



# **The Border Star**

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

• **Founded 12-9-1992**

• **Incorporated 5-12-1993**

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

**November/December 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**

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.  
Villages of Jackson Creek  
3980-A S. Jackson Drive  
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 ----- 225-7944  
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 881 days away, as of the date of our next Round Table meeting on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

I don't know how many of you happened to see the article in the October 15<sup>th</sup> Kansas City Star in the Going Places section. Written by Rick Steves, a well known travel guide and author, the basis of the article was that having knowledge of the history of a place greatly enhances and expands the visitation experience. He relates his experience at the restored Reichstag building in Berlin. A casual visitor may see and marvel at the beautifully restored architecture without realizing that this building was used by Hitler in his rise to power.

Let's imagine ourselves at Ripley Junction, the Little Blue Battlefield, standing on the west bank of the river looking east down the old Independence-Lexington road. What do you "see"?

A developer may see a shopping area. A homeowner new homes for purchase. An environmentalist may see a large green space to be preserved. An athlete may see playing fields. All of these visions are legitimate.

My study and understanding of this area's history effects what I "see". I don't just see an open field. I envision a cold October day with men and horses racing across the landscape. I hear the boom of cannon, the rattle of small arms fire and the sounds humans make under such conditions. Some may say that this is the result of an over active imagination. Maybe so. Because I have knowledge of what took place here I can "see" these things.

We as a group must make sure that others "see" more that just what is in front of them. A place is not just now. It is made up of all things that preceded it. My challenge to you is not just to "see" what is in front of you but, to "see" what took place there. The experience of your visit will be enhanced ten fold.

Mike Calvert, President  
The Civil War Roundtable of Western Missouri

## **CWRTWMO Calendar**

### November, 2008 Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, November 12, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.  
Villages of Jackson Creek (lower level),  
3980-A S. Jackson Drive, Independence, MO.  
David Hardy: “Railroads in the Civil War.”

### December, 2008 Meeting and Luncheon

Saturday, December 6, 2008 – 11:30 a.m.  
Loose Park Garden Center, 52<sup>nd</sup> & Wornall  
(west of parking lot and pavilion), Kansas City,  
MO. Potluck Luncheon at Noon with Union  
Cemetery Historical Society. Mike Calvert: “Guess  
What, the Civil War Was Also Fought East of the  
Mississippi” See article.

### January, 2009 Meeting

Wednesday, January 14, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.  
Villages of Jackson Creek (lower level),  
3980-A S. Jackson Drive, Independence, MO  
Open Round Table by members who want to share  
short presentations of events, books, memorabilia,  
genealogy, etc. related to the Civil War.

### January, 2009 Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 21, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.  
Home of Beverly Shaw, 17313 E. 51<sup>st</sup> Terr. Ct.  
Independence, MO. (816) 225-7944 (cell)

## **Other Events**

### Alexander II and Abraham Lincoln

Exhibit Opening Nov. 1, 2008 at Union  
Station. Tickets are \$9.50 or \$6 for groups  
of 15 or more. Call (816) 460-2020 or go to  
[www.unionstation.org](http://www.unionstation.org) for more information.  
See article.

### Common Soldier of the Civil War

Thursday, November 6, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.  
Grandview Branch-Mid-Continent Public Library,  
12930 Booth Lane., Grandview, MO. Greg  
Higginbotham takes you through daily life. Ages 8  
and up.

### Shoal Creek Civil War Re-enactment

November 8-9, 2008 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Shoal Creek Living History Museum in Hodge  
Park, 7000 NE Barry Rd., Kansas City, MO.

Reenactors and historians of the “Consolidated  
Company” 7<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> Missouri Infantry while in  
and about the Kansas City area.

### Historic Ritchie Open House

Saturday, November 8, 2008 – 10:30 a.m.  
Ritchie House Museum, 1116 SE Madison, Topeka,  
KS. Anne Hawkins portrays abolitionist Mary Jane  
Ritchie. Also on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. New exhibits  
include “Shall Kansas Be Free of Slavery?”, “The  
Underground Railroad in Kansas” and “Turbulent  
Times – Bleeding Kansas.” Free.

