



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"

August 2007

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

2007 Officers

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The Border Star Editor

Dennis Myers
410 N. Cogan Lane
Independence, MO 64050-2006
(816) 769-6490

Meetings

2nd 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



The bombardment of Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861 was the opening engagement of the American Civil War. The countdown to the 150th Anniversary on April 12, 2011 is just 1343 days away, as of the date of our next Round Table meeting on Wednesday, August 8, 2007.

I have been to the holy grail of battlefields and have seen the light.

Two weeks ago I had an opportunity to visit Gettysburg for the second time. The first time I visited it was in September during the middle of the week and I practically had the place to myself. Not so this time. It was a Friday afternoon, 10 days after the battle anniversary, and to top it off the weekend of National Motorcycle Week. Needless to say there were cars and people everywhere and I was not happy. As I stood at the visitor's center and bought two books on the Trans-Mississippi Theater it drew on my befuddled mind that I was standing not only on hallowed ground, but on a gold mine. The amount of money being exchanged before my very eyes was unbelievable. I was witnessing the zenith of what experts have come to call "heritage tourism." Studies have determined that Gettysburg visitors provide annually, nearly \$12 million in state taxes, over \$5 million in local taxes and \$121,080,000 in visitor expenditures*. Now I admit that Gettysburg is the battlefield to visit so what about another one that might compare favorably to, let's say the Little Blue Battlefield.

I pick Wilson's Creek, Missouri*.

1. 69 Jobs supported
2. 1,456 visitors needed to support one job
3. \$217,000 annual State government revenue
4. \$144,000 annual local government revenue
5. \$3,121,000 annual visitor expenditures

I know that's a lot of statistics and I only use them to make this point. The preservation of battlefields gives back to the community. The Little Blue Battlefield has been recognized as one of the top 10 endangered historic sites in Missouri and as one of the top 25 endangered historic battlefields in the United States. We now have a grant from the National Park Service to write the National Registry of Historic Places Nomination. Let's make the emphasis on what we do as a group to be the preservation of the Little Blue Battlefield. When someone says that building houses on the land is a better than saving it, bring up the statistics and ask them how many houses would you need to build in order to put that much money back into the local economy? Here's just a little extra; most of that money is from out of town visitors. I haven't even touched on quality of life enhancement, environmental issues or historic value. Our goal won't be easy to obtain and it won't happen overnight, but, if we don't make the effort...(I can't finish that sentence).

Heritage tourism, it pays!

*Statistics are from "Blue, Gray and Green; How Saving Civil War Battlefields Makes \$\$\$ and Sense" a study commissioned by the Civil War Preservation Trust

Mike Calvert, President
The Civil War Roundtable of Western Missouri

CWRTWMO Calendar

August Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, August 8, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.
Guided Tour of William Jewell College in Liberty, MO.
Carpooling is suggested. See article and map below or
Mapquest for directions.

August Board Meeting

Wednesday, August 15, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.
17313 E. 51 Terr. Court, Independence, MO
Any member is welcome to attend. Call
Beverly Shaw for directions (816) 478-7648.

September Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, September 12, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.
Old Blake Museum, 106 E. Walnut,
Independence, MO. “History of Clay
County During the Civil War.”

Bus Tour to Battle of Carthage

Saturday, September 15, 2007 – 8:00 a.m. to
6:00 p.m. Meet at Old Blake Museum.
See article below for more information.

Battle of Westport Bus Tour

Saturday, October 20, 2007 – Additional details to
follow next month.

Other Events

Bingham-Waggoner Estate

August 2007 – Special Exhibit, “Imperial Biscuit
and Milk Jars Accompanied by Massachusetts
Pattern Glass.” 313 W. Pacific, Independence, MO

Lee’s Summit Historical Society

Friday, August 3, 2007 – 6:30 p.m.
Contributive Dinner. Cass Browning Community
Center, 111 Grand, Lee’s Summit, MO.
“Preservation of the Little Blue Battlefield” – Mike
Calvert.

Blue Springs Historical Society

Saturday, August 4, 2007 – 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
“The Daily Life and Times of the Border Wars” by
Jean Warren. RSVP to Jacquelin Page at (816) 224-
4910. Dillingham-Lewis Museum at 101 SW 15th
St., Blue Springs, MO. Built in 1906, it is the only
structure in Blue Springs built of native limestone.
Parking is on Main Street and please enter through

the Main Street door. A donation of \$2.00 is
requested.

Metal Detecting Club

Tuesday, August 14, 2007 – 7:00 p.m. Mill Creek
Park, Shelter House #2, N. River Street,
Independence, MO. Bring your metal detector for a
hunting game at the beginning of the meeting.

Battle of Pilot Knob Reenactment

September 22nd – 23rd – In Arcadia Valley near Ironton,
MO. Fort Davidson State Historic Site.

