



# **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"*

**March 2007**

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

### **2007 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  
Chris Cooper Faye Cooper  
Don Moorehead Kathy Moorehead  
Terry McConnell

### **The Border Star Editor**

Dennis Myers  
410 N. Cogan Lane  
Independence, MO 64050-2006  
(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 1490 days away, as of the date of our next Round Table meeting on Wednesday, March 14, 2007.

For sometime my wife has been after me to go through pictures I have taken of my trips to battlefields and Civil War sites. She had several reasons for me to do this. Among them is to get them organized into one place, get them out to of the living room and my favorite "if you don't write on the back what it's a picture of, you are going to forget what you're looking at." Like that would ever happen!

So, I spent an evening a few weeks ago doing what she asked. I didn't realize how many pictures I had taken and how many memories I had captured.

As I went through the pictures I relived many enjoyable hours of walking, study, cold, heat, thirst, enjoyment and memories. Memories of men who lived and died for a cause they believed in. I looked on those pictures and thought how lucky I was that someone had the foresight to preserve those fields and features.

Without someone's pride in what they had accomplished, the desire to tell their story and the need to be remembered, I wouldn't have been able to touch history. I stand forever grateful.

A reminder, May is National Historic Preservation Month. The Round Table has committed to supporting several events. Please consider volunteering and above all please attend the events.

Final Note: My family used to ask why I wanted to travel and look at some field. I know what my answer is. Think of yours.

Mike Calvert, President  
The Civil War Roundtable of Western Missouri

## CWRTWMO Calendar

### March Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 p.m.

Old Blake Museum – 106 E. Walnut Street, Indep., MO

Refreshments: Fran Mason, Chris and Faye Cooper

Program: Richard Steward: “Elmwood Cemetery”

### March Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> – 7:00 p.m.

17313 E. 51 Terr. Court, Independence, MO

Any member is welcome to attend. Call Beverly at

(816) 478-7648 for directions.

### April Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 p.m.

Old Blake Museum – 106 E. Walnut Street, Indep., MO

Refreshments: Kathy Mooreland

Program: Kevin Fisher-“Clay County History”

### Tour of the Little Blue Battlefield

Sat., May 12<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 a.m.

Start at the Old Blake Museum – 106 E. Walnut,

Independence, MO

### May Monthly Meeting

THURSDAY, May 17<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 p.m.

Truman Library

Speaker: John Dillingham – “Alexander Doniphan”

### Bus Tour to Battle of Carthage

Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup> - More details to follow

## Other Events

### Metal Detecting Club

Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 p.m.

William Chrisman High School

1223 N. Noland Road, Indep., MO

Main Entrance - 1<sup>st</sup> room past the lobby

### Preservation Month Committee

Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup> - 5:30 p.m.

Courthouse Exchange, Indep., MO

Wendy Shay - Plans for May 2007 Events

### Discover History @ Your Library

Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup> - 3:00 p.m.

Trails West Branch, 11401 E. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street

Ted Stillwell - “Jackson County’s Glorious

Agricultural Past” (During the 1920’s

Jackson County boasted 3,345 farms)

### 2007 Border War Forum

March 22<sup>nd</sup> - 6:30 p. m. (dinner)

Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS.

George Wunderlich - “Civil War Medicine”

### Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 p. m. (dinner)

Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS.

Thomas G. Smith - “Ancestor at Baxter Springs”

### Border War Event at Elmwood Cemetery

Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>

4900 Truman Road, Kansas City, MO

Meet Abraham Lincoln, John Brown, Jim Lane, others

### Symphony Designers’ Showhouse

Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

829 W. 55<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, MO

Volunteer Docents

### Battle of Lone Jack Reenactment

Saturday and Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>

More details to follow. This replaces the reenactment usually held in August but the memorial will still take place

### Wilson’s Creek Battle Anniversary

Friday - Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

Filming of a new documentary

### Civil War Seminar

Friday - Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>

Clarion Hotel, Springfield, MO.

Sponsored by Civil War Round Table of the Ozarks

## Civil War Talks At Homestead Country Club

The Civil War Round Table of Kansas City is presenting Thomas G. Smith on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

He has worked as the director of visual effects for the George Lucas film company and counts among his credits *Gods and Generals*, *Indiana Jones*, and *Star Wars*. Through an aunt he found out that he had an ancestor at the Baxter Springs, KS massacre and wrote a book about William Clark’s brief life called *My Ancestor at Baxter Springs*. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS. Your check for \$20 should be mailed to Paul Gault, 7118 N. Congress Ave., Kansas City, MO 64152.