### Veterans Day Ceremony – Liberty Memorial

Tuesday, November 11, 2008 – 10:00 a.m.  
Museum Observation Deck. Parking at the  
Hallmark surface lot, 27<sup>th</sup> and Warwick, with a  
complimentary shuttle to the National World War I  
Museum. Free admission to the Museum starting at  
11:00 a.m.

### 3 Trails Historical Search Team

Tuesday, November 11, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.  
William Chrisman High School, 1223 N. Noland  
Road, Independence, MO. Program to be  
announced.

### Westerners November Meeting

Tuesday, November 11, 2008 – 7:00 p.m. - Dinner  
Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road,  
Prairie Village, KS. \$22 per person. Call David  
Huckett at (813) 217-7768 for reservations.  
Program is Armin Schannuth: “Railroad History of  
West Central Missouri – Involvement of the Price  
Cousins (Sterling Price and Thomas L. Price).

### All Hail the Victor of Westport? Samuel Ryan Curtis

Monday, November 17, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.  
Platte City Branch of Mid-Continent Library,  
2702 Prairie View Road, Platte City, MO.  
Terry Bechenbaugh will cover the highs, the lows,  
and a lot of things in between in arguing that,  
although controversial, Samuel Ryan Curtis proved  
to be an effective administrator and commander of  
Kansas during the Civil War. Bechenbaugh is an  
assistant professor at the US Army Command and  
General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, KS.

### Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, November 18, 2008 – Dinner - 6:30 p.m.

Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS. Cost is \$22 per person. For Reservations call Paul Gault at (816) 741-2962. Shane Seley of Wide Awake Films will be showing the new Wilson's Creek video and will discuss the process of telling history in film. Wide Awake is working on a sequel to KCPT's *Bad Blood*.

Holiday Candlelight Tour Harris-Kearney House  
Friday and Saturday Nights – November 28-29.  
5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. with tours beginning every 15 minutes. 1855 Harris-Kearney House, 4000 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO. Adults - \$6, Students are \$3.50 and 6 and under are free. See Col. John Harris, his wife Henrietta, and children as they prepare for the holiday season.

Spirit of Christmas Past in Independence, MO  
Friday, November 28 – December 30, 2008. The package price of \$12 allows admission to each home once during the season from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays and 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. on Sundays. Bingham-Waggoner Estate, 313 W. Pacific, has "A Fairy Tale Christmas." Vaile Mansion, 1500 N. Liberty, has "A Queen Victoria Christmas." Marshal's Home and 1859 Jail, 217 N. Main, Independence, MO. Closed December 23, 24, and 25.

Wornall House Christmas Candlelight Tours  
Friday and Saturday evening, December 5 - 6, 2008.  
6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. John B. Wornall House, 146 W. 61 Terr., Kansas City, MO. (Wornall and 61<sup>st</sup> Terr.). 150 years of Christmas. \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. Tours begin every 15 minutes.

CWRT of Arkansas Trip to Prairie Grove  
Friday and Saturday, December 5 - 6, 2008.  
Starting from Little Rock at 3:00 p.m. Friday. Return at 5:00 p.m. Saturday. 146<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the battle of December 7, 1862. One of America's most intact Civil War battlefields. Contact Rick Meadows at (501) 843-9090 or by E-mail to rmeadows@aaamissouri.com.

Shawnee Indian Mission Christmas Open House  
Saturday, December 6, 2008 – 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 7, 2008 – 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 pm. Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site, 3403 W. 53<sup>rd</sup> St., Fairway, KS. Refreshments,

Holiday Music, Crafts for Children, 19<sup>th</sup> Century Skills.

Christmas at the Adair Cabin  
Saturday, December 6, 2008 – 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. John Brown Museum State Historic Site, 10<sup>th</sup> and Main, Osawatomie, KS. Experience a 19<sup>th</sup> century Christmas at the Rev. Samuel Adair cabin. Music and refreshments.

A Visit From St. Nicholas—Shoal Creek  
Saturday, December 6, 2008 – 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Shoal Creek Living History Museum in Hodge Park, 7000 NE Barry Rd., Kansas City, MO. Tour 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings decorated as Christmas 1825 to 1890. Highlight is a visit with St. Nicholas and a small gift for children. \$3 per person ages 6 and up. Photos offered or take your own.

