

## **The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri**

### **2008 Officers**

*President* ----- Mike Calvert  
*1<sup>st</sup> V.P.* ----- Pat Gradwohl  
*2<sup>nd</sup> V.P.* ----- Art Kelley  
*Secretary* ----- Karen Wells  
*Treasurer* ----- Beverly Shaw  
*Historian* ----- Paul Tate

### **Board Members**

Dr. Gerald Anderson, Emeritus  
Delbert Coin Karen Coin  
Don Moorehead Kathy Moorehead  
Steve Olson Carol Olson  
Terry McConnell

### **The Border Star Editor**

Dennis Myers  
12800 E. 48<sup>th</sup> Street S.  
Independence, MO 64055  
(816) 769-6490

### **Meetings**

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month - 7:00 p.m.  
Old Blake Museum - 106 E. Walnut  
Independence, Missouri

**Visitors Always Welcome!**

### **Annual Dues**

Individual ----- 15.00  
Family ----- 25.00  
Student (under 21) ----- 5.00  
Newsletter Only (no meetings) ----- 10.00

### **For Information**

Mike Calvert ----- 836-1013  
Beverly Shaw ----- 478-7648  
Art Kelley ----- 373-4101

### **Mailing Address**

C.W.R.T. of Western Missouri  
P. O. Box 3019  
Independence, MO 64055

### **Website**

[www.orgsites.com/mo/cwrt](http://www.orgsites.com/mo/cwrt)



The bombardment of Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861 was the opening engagement of the American Civil War. The countdown to the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on April 12, 2011 is just 1154 days away, as of the date of our next Round Table meeting on Wednesday, February 13, 2008.

History - The branch of knowledge that records and analyzes past events

Addict - a person who is addicted to an activity, habit, or substance

Member Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri – a history addict

What a great time at January's Round Table meeting. I truly meant it when I said that the annual show and tell format is one of my favorites. I enjoy finding out what everyone is interested in. From learning about local happenings, ancestors and members seeking help with their discoveries what a time we had. I am forever indebted to Pat for labeling us "History Addicts". Those simple two words sum up what or who we are. To prove my point, how many of you in your travels come across an historical marker and stop to read it. Come on, admit it, we all do. No matter where we are or how far off the beaten path we are compelled to find out what happened on that spot. I know I do. I stop. I read. Sometimes my reaction is "I didn't know that" and other times I say "Why was that so important it deserved a sign?" It doesn't matter which reaction I have I always return to the car knowing something I didn't know a few moments before and I had a good leg stretch.

That brings me to our goals for 2008. In this issue of the Border Star you will find a request to join committees. I know who needs one more thing to do but, take time to look and you'll find some pretty exciting stuff, everything from tours to web sites. So this is an unabashed call for volunteers to join up. Find something you're interested in and join. By the way, for the most part these committees will only last until the project is completed. We are working on the public image of the Round Table and need your input. Who knows maybe we will be furthering someone else's addiction. In the meantime see you at a roadside sign.

Mike Calvert, President  
The Civil War Roundtable of Western Missouri

## **CWRTWMO Calendar**

### Tours Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 6, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.  
17313 E. 51<sup>st</sup> Terr. Court S., Independence, MO  
Call Beverly Shaw for directions at  
(816) 478-7648. See article below.

### February Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, February 13, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.  
Old Blake Museum (Blue & Grey Book Shoppe),  
106 E. Walnut, Independence, MO.  
Program: “Robin Hood of the Little  
Blue” by Harold Dellinger

### February Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 20, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.  
17313 E. 51<sup>st</sup> Terr. Court S., Independence, MO.  
Any member is welcome to attend. Call Beverly  
Shaw for directions: (816) 478-7648.

### March Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, March 12, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.  
Program: Ted Stillwell

### April Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, April 9, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.  
Field Trip to Lee Ward’s Private Museum

### Battle of the Little Blue Tour

Saturday, May 10, 2008 – 9:00 a.m.  
Details to follow.

### Battle of Westport Tour

Saturday, May 10, 2008 – 1:00 p.m.  
Details to follow.

## **Other Events**

### Bleeding Kansas 2008 Program Series

Feb. 3 - Feb. 24, 2008. – Sundays 2:00 p.m.  
Constitution Hall State Historic Site, 319 Elmore St.  
Lecompton, KS. Free admission.