National Park Service Awards Grant

On June 27, 2007 the National Park Service
announced that a \$4,000 grant has been made on
behalf of the Civil War Round Table of Western
Missouri to hire an expert to complete the National
Register of Historic Places nomination for the Little
Blue Battlefield. As soon as all the paperwork is in
place, a doctoral candidate who successfully
completed two battlefield designations will begin
our project. We have Connie Langum at Wilson’s
Creek National Battlefield to thank for this grant.

Civil War Battlefield Signage

The Sonny Wells Little Blue Battlefield
Commission has pledged approximately \$4,000 to
buy two of the new battlefield markers for the
Battle of the Little Blue. The City of Independence
is soliciting other donations to purchase additional
signage. We have been informed that the
Independence Young Matrons has given \$500 for
this project and it is being kept for safekeeping at
the Truman Heartland Community Foundation. In
his thank you, Mike Calvert said that he doubted
that the ladies had ever before made a donation in
memory of a war.

History of Liberty DVD

For those who missed our outdoor movie in June,
the Round Table has purchased a copy of “The
History of Liberty” to keep in our archives. We are
willing to loan it to members on a rotational basis.
Please let Beverly Shaw know if you would like to
see it by calling (816) 478-7648. Please don’t keep
it more than a month though.

Blunt Vetoes Spending Package

No, we are not talking about the Civil War “Blunt” but Missouri Governor Matt Blunt. Blunt vetoed an economic development package on July 6, 2007, because he said it was loaded with excessive spending that failed to boost the economy or benefit the average taxpayer. As approved by the Missouri Legislature the bill would have benefited people who preserve Civil War battlefields. Who knew!

Author to Speak at the Central Library

Harold Dellinger, editor of *Jesse James: The Best Writings on the Notorious Outlaw and His Gang*, will be speaking about his new book on Thursday, August 30, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. at the Kansas City (MO) Central Library at 14 W. 10th St., Kansas City, MO. Harold will have his book for sale and will be glad to autograph it. There is a reception at 6:00 p.m. prior to his talk. Admission is free but reservations are recommended. Call (816) 701-3407 to secure a seat.

Tour of William Jewell College

Our program chairman, Pat Gradwohl, has arranged for a private tour of William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri, for our Wednesday, August 8, 2007 monthly meeting. Our guide will be Angela Stiffler, Archival Director for the college. We will tour Jewell Hall, the imposing building with the big columns, as well as the chapel, a one room schoolhouse, and the oldest cemetery in Liberty dating from the 1820's which has a mass grave from the Civil War. The third floor of Jewell Hall was used as a hospital during a skirmish in Liberty. There will be lots of walking so please wear comfortable shoes. We estimate the tour will take about an hour and a half, and we would like to start promptly at 7:00 p.m. so that we don't lose daylight while touring the cemetery.

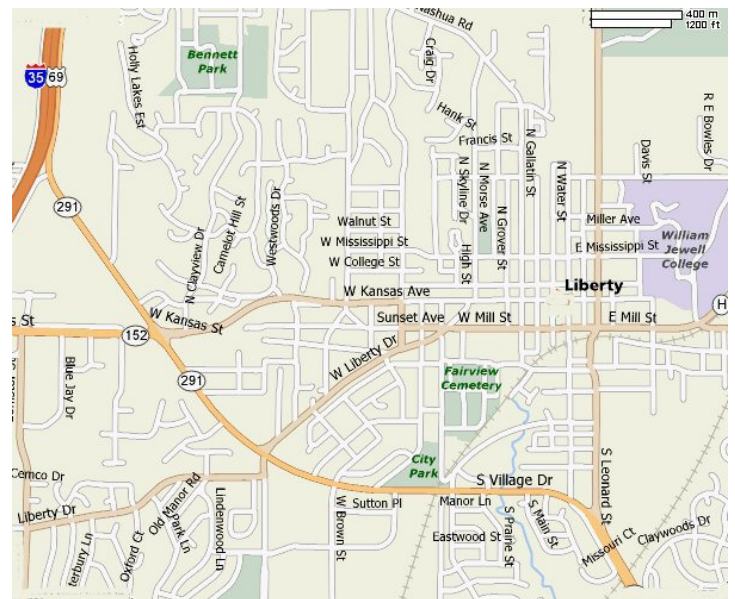
After our tour, we will drive to the Clay County Archives at 210 E. Franklin, Liberty, MO, to have refreshments and visit the Mainschein Book Collection owned by the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri and loaned to the Clay County Archives as the core of their Civil War reference materials. With the addition of the Richard Dale collection and books that the Round Table has acquired from our speakers and received from other donors, we probably have in excess of 300 volumes.