Harris-Kearney House Reception  
Sunday, December 7, 2008 – 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. 4000 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO. Park University Student History Projects on display. Refreshments. Free.

Westerners December Meeting  
Tuesday, December 9, 2008 – 7:00 p.m. - Dinner Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS. \$22 per person. Call David Hockett at (913) 217-7768 for reservations. Deborah Buckner: "Mrs. Custer's Christmas On the Plains." First person presentation.

3 Trails Historical Search Team  
Tuesday, December 9, 2008 – 6:30 p.m. - Dinner Hometown Buffet, 13720 E. 40 Highway. (40 Highway and Noland Road), Independence, MO. Buffet: \$11.99 plus tax. Program to be announced.

Candlelight Tour at Missouri Town  
Saturday, December 13, 2008 – 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Missouri Town 1855, 8010 E. Park Road in Fleming Park, Lake Jacomo, Missouri. Luminaries will light the way for a view of traditions and celebrations from the 1850's. \$7.50 per person. Advance reservations required. Call (816) 503-4860 or send an E-mail to knorris@jacksongov.org.

### Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, December 16, 2008 – Dinner - 6:30 p.m.  
Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road,  
Prairie Village, KS. Cost is \$22 per person. For  
Reservations call Paul Gault at (816) 741-2962.  
Musical entertainment, door prizes, special guests,  
and a Silent Auction of Books to support the Round  
Table and the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund.

### **November 12 Annual Meeting and Dues**

On November 12, 2008, the Round Table will hold  
its annual meeting to elect officers and board  
members and hear reports of our activities in 2008.  
The following people are willing to be nominated,  
and nominations will also be accepted from the  
floor as well:

President: Mike Calvert

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Pat Gradwohl

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Art Kelley

Secretary: Karen Wells

Treasurer: Beverly Shaw

Historian: Paul Tate

Board Members:

Delbert Coin, Karen Coin

Sharon Kelley, Terry McConnell

Don Moorehead, Kathy Moorehead

Steve Olson, Carol Olson

Barbara Hughes

The board has decided to meet bi-monthly and will  
not meet in November or December. The next  
board meeting will be January 21, 2009, at the  
home of Beverly Shaw.

Dues are payable on a calendar year basis and can  
be paid at a meeting or by mail. Make your check  
payable to "CWRTWM" and mail to 17313 E. 51<sup>st</sup>  
Terr. Ct. S., Independence, MO 64055. Family  
dues are \$25, individual is \$15, and newsletter only  
is \$10.

### **Christmas Luncheon Meeting**

We will not have an evening meeting in December  
but instead share a holiday potluck luncheon with  
the Union Cemetery Historical Society on Saturday,  
December 6, 2008, at the Loose Park Garden Center  
in Kansas City, Missouri. Those who would like to  
help decorate the room should come about 11:00  
a.m. and others come about 11:30 a.m. for

fellowship. Lunch will be served at Noon with a  
program following and gift exchange for those who  
wish to participate. Mike Calvert will be telling of  
some of his travel to Civil War sites east of the  
Mississippi while he was working at Martinsburg,  
West Virginia this year.

The Round Table and Union Cemetery provide deli  
trays and drinks, and you are invited to bring a dish  
to share and your own service. If you would like to  
participate in a gift exchange, please bring a gift of  
nominal value, either wrapped or unwrapped.

### **The Tsar and the President**

In commemoration of the 2009 bicentennial of  
Abraham Lincoln's birth, an exhibit on Alexander II  
and Abraham Lincoln will be held at Union Station  
opening November 1, 2008. It explores the  
friendship forged between two revolutionary leaders  
who made groundbreaking decisions that changed  
their nations' futures. They came from radically  
different backgrounds but shared a radical vision for  
equality. Featured items include presidential  
speeches, opulent Imperial Russian artifacts,  
personal correspondence, and items from the Civil  
War.