### Cass County Library Speaker

Saturday, February 9, 2008-1:00 -4:00 p.m.  
Cass County Library - Harrisonville, MO  
Book Discussion with the Author:  
“Tomorrow’s Promise: Survival of the  
Plains” by Diane Rogers of Archie, MO.  
(See article)

### “Quindaro” - the Play

February 9 - 24, 2008, Evenings and Matinees.  
H&R Block City Stage at Union Station.  
See article below.

### Metal Detecting Club (Also known as 3 Trails Historical Search Team)

Tuesday, February 12, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.  
William Chrisman High School, 1223 N. Noland,  
Independence, Missouri  
Program: “Fur Trapper Era” by Bill Worley

### Mid-Continent Library-Buckner

Thursday, February 21, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.  
19 E. Jefferson, Buckner, MO  
Program: “Civil War in Jackson County”  
By Gregg Higginbotham

### Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, February 24, 2008 – 6:30 p.m. (Dinner)  
Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road,  
Prairie Village, KS. Cost is \$20.  
Program: Arnold Schofield, “New Discoveries  
In the Border War.” For reservations call  
Paul Gault at (816) 741-2962.

### War and Medical Services Conference

Feb. 29 - March 1, 2008  
Hilton Garden Inn, Independence, MO  
George Wunderlich, Executive Director of  
National Museum of Civil War Medicine.

### Fourth Annual Militaria Collectors Fair

Saturday, March 1, 2008 – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
J.C. Nichols Auditorium Lobby at the National  
World War I Museum at the Liberty Memorial,  
Kansas City, Missouri. Admission is free for the  
Fair, but Regular admission prices apply for WWI  
museum. No buying, selling or trading of artifacts is  
permitted. Military artifacts from the Civil War to  
today.

### “Liberty for All” Lecture Series

Saturday, March 8, 2008 – 11:00 a.m.  
J. C. Nichols Auditorium at the National War War I  
Museum. Lecture: Remembering the Buffalo  
Soldier: Memorials to Black Soldiers of the Indian  
Wars” By Dr. Frank N. Schubert, recently retired  
from the Joint History Office, Joint Chiefs of Staff.  
BookSigning to follow. Lecture is free but usual  
Admission prices for the WWI museum.

For more information call (816) 784-1918 or  
Visit [www.nwwone.org](http://www.nwwone.org).

#### “The Burning of Dayton”

March 28, 29, and 30, 2008.  
Civil War Reenactment in Cass County.  
More information to follow or go to  
[www.burningdayton.com](http://www.burningdayton.com).

#### Missouri Conference on History

April 3 - 4, 2008. Columbia, MO.  
More information to follow.

#### Mahaffie Station, Olathe, KS.

April 19- 20, 2008. 12<sup>th</sup> Annual event.  
More information to follow.

#### Holden Sesquicentennial

May 3 - 4, 2008. Area between Kingsville  
and Holden. More information to follow.

#### Stand of Colors

May 16 - 18, 2008. Reenactment of the  
Missouri-Kansas Campaigns of 1864 (including  
The Battle of Westport) on 400 acres of the  
Jerry Smith Park in south Kansas City. More  
information to follow.

#### Waverly, MO Civil War Festival

June 28 - 29, 2008. More information  
to follow.

### **Tour Committee Meeting**

The Board of Directors invites members to offer  
ideas to the Round Table in regard to our tours for  
the year. A working committee will meet on  
Wednesday, February 6, 2008, at the home of  
Beverly Shaw at 7:00 p.m. Call for directions at  
(816) 478-7648. We will work on the arrangements  
for our fundraising tour of the Battle of the Little  
Blue and the Battle of Westport which is scheduled  
for Saturday, May 10, 2008, as a part of  
Preservation Month in the City of Independence.

We also will be planning our out-of-town tours for  
ourselves and friends. In 2007 we enjoyed a day trip  
to Carthage, Missouri. Karen Coin has agreed to  
chair this committee again this year and has several  
suggestions for destinations such as Wilson’s Creek  
National Battlefield near Springfield, MO. If you

have other suggestions, please call Karen at (816)  
246-8690.