The Monnett Battle of Westport Fund and the Shawnee Indian Mission are presenting a series of Thursday night talks on the Border War starting March 22<sup>nd</sup>. George Wunderlich, Executive Director of the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, Frederick, MD, will be talking about "Civil War Medicine." Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Homestead Country Club. Your check for \$23 should be made payable to "Monnett Fund" and mailed to Betty Ergovich, 23414 W. 54<sup>th</sup> Street, Shawnee, KS 66226-2709.

The other 2007 Border War Forum topics and dates are as follows: April 26<sup>th</sup> - "Women of the Border War" by Jean Warren, women's historian/author and co-owner of James Country Mercantile in Liberty, MO; May 24<sup>th</sup> - "Ebony Warriors March to Glory, Role of African-American Troops in the Civil War with emphasis on Missouri and Kansas" by Arnold Schofield, site administrator of the Mine Creek Battlefield Site and Marais des Cygnes Historic Site, Pleasanton, KS; and June 28<sup>th</sup> - "American Indians in the Civil War" by Alisha Cole, site administrator for the Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site in Fairway, KS and Grinter Place State Historic Site in Kansas City, KS.

### **Historic Preservation Month in Independence**

The entire month of May, 2007 will be devoted to historic preservation in Independence. Mike Calvert, Dennis Myers, and Vicki Nave have been working with Wendy Shay, Historic Preservation Officer for the City, to develop a new walking and driving brochure of Civil War sites in the area. You can also view the Heritage Commission newsletter at [www.indepmo.org/comdev/HistoricPreservation](http://www.indepmo.org/comdev/HistoricPreservation) (our name will be corrected in subsequent publications). The last planning meeting for Preservation Month is on Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at the Courthouse Exchange, 113 W. Lexington, Independence, MO.

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri plans to offer a guided bus tour of the Little Blue Battlefield on the morning of Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, and a tour of the Battle of Westport in the afternoon. This will be a fundraiser for the Sonny Wells Little Blue Battlefield Memorial Commission to erect new markers for the battlefield site and to

offer scholarships in the future. The Commission will meet March 7<sup>th</sup> to finalize plans for the tour. If you have suggestions or would like to volunteer to help, please call Karen Wells (816) 429-5165 (evenings).

### **Tours Committee**

Karen Coin called a meeting of the Tours Committee on February 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at Beverly Shaw's house. Present were Karen and Delbert Coin, Pat Gradwohl and Harold Dellinger. Because of illness Chris Cooper could not attend. The committee discussed many possibilities for tours and decided on one extensive day trip to the Battle of Carthage for Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. Details are still being worked out and we will publish notices of other events that you might want to pursue on your own.

### **Dues Are Now Payable For 2007**

If you can't remember if you have paid dues, please call Beverly Shaw at (816) 478-7648 to double check. She would like to type a new roster of our current membership. The dues are \$25 for a family, \$15 for an individual, and \$5 for a student at a different address. Please keep your membership card because it will be your admittance free of charge to the Truman Library when we sponsor the program on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Your dues include the monthly newsletter, *The Border Star*.

If you only want to receive *The Border Star* by mail, the subscription rate is \$10 a year.

Please make checks payable to CWRTWMO and mail to P.O. Box 3019, Independence, MO 64055 or pay at the March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

A benefit of membership is that you can buy the new book *The Civil War in Missouri: Essays from the Missouri Historical Review, 1906-2006* for \$20 versus the \$25 retail price. Copies are available at monthly meetings or by mail for an additional \$2.15

Anyone who does not have a copy of our *Monuments* book which we produced as our KC 150 project may also purchase a black and white copy for \$10. We also have a very few in color for \$20. This book has photos of Civil War

Monuments and Memorials in the Kansas City area with descriptions and directions by Sonny Wells.

### **Member Getters**

We would like to welcome new members Kay Cox and Family, Elizabeth Eulinger with the Coventry Estates Baptist Church senior group, Rick Gardner who spoke to us about mourning customs and Ruth Walton of Grain Valley.

Welcome back to Richard and Linda Cawby of Lee's Summit, Bonnie Sommerville of Higginsville, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Childs of the Northland, Christie Kennard on the Kansas side and Mr. Clyde Smith.