In 1861 Alexander II freed Russia's 22 million  
peasants from serfdom; then, two years later,  
Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation.  
The exhibit looks at connections and parallels  
between Lincoln and Alexander, as well as the  
history of their paths to power and their tragic  
assassinations. There are more than 200 paintings,  
portraits, costumes, decorative art objects and items  
from Russian state museums and the U. S. Library  
of Congress. The exhibit will be in the KCP&L  
Gallery, and tickets are \$9.50 or \$6 for groups of 15  
or more. They may be purchased at the Union  
Station or at (816) 460-2020 or you may visit  
[www.unionstation.org](http://www.unionstation.org) for more information.

### **New Books and Exhibits**

Harold Dellinger has edited a new book called *Billy  
the Kid – The Best Writings on the Infamous Outlaw*  
which retails at \$16.95. Through his mail order  
book company he also has available *Guerrillas and  
Other Curiosities* by Samuel Anderson Pence which  
retails for \$21.95. He will bring some copies to the  
November meeting or you may wish to call him at

(816) 833-7715. Harold is also writing a monthly article for *This Month in Winding River Country*, a diary of important dates in the history of the Kansas City-St. Joseph area. The October, 2008 article was called *October, 1864 – Price's Final Raid in Trans-Mississippi West*. You can go to the website [www.WindingRiver.com/ThisMonth](http://www.WindingRiver.com/ThisMonth) for the full article. Let Harold know of special dates in your town or organization's history by contacting him at [h.dellinger@yahoo.com](mailto:h.dellinger@yahoo.com). If you would like to be added to the free calendar of events and directory listings of WindingRiver.Com, you can go to the website and click on "Add Your Listing" or call (816) 898-7485.

The Images of America series of Arcadia Publishing has just released *Images of America - Independence* compiled by Richard N. Piland and Marietta Wilson Boenker which is available in area bookstores. The Blue & Grey Book Shoppe at 106 E. Walnut, Independence, MO carries it at \$19.95 plus tax and is open on Friday and Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Piland and Boenker are also working on a second publication about early settlements and lost townships in Jackson County, Missouri. They are looking for early photos of Buckner, Courtney, Dallas, Dobson, Fort Osage, Grain Valley, Greenwood, Lone Jack, Sibley, Sugar Creek, and Lakes Lotawana and Tapawingo. In addition, a chapter devoted to the Osage Indians of Jackson County is on their wish-list. If you have original photos and would like to be identified in their next publication, please contact Marietta Boenker at (816) 524-1817.

John Viessman is working on an exhibit with the National Guard Museum in Jefferson City, MO about the Militia and National Guard in the Kansas City area. He is especially interested in pre- and post-Civil War units and any images associated with those units. The permanent exhibit will be located in the 110<sup>th</sup> MEB Armory on Ozark Road. He can be reached at (573) 751-4523.

There is a new book about Mary Whitney Phelps of Springfield, MO who safeguarded the body of General Nathaniel Lyon following his death at the Battle of Wilson's Creek until his Connecticut relatives could arrive in Springfield and accompany

it back to the east coast. The book is called *Mary, Mary Quite...The Life and Times of Mary Whitney Phelps 1812-1878*. She was the wife of John Phelps, Missouri's Governor from 1877-1881. The Phelps home was located on what is today Phelps Grove Park in Springfield. The book can be ordered from the author, Jerina East Giffen at 303 Brooksby Village Drive, #504, Peabody, MA 01960.

Larry Wood of Joplin, Missouri, has begun a blog on regional history and that website is located at <http://ozarks-history.blogspot.com> to which he hopes to post brief articles on various historical events and people of the Ozarks, especially the Springfield and Joplin area. He also came out with a book called *Other Noted Guerrillas* about a year ago and has a new one being released November 15<sup>th</sup> called *Call Me Charlie: A Novel of a Quantrill Raider*. You can reach him at [lwood@joplin.com](mailto:lwood@joplin.com).

Betty Key of the Blue & Grey Book Shoppe would like to let us know about the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Pre-Christmas Arts and Crafts Show and Sale sponsored by the Independence Art Association. It will be held Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup> from Noon until 7:00 p.m.; Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.; and Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup> from Noon until 5:00 p.m. at the Stone Church Community of Christ, 1012 W. Lexington, Independence, Missouri. It will feature two and three dimensional art, hand-made toys, jewelry, leather, wood-working, textiles, ornaments, glass and more. You will find some reasonably priced, amazing, one-of-a-kind treasures to share with those you love and support your local art community at the same time!