### **Dues and Auditing Committee**

The dues for 2008 are now payable in the amount of  
\$15 for an individual, \$25 for a family, or \$10 for  
just a subscription to *The Border Star*. If we do not  
hear from you by February 25<sup>th</sup>, we will not be  
sending the March newsletter. For those friends  
who joined us as a part of the battlefield tour last  
May, this will be your last issue unless you wish to  
join or subscribe. Send checks payable to  
CWRTWMO, 17313 E. 51<sup>st</sup> Terr. Ct. S.,  
Independence, MO 64055.

After the end of our fiscal year in December we do  
an audit of our finances. If you would like to serve  
on this once-a-year committee, please call Beverly  
Shaw, Treasurer, at (816) 478-7648. We usually  
meet on a Saturday morning for a couple of hours.

### **Historical Fiction**

Sometimes a good story is the best introduction to  
Civil War history. Diane Rogers who uses the pen  
name of D. L. Rogers, has volume one of a Civil  
War trilogy which she is introducing on February 9,  
2008 at the Cass County Library in Harrisonville  
from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. The first volume is called  
*Tomorrow’s Promise: Survival of the Plains*. She  
describes her books as “historical fiction based on  
historical facts.” She has woven her story into the  
backdrop of the Civil War and the Missouri-Kansas  
Border War. “The book,” writes Civil War historian  
Jim Beckner in the foreword, “is as historically  
accurate as many history books.”

A Vernon County native, Ellen Gray Massey, grew  
up surrounded by the history of the Civil War on the  
Missouri/Kansas border. She tells the story of Lettie  
Worthington and her family in “Little Dixie” in  
northwest Missouri near the Missouri River. Her  
book is called *Brothers Blue & Gray*. The Nevada  
*Daily Mail* says that the book is “a memorable,  
intricate and well-told tale of a Missouri family  
dealing with life and war with courage and  
fortitude. A very good read for all ages.” See more  
at [www.elengraymassey.com](http://www.elengraymassey.com).

## **M0-Kan Border War Network**

The result of many hours of meetings and volunteer labor is now available in historical podcasts from the Missouri-Kansas Border War Network. Our friends Carol Bohl and Jim Beckner are to be congratulated for their work which was recognized by the Missouri Humanities Council in their January, 2008 *Passages* newsletter. The podcasts can be accessed at the following web address; <http://moksbn.net/PodIndex.html>. You will find an *Introduction to the Border War Network* by Carol Bohl and *Jesse James: The Best Writings on the Notorious Outlaw and his Gang* by Harold Dellinger. The website of the network is available at <http://moksbn.net/NewIndex.html>.

## **This Month in Our Local History**

Harold Dellinger is keeping busy these days as Vice-President of the William Clarke Quantrill Society and most recently as a monthly contributor to the Winding River E-Mail newsletter of history events. He will be reviewing highlights of the history of the Kansas City-St. Joseph corridor and surrounding communities to be run in the newsletter the first week of each month. You can access it at [www.windingriver.com](http://www.windingriver.com). For instance, our meeting date of February 13<sup>th</sup> in 1866 was the first daylight bank robbery in peacetime perpetrated at Liberty, Missouri when the Clay County Savings Association was victimized by some 12-15 men, mostly ex-Confederate guerrillas. This is the first robbery attributed to what became known as the James-Younger Gang.

We thank Frank McMillian of Smithville, MO for sponsoring the Winding River newsletter and for attending our January meeting. He has been a resource for Dennis Myers and Beverly Shaw as they work on an expanded website for the Round Table.

## **“Quindaro”**

“Quindaro” is a new play about an 1856 settlement in what is now Kansas City, KS which was established by abolitionists and the Wyandot tribe as a beacon for runaway slaves. It is a production of the UMKC Department of Theatre and is staged at the H&R Block City Stage in Union Station from Feb. 9 - 24, 2008.

“Are they still down there, does it still exist?” asks a young boy gazing 150 years in to the past, deep into the bending waters of the Missouri River at the edge of a crossing called Quindaro. For here once stood a crossroads of hope for runaway slaves, for whites and for Native Americans alike, where for a brief and special moment in our history, people united in the face of all odds to found a new, free American town. “Quindaro,” a new play about that place and time, answers the young boy's question with a resounding and reassuring, “Yes, Quindaro exists, as still does hope.”

For show times and admission prices, go to [www.unionstation.org/stagedetail](http://www.unionstation.org/stagedetail).