Recent visitors were Cindy Horn, Randy Sandy, Margie Friel, Lee Pickering and Sandy Lowe and her husband who has a Civil War diary of interest.

Those who attended the February 21<sup>st</sup> makeup meeting had wonderful treats provided by Vesta Frizzell. We all enjoyed the artichoke dip (heated no less), home baked cupcakes and the last of the Stephenson's apple cider. Karen Wells probably has a few months to fill for members to bring goodies for the important time between the speaker and the business meeting when we all enjoy talking with each other. If you can help, please give Karen a call at (816) 429-5165. We need two volunteers per meeting so you won't be doing it alone. Please bring napkins, plates and forks if needed.

### **More Civil War Reading**

Joplin author Larry Wood will be signing copies of his new book, *Other Noted Guerrillas of the Civil War in Missouri*, at Half Price Books of the Ozarks in Springfield on Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. While most books written about the guerrilla conflict in Missouri concentrate mainly on William Clarke Quantrill and his associates, this new book chronicles the lives of several lesser-known partisan leaders throughout the state, such as Jasper County's Tom Livingston and Vernon County's William Marchbanks. If you can't make it to Springfield, you may order the book from Harold Dellinger at [www.haroldsbookstore.com](http://www.haroldsbookstore.com) or by calling him at (816) 241-2482. Retail cost is \$20.

Harold also recommends *Captain Tough, Chief of Scouts* by Charles F. Harris. Mr. Harris speaks of William Sloan Tough as being "Tough in name – tough in deed."

He was one of Charles Jennison's Kansas Redlegs early in the War and soon became chief scout for U.S. Major General James Blunt. Retail cost is \$15.

Always worth a second reading are Donald Hale's books called *Missouri Civil War Miscellany*. Vol. 1 has an emphasis on the Morgan Walker incident, battles and rosters, including Warren Welch's and Frank James' lists of men who rode with Quantrill, and a register of graves at the Confederate Home at Higginsville, MO. Retail cost is \$25.

### **Programs for the Year**

First Vice President Pat Gradwohl has a full year of programs as follows: April - History of Clay County by Kevin Fisher; May - Alexander Doniphan by John Dillingham; June - A History of the Mormons in Jackson and Clay Counties by Ted Stillwell; July – Annual Picnic and Report on the Lewis-Gregg Cemetery; August - Tour of William Jewell College and Cemetery; September - History of Fort Leavenworth; October - History of Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis; November - History of Cooper County (Boonville area) by Mark Kelly and December – Annual Christmas Party.

In the April newsletter we will be highlighting the program on Alexander Doniphan by John Dillingham at the Truman Library. We would like to print extra copies of our newsletter to send to other historical groups and to individuals who might be interested in attending. If you have names and addresses of people you would like to invite, please pass those along to Pat Gradwohl at the March meeting or by mail to Pat at 305 Norton, Liberty, MO 64068. This is a wonderful opportunity to increase our membership.

### **Virginia Slavery Apology Passes**

In February 2007 the Virginia General Assembly voted unanimously to express "profound regret" for the state's role in slavery. Missouri lawmakers are also considering such a measure which does not carry the weight of law but sends an important symbolic message. One delegate to the Virginia

House said that he thought in 20 years this act would be remembered for having passed unanimously on the grounds of the former Confederate capitol.

### **Hulston Mill Civil War Days**

As we “spring forward” on March 11<sup>th</sup> for Daylight Savings Time; can Civil War encampments and living history events be far behind? Hulston Mill Civil War Days are scheduled for June 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> at Defiance, MO, the homestead of Nathan Boone, the youngest son of Daniel Boone, where Daniel and his wife lived out their last days. There will be Hulston Mill tours and lifestyles of Indians, frontier farming, children, and slaves, as well as a Civil War surgeon, museum, period music, and sutlers.

### **Sharon’s Swedish Cousin**

Thank you to Sharon and Art Kelley for sharing Sharon’s Swedish cousin, Ulla-Marta and her son Daniel, with us at a gathering Saturday evening, February 24<sup>th</sup>. Sharon and Ulla have corresponded by E-mail for three years before finally meeting in person. Come to find out, Claudetta McCorkendale also has Swedish ancestry and brought her notebook of pictures and information to share. Well-known Harry Truman interpreter Niel Johnson of Independence also attended and shared stories of trips he and his wife took to Sweden. Ulla said that Harlan Klukow (who is of German and Danish ancestry) looks a lot like a Danish jazz fiddle player, Svend Asmussen, who is popular in Sweden.