### **Jackson County Cemeteries**

"Jackson County Cemeteries Are Rich in History and Lore" was the headline for Sheila Davis's article in the October 11-12 issue of *The Examiner*. With help from John Mark Lambertson, Director of the National Frontier Trails Center, she did a countdown of the Top 10 Jackson County cemeteries, and the Lewis-Gregg Cemetery was included! Number 10 was actually several cemeteries which contain Revolutionary War soldier graves such as Jeremiah Burnett at the Blue Springs Cemetery, Ledstone Noland at the Pitcher Cemetery, and Nathaniel Lewis at the Lewis-Gregg

Cemetery. Number 9 was the Sibley Cemetery which includes soldiers assigned to Fort Osage and many Native Americans. Number 8 was Mound Grove Cemetery on North River in Independence where Joseph Smith III and other leaders of the Community of Christ Church are buried. Number 7 was Lobb Cemetery off Highway 7 in Blue Springs because of early burials dating from 1836 of immigrants coming along the nearby trail. Number 6 was Union Cemetery created in 1857 for more burials between Westport and Kansas City including famous painter George Caleb Bingham and John Calvin McCoy, the founder of Westport. Number 5 is Forest Hill Cemetery at 69<sup>th</sup> and Troost for its Civil War burials and more recently for baseball greats Satchel Paige and Buck O'Neil. Number 4 is the Lee's Summit Historical Cemetery at 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and Highway 291 where various members of Quantrill's Raiders are buried as well as Cole, Jim, and Bob Younger of the James-Younger Gang. Number 3 is Woodlawn Cemetery at 701 S. Noland Road in Independence which is one of the oldest continuously used cemeteries in the county and has burials ranging from Hiram Young, an early African-American wagon maker, to Bess Wallace Truman's parents. Number 2 is Elmwood Cemetery at 4900 Truman Road which is noted for its many striking monuments to prominent Kansas Citians such as the Armour family of meatpacking fame and more than 50 ancestors of President Harry Truman. And finally, Number 1 is Mount Washington Cemetery in Independence which is noted for its impressive mausoleums, towering markers and famous folks such as Kansas City *Star* founder, William Rockhill Nelson and frontiersman Jim Bridger.

Don Moorehead took advantage of the exhibit at the Blue Springs Historical Society in the Dillingham-Lewis House Museum at 101 S. 15<sup>th</sup> Street to learn about lesser known cemeteries in Jackson County, especially family cemeteries located off the beaten track. His goal is to visit each of the cemeteries in their exhibit and to write directions for reaching them. He has already visited the Hudspeth Cemetery off Six Mile Church Road. The exhibit continues through November 16<sup>th</sup> on Sunday afternoons from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Dennis Myers also recently assisted David Jackson of the Jackson County Historical Society in re-

locating the Robinson-Moore Cemetery north of Oak Grove, MO and found only one remaining stone. While in the area, he also made stops at the Mecklin Cemetery and the Oakwood Cemetery.

### **Wayne City Landing Rededicated**

Hugh Welsh writes in *The Examiner* of October 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008, "Sugar Creek Bluff Rededicated for Trails Significance." On October 24, 2008, the historic Wayne City Landing was rededicated as the only place in the U. S. that four National Historic Trails overlap – the Lewis and Clark, the Santa Fe, the Oregon, and the California. It now has five exhibits, improved landscaping, fencing, benches, and sidewalks to help interpret this vital steamboat landing also called the Upper Independence Landing. It was named in honor of Lt. Anthony Wayne who camped there in 1825 with military personnel assigned to keep the Kaw Indians from advancing east. The Wayne City Landing made modern-day North River Boulevard in Sugar Creek a kind of superhighway to Independence. For three years a mule train carried goods up its steep path. But it was not to continue as the premier landing because the Great Flood of 1844 diminished much of the sandbar at the landing, and over time a shift in the river's course made it defunct by 1856. Westport Landing at the foot of Main Street in Kansas City then became the landing of choice. And thus Kansas City – not Independence – would emerge as the victor in the battle for commercial relevance.

