



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"

October 2007

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

2007 Officers

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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

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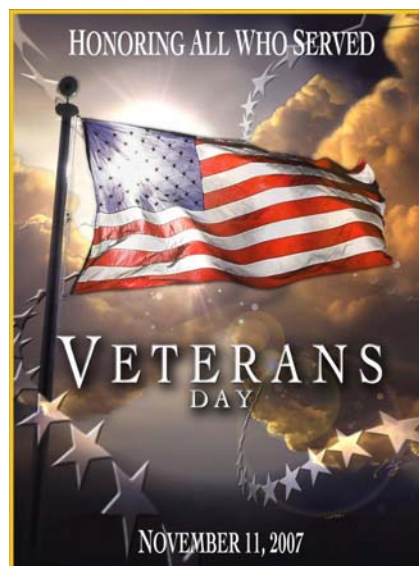
The bombardment of Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861 was the opening engagement of the American Civil War. The countdown to the 150th Anniversary on April 12, 2011 is just 1280 days away, as of the date of our next Round Table meeting on Wednesday, October 10, 2007.

First, I must apologize for making this month's newsletter late getting to you. I confess that I have been watching Ken Burn's newest contribution to our understanding of history titled, "The War." I have sat for the last two weeks enthralled with the stories and images that have past by on my television screen. To say that this series has opened my mind to a time just one generation past would not be correct. I have long read about World War II. I have never understood what truly happened until now. My father, like most veterans, did not talk about his experiences and if I am to be totally honest I never really asked. The only place I could learn was from books or movies. The one trying to relate what happened on paper and the other giving a sanitized version on the screen and neither one able to make me understand. Now I do.

I wish to thank, here and now, every veteran of every war that the United States has seen fit to enter in to. At times I may not have agreed with that war but my opinion does not and cannot diminish the bravery or the commitment of the individuals who fought in those wars.

Veterans, you have my profound and eternal gratitude for your sacrifice. You have made, kept and keep The United States of America free. Thank you!

Mike Calvert, President
The Civil War Roundtable of Western Missouri



CWRTWMO Calendar

October Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, October 10, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.
Old Blake Museum, 106 E. Walnut, Independence.
Program: Surprise Speaker on “Jackson County History During the Civil War”
Refreshments by: Karen Coin & Kathy Moorehead

October Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 17, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.
17313 E. 51st Terr. Court S., Independence, MO.
Any member is welcome to attend. Call Beverly Shaw for directions at (816) 478-7648.

October Field Trip

Saturday, October 20, 2007 – 10:30 a.m.
Union Cemetery, 227 E. 28th Terr., K.C., MO
(See article).

Other Events

October Bingham-Waggoner Exhibit

313 W. Pacific, Independence, MO
“Waggoner Gates Milling Company, Proud Producers of Queen of the Pantry Flour.”

Independence Square Ghost Tours

Friday nights – October 5, 12, 19, 28 at 7:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m., and 9:00 p.m. Call (816) 252-6653 for reservations as these sell out quickly. (See Article).

Cass County Living History Festival and Quantrill Society Reunion

October 5 - 6, 2007 – Harrisonville, MO
(See Article).

Westerners Meeting

Tuesday, October 9, 2007 – 6:00 p.m.
Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS. – Dinner is \$20.
Program: John Mark Lambertson, Director of the National Frontier Trails Museum and “Cemeteries and Tales of Graveyards.” For dinner reservations please call David Hockett at (913) 217-7768.

Metal Detecting Club

Tuesday, October 9, 2007 – 7:00 p.m. at William Chrisman High School, 1223 N. Noland Road, Independence, MO.

Third Friday Art Walk - Independence

Friday, October 19, 2007 – 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Various galleries and shops feature art. At the Blue & Grey Book Shoppe, 106 E. Walnut, Betty Key and Ted Stillwell will show their work. Book signings of *Ghost Dancers* by Diane Rogers and *Stories from the Heartland* by Judi Wells also at the Blue & Grey.