Another play at Union Station from February 5 to 23, 2008 is presented by Theatre for Young America and is called “In the Footsteps of Freedom with Harriet Tubman.” Born Araminta Ross, a slave in Maryland in the early 1800's, Harriet Tubman became the courageous rescuer of hundreds of slaves via the Underground Railroad. Tubman's remarkable life of over 90 years was packed with amazing adventures, bravery against all odds, and an unwavering commitment to the freedom and dignity of African Americans. Sometimes called “Moses” or simply “The Conductor,” Tubman could neither read nor write but spoke eloquently at numerous anti-slavery and women's rights rallies in the North. This play is appropriate for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and up.

## **Civil War Pillar for Independence**

Thanks to the unwavering support of Wendy Shay, Preservation Director for the City of Independence, and the volunteer hours donated by Mike Calvert, Dennis Myers, and Vicki Nave, we now have a beautifully produced and historically accurate brochure called *Civil War Sites of Independence* which was published by the Independence Tourism Department. Copies hot off the press were distributed at the January meeting and we will have some available on February 13<sup>th</sup>. You will be interested to know that the cover shows a picture of Kevin Wells, son of Karen and Sonny Wells, riding horseback at a Civil War reenactment.

We would like to thank David Jackson for his article in the January 5-6, 2008 edition of *The Independence Examiner* where he listed the top ten

historical sites for a driving tour of Eastern Jackson County. Number 4 was the Lawson-Moore Home and Number 2 was the Little Blue Battlefield.

### **Burnt District Monument**

At our Open Round Table in January, 2008, Jim Beckner brought to our attention that there is an effort to raise \$25,000 to erect a 17 foot tall monument to the removal of the civilians from Jackson, Cass, Bates, and Vernon Counties as a result of Order No. 11. When they returned to their homes, they saw a desolate landscape with only chimneys left to mark once flourishing farms and homesteads. The monument will be made of brick in the shape of a chimney, and individuals and groups are able to purchase bricks for \$65 each with an inscription. The monument will be placed on the lawn of the Cass County Justice Center in Harrisonville, Missouri and will have Reconciliation Plaza behind it. Tax-deductible contributions can be made payable to Cass County Historical Society, Inc., P. O. Box 406, Harrisonville, MO 64701. Phone (816) 380-4396.

### **Lincoln 2<sup>nd</sup> Inauguration Pictures**

It just goes to show that there is still historical material out there ready to be discovered. Because of a labeling error, heretofore unpublished pictures from glass plate negatives taken at Abraham Lincoln's 2<sup>nd</sup> inauguration have recently been discovered. You can see copies of them at [www.cnn.com/2008/US/01/16/lincoln](http://www.cnn.com/2008/US/01/16/lincoln).

### **The William Clarke Quantrill Society**

The William Clark Quantrill Society is a non-profit corporation dedicated to the study of the Civil War on the Missouri-Kansas border with emphasis on the lives of Quantrill, his men, his supporters, his adversaries and the resulting historical record. For information visit; [www.geocities.com/quantrillsoc](http://www.geocities.com/quantrillsoc) or send an E-mail to [wcqsociety@aol.com](mailto:wcqsociety@aol.com).

### **Save the Little BLUE Buttons**

Just \$1.00 each



### **Civil War Period Valentine Sentiments**

Valentine cards have been a popular form of sending affectionate greetings for many years. The switch from handmade to manufactured cards began during the 1840s. By the Civil War (1861-1865), many manufacturers were marketing valentines to soldiers far away from their loved ones.

Fondly I gaze in  
Thy sweet face,  
And clasp thy little  
Hand in mine,  
Love swiftly speeds  
Us to the place  
Where I shall claim  
My Valentine.

### **FAITHFUL IN DEATH**

'To horse!' the bugle  
sounds the call,  
The foemen rage like  
waves at sea;  
If cruel fate should  
bid me fall,  
My last fond thought  
shall be of thee.

### **MY LOVE**

'Mid bugle's blast and cannon's roar,  
And 'mid the battles angry flame;  
'Mid clashing sabres red with gore,  
I fondly breathe they much-loved name.  
I feel thee near at dead of night,  
When I my vigil lone am keeping--  
Thy image guards me, angel bright,  
In dreams when wearied I am sleeping,  
Each northward wind wafts on its breath,  
To thee a yearning kiss of mine--  
On glory's field or bed of death,  
I live or die thy Valentine.

Source: The Kansas State Historical Society,  
Topeka, Kansas, 2008.