### **Art in Unexpected Places**

The October 12, 2008 issue of the *Star Magazine* highlighted unusual locations for artwork in the Kansas City area. One is Tom Lea's mural in the post office in Pleasant Hill, MO called *Back Home, April 1865*. It depicts three generations of people returning to their burned home after Order No. 11 with only the chimney still standing. Tom Lea remembers painting the piece while listening to news on the radio about Adolph Hitler and about going to Pleasant Hill in 1939 to present the painting. He says that nearly every week someone requests information and a photograph of the mural.

The art of the mural is not dead as evidenced by a press release of October 20, 2008, to say that the third mural focusing on Cass County Civil War

history was installed on the east side of the Edward D. Jones building on the north side of the Harrisonville Square.

The mural features two battles, the Battle of the Ravines near Pleasant Hill on the left side, and the Burning of Dayton on the right side. The second Cass County Courthouse which stood in the center of the Square occupies the center of the mural. To its left is the R. A. Brown House which still stands. To the right is a reference to Order No. 11.

Funding for the mural was provided by donations from Peculiar Charitable Foundation, Embarq, and the Cass County Civil War Roundtable. Local artist Dan Brewer has painted all three murals and two more are planned. The first mural erected in February depicts the Jayhawkers' raid on the Harrisonville Square in July, 1861, and the second erected last April depicts the eviction and burning of the Younger home due to Order No. 11 in September, 1863.

### **A Proper Remembrance**

In his commentary in the Kansas City *Star* on October 18, 2008, columnist George Will, praises private efforts in cooperation with the National Park Service to erect a fitting Museum and Visitor Center for the Gettysburg battlefield to replace the decrepit facilities for explaining the battle and displaying its artifacts. No doubt Mike Calvert has seen the before and after view of Gettysburg and can explain it to us at the December 6<sup>th</sup> luncheon. Will goes on to say that modern day viewers can hardly fathom how the Gettysburg Cyclorama dazzled views when it was displayed in 1884. Now it has been magnificently restored and it is still stunning. He says that this public facility will help a normally amnesiac nation to long remember.

Another way to pay tribute to our history is to write about it. The Center for the Study of the Korean War located in Independence, Missouri, on the campus of Graceland University is calling for papers not just about the Korean War but all aspects of military history. The theme of its 10<sup>th</sup> annual conference is *War and Peace*. It will be looking at efforts to both end and prevent wars and to that end is soliciting papers on the role of chaplains and medical aid services. The conference will be held February 26-28, 2009, and the presentations at the

conference are printed in *The Proceedings*. You can find out more about the Center by going to [www.koreanwarcenter.org](http://www.koreanwarcenter.org). If you have a paper you think might be of interest, you can call (816) 833-0524, ext. 4303 or 4304 or send an E-Mail to [pedwards@graceland.edu](mailto:pedwards@graceland.edu).

Bob Grover tells us that the Golden Corral Restaurant chain will be recognizing all veterans and active duty military on Monday, November 17, 2008 by offering them a free dinner buffet and beverage. This is the 8<sup>th</sup> annual "thank you" dinner for our nation's heroes.

### **Battle of Westport Visitor's Center and Museum**

Congratulations to the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City and the Monnett Battle of Westport on the opening of the new facility at 6601 Swope Parkway, Kansas City, MO, just inside Swope Park. Thanks to Winding River.com for the photo. The Center will be open Wednesday and Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and on Friday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### **Civil War Trivia**

North Carolina has always been known for its production of tar from pine trees. During the Civil War an important battle took place in Virginia. Except for a group of soldiers from North Carolina, the other Confederate soldiers retreated. Left to fight alone the North Carolinians stood their ground and fought bravely. After the battle, soldiers from North Carolina complained that the other soldiers should put tar on their heels to help them stick better to the battlefield. When Robert E. Lee heard the story, he supposedly said, "God bless the Tar Heel Boys!" Ever since that remark, the name "Tar Heel" has "stuck" to all North Carolinians. (From *North Carolina: The Tar Heel State*)

### **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).