St. Joseph Museum, Inc.

Tuesday, October 23, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.
Wyeth-Tootle Mansion, 1100 Charles Street, St. Joseph, MO. Free Admission. “There’s More to Missouri Cemeteries Than Burials” by Dr. Maryellen McVicker from the Speakers Bureau of the State Historical Society of Missouri. (See Article).

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, October 23, 2007 – 6:30 p.m. Dinner
Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS. Cost is \$20. Program: Robert Krick, Historian at the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania Courthouse Battlefield. Call Paul Gault for reservations at (816) 741-2962.

Lone Jack Civil War Museum

October 31, 2007 – 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
“Walk with Civil War Spirits”

Ghostly Events in October

The Independence Square Association is offering its Friday night ghost tours on October 5th, 12th, 19th, and 28th at 7:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m., and 9:00 p.m. Each tour takes about 1½ hours and includes paranormal sightings at the 1857 Jail on Main Street and then a wagon ride to other ghostly locations with storytellers such as Ted Stillwell on board. These tours sell out quickly so you are urged to call (816) 252-6653 to make reservations as soon as possible. The cost is \$14 for adults and \$7 for children 7-11 years old.

On October 23rd, Dr. Maryellen McVicker will explain that cemeteries have styles just like dresses or cars when she speaks at the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion, 1100 Charles Street, St. Joseph, MO at 7:00 p.m. Her talk is “There’s More to Missouri Cemeteries than Burials.”

“You can often tell the economic level, the gender, the age, and oftentimes the ethnicity of the deceased just by looking in the cemetery. In some regions of Missouri, cemeteries exist from the days of the earliest white settlement to the present. They are a great source of information for researchers and an endless source of fascination because gravestone styles reflect the rapidly changing shifts in attitude and lifestyle in our culture,” says Dr. McVicker. Her free talk is made available by the Speakers Bureau of the State Historical Society of Missouri.

Cass County Living History Festival and Quantrill Society Reunion

The Cass County Living History Festival begins in Harrisonville, MO on Friday, October 5th with an encampment of Buffalo Soldiers, Native Americans, Mountain Men, and Civil War Camps from 5:00 p.m. to dusk followed by a Military Ball from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The encampment continues on Saturday, October 6th, with various parades, 19th century crafts, and stagecoach and covered wagon rides. At Noon and 4:00 p.m. the Redlegs raid the Sharp-Hopper Log Cabin. For more information please visit www.casscountryhistoricalsociety.org.

The William Clarke Quantrill Society will have a tent on the north side of the square in Harrisonville, MO. Some of its program topics are “Men of the 6th Missouri” by Jay and Jackie Roberts at Noon and “Quantrill in Texas” by Paul Petersen at 12:45 p.m. A special treat this year is a two-hour bus tour of Younger-related sites in and near Harrisonville. It will leave from the Quantrill Headquarters at 2:45 p.m. and return at 4:45 p.m. It has a capacity of only 18 persons and you need to make reservations by mail to the Quantrill Society at P.O. Box 520123, Independence, MO 64052. The cost is \$5.00.

The Quantrill Reunion will end with a banquet at 5:00 p.m. at the Marquette Cottage, 20701 E. 275th Street, Harrisonville, MO. The cost is \$15.00 and reservations can be made by mail. For more information go to www.geocities.com/quantrillsoc.

October 20th Field Trip

We have cancelled the Battle of Westport bus tour because we did not have enough reservations to pay

for the bus. Perhaps October has so many events that it’s hard to squeeze in a battlefield tour even though that’s the month of the actual battle. The Board will discuss the timing of a tour for 2008.