It is named in honor of Bob Mainschein who was a member of the Round Table and designated us as the recipient of his Civil War book collection upon his death. Sonny Wells facilitated placing the books in safekeeping with the Clay County Archives where they can be accessed by researchers but not removed from the premises. There are several first editions and rare books among the collection.

Probably a majority of us will be coming to Liberty on Hwy. 291. When it intersects with Hwy. 33, we want to take 33 north to Mill Street. We will go right to the main entrance of William Jewell College where there is a fountain and a large parking lot.

Once on the property, you will want to continue driving through the parking lot to the top of the hill and park as close to Gano Chapel (the clock tower) as possible as this is where we will start. The campus is handicapped accessible with elevators.

After the tour of the college, we will drive to the Clay County Archives, 210 E. Franklin, by making our way back to Hwy. 33 (also called Lightburne) and turn right to go two blocks north to Franklin which is one way going west to the left. You will need to look for street parking near the archives which has a large grinding stone in the front.



William Jewell College (middle right side of map)

Battle of Carthage Tour, September 15th

Tour chairman Karen Coin reminds us that we need to send our reservation checks right away to secure a seat on the bus taking us on the Battle of Carthage tour. The cost is just \$30 for members and \$40 for non-members and includes lunch at the Sirloin Stockade.

You can make your check payable to CWRTWMO and mail it to 17313 E. 51st Terr. Court, Independence, MO 64055.

The tour includes watching a video about the battle on our way to Carthage, lunch, the Civil War museum, and the services of a step-on guide, Mr. Steve Weldon, who is Jasper County's archivist and manages the Jasper County Records Center which holds historic data, genealogical materials, maps, and photographs. Steve is also serving on the planning commission for the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Carthage in 2011.

We will meet the bus at 8:00 a.m. at the Old Blake Museum, 106 E. Walnut, Independence, MO and will be back about 6:00 p.m. In addition to its Civil War battle, Carthage is noted for being on the legendary Route 66 (maybe we can persuade our driver to take us by the Boots Motel) and at one time had more millionaires living there than anywhere in the U.S. because of the lead and zinc mines. And who could forget your Missouri history course and the well-known Carthage marble that is used in the Missouri State Capitol and many other elegant buildings.

Research Assistance

Our board member, Chris Cooper, has done genealogical research since 1977 and worked as an archaeologist since 1981. His specialty is abandoned or ghost towns of Missouri. He would like to ask your assistance if you have information about any of the following:

- Bates County - Extinct town of West Point (Westpoint)
- Lafayette County - Berlin (house site of Joseph O. Shelby) and Chapel Hill

► Saline County - Frankfurt-New Franklin, Cambridge, Saline City (aka Little Rock), Jonesboro (Jonesbough), Petra, Laynesville

► Pettis County - Georgetown, Arator, Farmers City, Pin Oak (aka Saint Helen)

Chris is also willing to help anyone with their own genealogy or Civil War related research. He has a special insight since his wife Faye works part-time at the Genealogy Library which is presently housed with the North Independence Branch of the Mid-Continent Library system on 24 Highway near the Truman Library. Faye reports that the construction of the new stand-alone Genealogy Library on Lee's Summit Road near the Drumm Farm Golf Course is coming along nicely and you can already see the footings. If you go to the library's website, it will give you the floor plan of the structure. Chris can be reached at (816) 833-1214 or at his E-mail address: cooperhill1860@sbcglobal.net.

In The Newspapers

The July 6, 2007, *The Examiner* had a large color picture of former president Bill Clinton as he spoke in Independence as a part of the 50th anniversary of the Truman Library. When our member Lee Jackson heard him speak about the lessons society can learn from Harry S. Truman, she immediately identified. The article goes on to say, "Clinton spoke about the possibilities of an Israeli-Palestinian coalition and how education can help other countries. Jackson's daughter and son-in-law have been working in that area of the world, promoting peace and understanding." Lee says, "It really hit home. They are over there working and trying to give children an education."

The Examiner had an article on July 18, 2007 about Jason Offutt's new book full of Missouri ghost stories. He writes a column for the paper called "From the Shadows" which deals with paranormal sightings. His book is called *Haunted Missouri: A Ghostly Guide to the Show-Me State's Most Spirited Spots*. It is available at Kansas City area Border's stores or at Barnes & Noble bookstore in Independence as well as www.amazon.com or tsup.truman.edu. Jason has two book signings coming up: August 11th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Border's in Lee's Summit and October 13th at Barnes & Noble in Independence.

On July 24, 2007, the Kansas City *Star* had stories about the hottest jobs in the metro. We don't mean the high tech, well paid jobs that everyone wants. We mean the hot sweaty jobs of summer in the Midwest. One of those was called "A Heavy Load of History" and showed a picture of Ralph Goldsmith of Pioneer Trails Adventures and his mules pulling a tour wagon around the Independence Square and local (pardon the pun) hot spots. Ralph said one reason he switched from horses to mules is that the horses sweat a lot and people don't like to see that.