### **Danger to History Tourism**

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources has on file applications for two concentrated animal feeding operations – one near Athens Historic Site and the other at Arrow Rock State Park. People come to these areas for history – not to smell massive amounts of hog and chicken manure. Arrow Rock has become a travel destination for history buffs and has two beautifully restored antebellum homes still privately owned. Athens Historic Site is in the northeastern corner of Missouri in Clark County and memorializes the turmoil of the Civil War era. It is perched along the banks of the Des Moines River not far from the Mississippi River.

To quote Ken Midkiff, chairman of the Missouri Chapter of the Sierra Club, “Agribusiness chief executives are fond of saying: ‘That stink smells like money to me.’ Tourism is big business in Missouri, and manure doesn’t smell like money to folks dependent upon state parks and historic sites. It just stinks.”

### **Jim Noel Unveils Historic Hearne St. Sign**

Member Karen Coin passed along a clipping from the Lee’s Summit *Journal* dated January 24, 2007, written by Kathy Smith. Our friend Jim Noel, who gave us the tour of the Noel Ranch near Lone Jack, is a nephew of William T. Hearne who owned a large farm on what is now Chipman Road and Douglas Street in Lee’s Summit. In 1888 when the City of Lee’s Summit needed a connecting road to Kansas City, Mr. Hearne donated land and built the road to boot. In honor of his gift called “Kansas City Boulevard,” there is now a sign at Douglas and Ash which reads “Historic Hearne Street” which Jim unveiled. Present were Bill and Lisa Edwards, owners of the Noel-Hearne home in Independence; Don Hale, President of the Lee’s Summit Historical Society and a Round Table member; Brian and Sharon Snyder, owners of the McCoy House in Independence and Round Table members; and Julie Cawby, Chairperson of the Lee’s Summit Historic Preservation Commission. Julie is the daughter-in-law of Richard and Linda Cawby, longtime members of the Round Table. Julie is an architect who works on historic preservation projects and recently returned from Defiance, MO, the location of the Boone Homestead.

### **Union Cemetery’s 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary June 9<sup>th</sup>**

The Round Table enjoyed hearing Kevin Fewell’s presentation on the history of Union Cemetery located near Crown Center in Kansas City, MO. We will be participating in the special events on June 9<sup>th</sup> and invite all members to attend. Another way you can help the Union Cemetery Historical Society is to become a member for \$20 as an individual (as low as \$15 for senior citizens) or \$30 for a family. Checks can be made payable to Union Cemetery Historical Society and mailed to UCHS, 227 E. 28<sup>th</sup> Terr., Kansas City, MO 64108.

## **Symphony Designers' Showhouse**

Some of our members can't get enough of old houses so they volunteer to be docents at the annual Symphony Designers' Showhouse on a Thursday evening when it's open until 8:00 p.m. Beverly Shaw researches the history of the showhouse each year as a volunteer for the Junior Women's Symphony Alliance which has been doing this project for 38 years. This may be the oldest continuously operating showhouse endeavor in the United States. The house this year is located at 829 W. 55<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, MO and is an English residential design built in 1916 – 1917 by J. C. Nichols from architectural drawings by John Van Brunt. The date is May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and what we do is help visitors enjoy their tour of a beautifully decorated home which is a benefit for children's concerts performed by the Kansas City Symphony. Docents are allowed time to view the entire house at no cost and are usually lucky enough to enjoy live music and refreshments in the big tent sometime during the evening. If you would like more information about volunteering, please call Beverly Shaw at (816) 478-7648.

## ***USS Monitor* Museum to Open**

If you are traveling east anytime soon, you might want to visit the new *USS Monitor* Center at Newport News, VA. It's a \$30 million state-of-the-art museum displaying the gun turret and many recovered artifacts from the vessel. The opening on March 9<sup>th</sup> is scheduled on the 145<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the classic battle of ironclads, the *CSS Virginia* and the *USS Monitor*, at Hampton Roads on March 9, 1862.

## **Good News from Civil War Preservation Trust**

*The Border Bugle* of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City reports that the Civil War Preservation Trust rescued 1,300 acres of hallowed ground in 2006. At the top of their list of accomplishments is the defeat of a proposed casino near Gettysburg. Of special interest to us is that 6.5 acres were protected at Mine Creek in Kansas and 70 acres at Wilson's Creek in Missouri.