Karen Wells has invited us to go on a walking tour of the Sonny Wells Military Trail at Union Cemetery on October 20th. This trail was dedicated at the 150th anniversary of the cemetery in June, 2007, and Karen was presented with a framed copy of the map which is pictured on the front of late summer issue of “The Epitaph.” If you would like to carpool with us, we could meet at the Old Blake Museum, 106 E. Walnut, Independence, MO at 10:00 a.m. and drive to Union Cemetery, 227 E. 28th Terr., Kansas City, MO (near Crown Center). If you would like to drive separately, you could meet us there at 10:30 a.m.

There are two Battle of Westport events taking place in Kansas City on Saturday afternoon. After having lunch (if the weather is good, maybe getting carry-out and eating in the cemetery which is also a Kansas City, Missouri park but if it’s too cool, maybe going to a nearby eatery). We could then travel to the Harris-Kearney House at 4000 Baltimore to see the Battle of Westport exhibit and tour the house which was used during the battle. Then we could go to the Wornall House at 61st Terrace and Wornall where there is going to be a Civil War encampment. This antebellum home was also used during the battle.

We would head back to Independence about 3:30 p.m. to end our day at about 4:00 p.m.

The cost would be modest to reimburse the driver for gas if you carpool, buy your own lunch, and pay a fee of \$2 each at the Harris-Kearney House. The encampment is free to the public, but there is an admission to tour the Wornall House.

The above itinerary is subject to revision so please call Beverly Shaw at (816) 478-7648 to check on final plans. We can discuss the schedule at our meeting on October 10th.

Stand of Colors

On September 13, 2007, at a news conference at the Muehlebach Hotel it was revealed that the Kansas City Rotary Club #13 is sponsoring a giant

reenactment of the Battle of Westport on the Jerry Smith Farm Park at 139th and Prospect in Kansas City, MO on May 17th and 18th, 2008. Attendance is projected to be 20,000 to 30,000 visitors with 1,500 to 2,000 re-enactors from all over the nation. We will be hearing much more about this major event next year. For more information you can go to www.standofcolors.com.

History of the Civil War in Clay County

We thank Liz Murphy for highlighting some of the significant Civil War events in Clay County such as the raids on the Liberty Arsenal at our September meeting. Liz is a guide at the Jesse James Farm in Kearney, Missouri, and it seems that no Civil War talk can avoid talking about Jesse. For several years Liz has assisted an Englishwoman named Michelle Pollard to visit some of the significant sites in Jesse's life. In the summer of 2007 they visited the Northfield, MN bank that he did **not** successfully rob and other sites in Arkansas, Liberty, Independence, and St. Joseph, Missouri. Frank Haight of *The Examiner* wrote an interesting article about her 300 page manuscript called "Legends Born When Men Die" in the August 31st issue. She hopes to get it published in the U.S. Some historians credit Jesse with robbing the McCoy and Co. Bank in Independence on November 27, 1867, but Michelle does not agree. "I don't think he committed any of the early bank robberies and I don't think he was the leader of any of those groups that were robbing banks during that period."

Brian Burnes of the *Kansas City Star* relates a story in the September 24, 2007 issue that says Jesse James was successfully sued over the ownership of a horse in Gallatin, MO. It seems that in December of 1869 Jesse and Frank James robbed the Daviess County Savings Association in Gallatin. While trying to make their getaway, one of their horses bolted and its owner had to climb up behind his brother. Later they appropriated a replacement horse at gunpoint from a Gallatin farmer named Smoote. The fine horse left back in Gallatin was like a Ferrari left in a small town; it obviously belonged to the robbers so Mr. Smoote sued to have the horse given to him in exchange for the one they stole and he eventually won. The Gallatin robbery is also significant in the Jesse James legend because the bank cashier, John Sheets, was shot and killed. This prompted Gov. Thomas Crittenden to

announce a \$3,000 reward for the capture of Frank and Jesse which made them wanted men. The reward is what some see as the motive for "The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford," the new movie starring Brad Pitt.