The Heritage League recently announced a new location for the office of the Jackson County Historical Society. Steve Noll can now be found at 114 S. Main, Suite 103, Independence, MO 64050. David Jackson at the Jackson County Archives remains in the old Courthouse on the Independence Square. A recent article in *The Examiner* says that the City of Independence is considering some beautification efforts around the Square which might include removing the retaining wall around the old Courthouse.

News About Our Members

Fran Mason reports that our former member, Gale Fulghum and his wife Doris have been quite ill. We wish them a speedy recovery.

We want to welcome back to membership Harold and Kay Barchers from Richmond, MO and Mr. James Bair from Kansas City.

James-Younger Gang 14th Annual Meeting

St. Joseph, Missouri will be the site of the annual reunion of James-Younger Gang aficionados on September 27 - 29, 2007. On Friday there will be a bus tour of significant sites starting at 8:15 a.m. Saturday will feature lectures/panels and a banquet. The cost is \$80 for all three days for singles and \$150 for couples, or you can break it down for specific days (\$10 Thursday only, \$30 Friday only, or \$40 Saturday only). The official hotel is the Ramada Inn where rooms will be \$79 if you tell them you are with the James-Younger Gang to get the discount (complimentary buffet breakfast included). Call the hotel at (816) 233-6192. Reservation forms can be obtained from Harold

Dellinger. More details will follow on speakers and programs.

If you want to do a little reading on Jesse James prior to attending, you can check out *The Best Writings on the Notorious Outlaw and His Gang* edited by Harold Dellinger. By contacting Harold in advance, he would probably bring some copies to a meeting and autograph them or mail them from his business www.haroldsbookstore.com. You can also call him at (816) 241-2482. The book retails for \$16.95.

Civil War in the Trans-Mississippi

The Civil War Round Table of the Ozarks in Springfield, Missouri is hosting a public conference on the Civil War in the Trans-Mississippi, November 16 and 17, 2007 at the Clarion Hotel in Springfield.

Speakers include M. Jane Johansson, author of *Peculiar Honor, The 28th Texas Cavalry*, who will be the dinner speaker on Friday evening. Others are William L. Shea, author of *Pea Ridge, Civil War Battle in the West* and William Garrett Piston, author of *Wilson's Creek: The Second Battle of the Civil War*.

If you register by October 31st the cost is \$20 for Friday evening's dinner and \$30 for Saturday which includes lunch or \$50 for both. After October 31st the cost is \$20 for Friday only and \$40 for Saturday only for a total of \$60 for both days. Many vendors are expected so you can browse when you are not in a session.

For information and to register, contact Steve Buffat at (417) 862-1771 or E-mail sjbuffat@sbcglobal.net.

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 or send an E-mail to; wqcsociety@aol.com.

**Annual Picnic
Wednesday, July 11, 2007
Phil Roberts Park and Pitcher Cemetery**

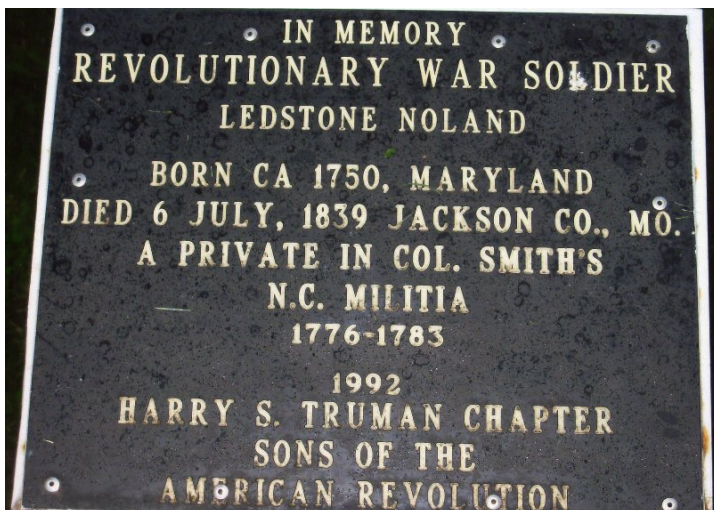


A child's grave is frequently decorated with toys

**Annual Picnic
Wednesday, July 11, 2007
Phil Roberts Park and Pitcher Cemetery**



Kathleen Tuohey displays the form that helped her restore the Pitcher Cemetery



A Revolutionary War soldier is honored at the Pitcher Cemetery



Harlan Klukow holds Joey and Janson while Beverly Shaw takes the cemetery tour