With 70,000 members, the CWPT is the largest nonprofit battlefield preservation organization in the

United States. Its mission is to preserve our country's remaining Civil War battlefields. Their website is [www.civilwar.org](http://www.civilwar.org).

## **Recruits Wanted!**

There is a new private website for Quantrill enthusiasts at [www.quantrillsguerrillas.com](http://www.quantrillsguerrillas.com). All you need is a valid E-mail address and a desire to help promote and commemorate Southern heritage and education by advancing the awareness of the contributions of the Missouri Confederate partisans. Their goal is to become the most comprehensive on-line resource for all things related to William Clarke Quantrill and the men who served with him. Past speakers Donald Gilmore and Paul Petersen are members of the conveners.

## **National Frontier Trails Museum Research Opportunity**

On Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, there will be a free open house for the Merrill Mattes Research Library at the National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 W. Pacific, Independence, MO, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon. This is for older students and adults who want to access published and unpublished diaries, journals, letters, maps, and original artifacts related to westward expansion between 1800 and 1875.

Visitors who want to see the film "West" or visit the exhibits and galleries will have to pay the usual museum admission of \$5 for adults, \$4.95 for seniors, and \$3 for children ages 6 - 17.

## **News About Members**

Our Historian, Paul Tate, told us at the February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting that he will be having surgery in March and won't be able to attend the March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting or the board meeting. We all wish him a speedy recovery.

Kathy Moorehead is still battling swelling in her feet and legs which must be decreased before she can have heart surgery. We will keep her and Don in our thoughts and prayers. Kathy was recently elected as a board member for the Round Table.

It is with regret that we accepted the resignation of Bob and Pat Dye from the board. Pat had heart surgery several years ago and her doctor is telling her she needs to slow down. They intend to maintain their membership with us and to participate as they are able. We first found out what enthusiastic supporters they were when we had the Reville at the Blue Mills Elementary School and they coordinated the outdoor cooking for lunch.

We are happy to welcome Chris and Faye Cooper to the board. Chris is a retired archeologist and has already helped us with the Auditing Committee and is serving on the Sonny Wells Little Blue Battlefield Memorial Commission and the Tour Committee. Faye sometimes works nights at the Genealogy Branch of the Mid-Continent Library but she will be with us as much as she can.

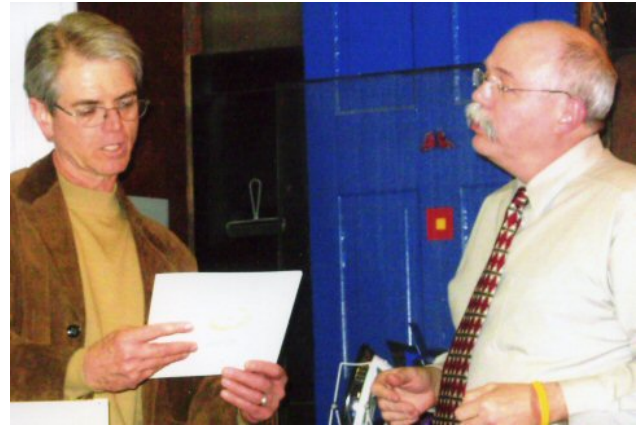
### **President's NPS Budget Proposes Record Increases for Park Operations and Centennial Initiative**

Vicki Nave points out, just in case someone has not see it yet, that the President's proposed budget for 2008 includes a \$230 million increase, including \$1.5 million for ABPP grants (American Battlefield Protection Program) and \$22.5 million for land acquisition, including Civil War battlefields. *Save America's Treasures* and *Preserve America* are also in there. Please take time to write to your representatives, encouraging them to keep this bill intact. Also, please visit the ABPP website at; <http://www.cr.nps.gov/hps/abpp/funding.htm>.

### **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).

### **February 2007 Meeting Photos**



Kevin Fewell, President of the Union Cemetery Historical Society, receives a copy of the *Monuments* book from Mike Calvert



Auditing Committee members hard at work on February 10, 2007 - Auditors are Lucky Mason (not shown), Chuck Townsend, Chris Cooper & Bob McAtee



Mike Calvert visiting with Sandy Lowe about her family member's Civil War diary