Plans for 2008

The Board of Directors would like to hear from you regarding programs, tours, and activities you would like to see us pursue in 2008. At our November meeting we will be presenting reports on the finances of the organization, the activities of the Sonny Wells Little Blue Battlefield Commission and the Lewis-Gregg Cemetery Commission, as well as electing officers and board members for next year.

We will bring you up to date on the \$4,000 grant from the National Park Service that will finance the preparation of the National Register application, the new brochure for Civil War sites in eastern Jackson County, and new Civil War markers. An exciting new possibility is correcting a few minor errors in our "Monuments" book and republishing it since we are down to just a few copies. We might also consider whether Volume 2 might be in order. We have found that there are many more Civil War markers, monuments and memorials within a 50 mile radius that we could not include in the first volume because it was funded by a KC 150 grant. We enjoyed the research and photography for the first volume; do we want to do it again?

You can jot down your thoughts and pass them along to a Board Member at the October 10th meeting or call one of them before the October 17th Board meeting.

One thing that Beverly Shaw would like to do is to create a slide show based on our trip to Carthage on September 15th. She saw a lot of cameras being used that day by not only our official photographer, Terry McConnell, but others as well. If you have some shots you would like to share with us, please give Beverly prints that she can scan or a memory card or CD that she can use to record your images and return the media to you. The tour was enjoyed by 34 people who viewed the video about the Battle of Carthage and then heard some differences of opinion from our step-on guide. The Round Table bought a copy of the DVD so that members who were not able to go can see it.

You can request a loan of the DVD from Beverly Shaw by calling (816) 478-7648.

About Our Members

We were sorry to lose our good friend and long-time member, **Richard Abbott**, to cancer. We send our condolences to Ruby and his family. Richard built thousands of bird houses out of old barn wood and gave them away to children's groups. He was also very generous with the Round Table by passing along framed prints of wanted posters and our memorabilia which we will share with you soon.

Mike Calvert has been out on the speaking trail again. The nice thing is that he comes back with an honorarium which he donates to the Round Table. In the October issue of the Lee's Summit Historical Society Newsletter, they write that Mike spoke at their August 3rd meeting about the 1862 Battle of Independence and the effort of the Round Table to preserve the Little Blue Battlefield.

Fran Mason received the DAR Historic Preservation Award at the April 21st conference of the Missouri State Society, Daughters of the American Revolution. She and her late husband, Lucky, were cited for restoring the 1856 Lawson Moore Civil War home on Blue Mills Road. The seven-year restoration was completed in 2006. Mike Calvert revealed at the September board meeting that his daughter and son-in-law, Sara and Daniel Kaleikau, have bought the Lawson Moore House.

Many of you also know **Jane Mallinson** of Sugar Creek for her efforts in promoting American history in the metropolitan area. On May 1st the Independence Pioneers Chapter of the DAR awarded her the National DAR History Medal for researching the locations of trail sites for the placement of markers of the Santa Fe, Oregon, and California trails. Then on May 7th the City Council of Independence, MO presented Jane with the W.Z. Hickman Award for Historic Preservation for Distinguished Service, the same award that was given posthumously to **Tim Cox**, our late president.

Columnist Jerry Plantz who writes for *The Independence Examiner* was recently surprised by a citation delivered by two Sons of the American Revolution representatives in full period color-guard attire for his display of the American flag,

writing about patriotism and advancing the cause of the American Revolution. One of those in the red regalia was our member, **Bob Grover**, Vice President in charge of programs for the Harry S Truman chapter, who has participated in 1,500 events and has spoken to more than 5,000 school children.

Also featured on the front page of *The Examiner* on September 19, 2007, was our member and local author **Lee Ward** who had just finished a book signing at the Blue & Grey Book Shoppe on our meeting night, September 12th. Lee's book *Coffins, Kits and More: Stories of the Civil War Embalmers* is the culmination of three years of research and chronicles the lives of six embalmers during the Civil War. Art Kelley also heard him say that he was taking a group of Scouts to honor burials at Chilhowee, MO.

In her column *Arts 'n Facts* on August 18th Bonnie Horner gives credit to **John and Dianne Lehman** for making her evening enjoyable as she tried to do an Artwalk on the wrong night. She found them playing as the Pick & Hammer duo at Hazel's Café next to the Mid-Continent Public Library, North Independence Branch on 24 Highway. They play a wide range of songs on guitar and hammer dulcimer and played period music for our Alexander Doniphan program at the Truman Library.

Sandy Turner is editing a special "Welcome Home" section of *The Examiner* on Thursdays. Recent issues have featured country living where the buffalo roam at the farm home of **Dave and Kim Mullnix** near the Lawson Moore House (August 2nd), the **Dillingham-Lewis House** in Blue Springs which is the home of the Blue Springs Historical Society (August 9th) and the **Lawson Moore House** (August 16th).

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.

**CWRTWMO Tour of William Jewell College,
Liberty, MO - August 8, 2007**



Geno Chapel – The beginning of our tour

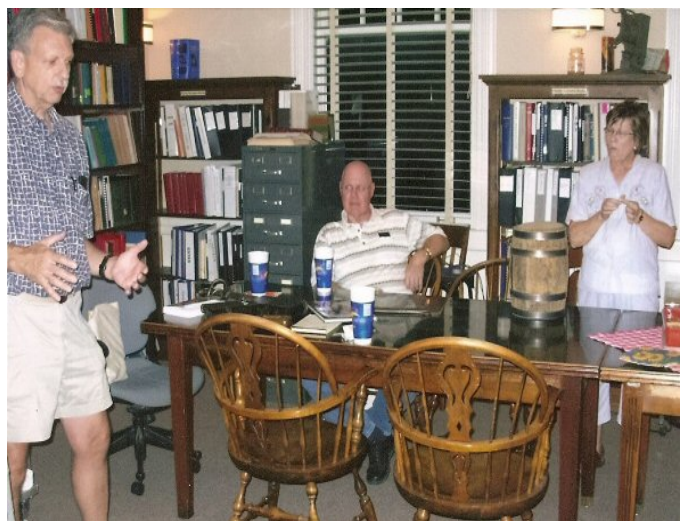
**CWRTWMO Tour of William Jewell College,
Liberty, MO - August 8, 2007**



Mt. Memorial Cemetery – Encircled by the college, also called “The Old Graveyard”- first burial in 1827



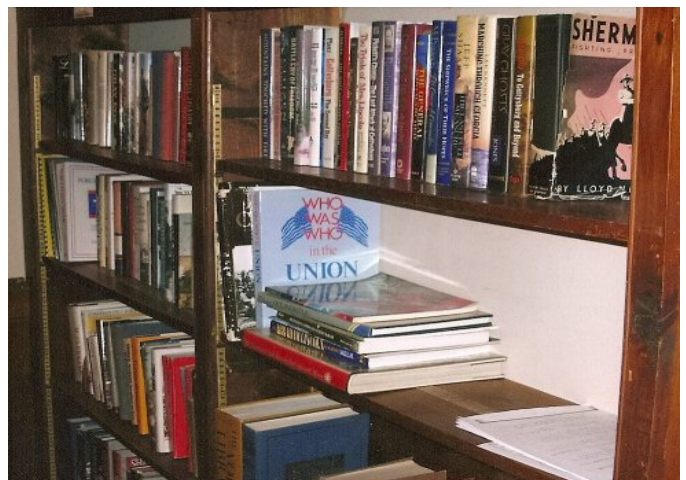
Jewell Hall – Erected in 1851 and on the National Register of Historic Places



Clay County Archives – Steve Olson, Jerry Tjelle & Carol Olson. Steve is talking about the wooden bucket, their most interesting artifact sitting on the table



Grand River Chapel
Moved to the William Jewell Campus



Maienschein Collection – Our collection of some 300 books related to the Civil War on loan to the Clay County Archives