



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"

January 2006

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

2006 Officers

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The Border Star Editor

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Meetings

2nd Wednesday of the month - 7:00 pm
Old Blake Museum - 106 E. Walnut
Independence, Missouri

Visitors Always Welcome!

Annual Dues

Individual ----- 15.00
Family ----- 22.50
Student (under 21) ----- 5.00
Newsletter Only (no meetings)-- 10.00

For information:

Tim Cox ----- 478-8833
Beverly Shaw ----- 478-7648
Art Kelley ----- 373-4101

Mailing Address:

C.W.R.T. of Western Missouri
4947 S. Peck Avenue
Independence, MO 64055



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 1917 days as of the date of our Round Table meeting, Wednesday, January 11, 2006.

I'VE SEEN THE ELEPHANT, AND. . . (Thoughts from Tim Cox, President)

Unfortunately, Tim Cox, our president, has seen the elephant recently... and it sat on him!

Tim has had problems with blood clots in his legs and cellulitis, both of which required him to keep his legs elevated. As you can imagine, this certainly curtailed his usual activities. While Tim was not able to attend our annual Christmas party on December 10th, he did send his personal greetings.

Tim had to go into Independence Regional Hospital for further diagnosis. As soon as his wife, Kay, has reliable information, she will pass it on to Beverly, and the calling committee will let everyone know. In the meantime you might want to send a card to Tim's home to express your concern: Tim Cox, 4947 S. Peck Ave., Independence, MO 64055.

Tim wants us to continue with our planned programs in 2006. On Wednesday, January 11th, we will have an Open Round Table at the Old Blake Museum at 7:00 p.m. This is a time for members to share artifacts, books you have enjoyed, costumes, stories, travel experiences, etc. When you arrive, please sign in if you plan to share something so we can allocate time.

Tim had a call from Paul Petersen who reported that he is back from Iraq and would be glad to speak about his book *Quantrill of Missouri: The Making of a Guerrilla Warrior* at our meeting on February 8, 2006 at the Old Blake Museum.

If you have suggestions for speakers or programs for 2006, please pass those along to John Martin, 1st Vice President, at (816) 966-9496.

Substitute Elephant Tales by Beverly Shaw, Treasurer

ELEPHANT TALES

The expression "see the elephant" is an old one, perhaps dating to Hannibal and his use of elephants in battle. Of course, in 19th century America, everyone loved to see the elephants at the circus when they came to town, always the featured attraction. Gold Rush travelers used the term to refer to the remarkable sights they had seen in their adventures out west. Finally, Civil War soldiers used the expression in referring to their first glimpse of combat, "I seen the elephant!"

Calendar

January Regular Meeting

Wednesday, January 11th, 7:00 p.m.

Program: Open Round Table

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

January Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 18th, 7:00 p.m.

17313 E. 51 Terr. Court

Independence, MO

February Regular Meeting

Wednesday, February 8th, 7:00 p.m.

Program: Paul Petersen, "*Quattrill of Missouri: The Making of a Guerrilla Warrior*"

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

February Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 15th, 7:00 p.m.

17313 E. 51 Terr. Court

Independence, MO

Report on the Christmas Party

Betty and Teddy (Betty Key and Ted Stillwell) were kind enough to host our annual Christmas luncheon on Saturday, December 10, 2005 at the Old Blake Museum. About 40 people enjoyed the deli tray and drinks provided by the Round Table as well as dishes everyone brought to share. As usual Karen Wells provided her delicious "slush" to get us in a party mood.

Randall Todd was able to stop by for a quick lunch before continuing his appointed rounds for Federal Express. He brought us greetings from Dr. Gerald Anderson, our Director Emeritus, who helped found our group. Dr. Anderson resides at the Missouri Veterans Home in Cameron, MO. We signed a Christmas card to send to Dr. Anderson.

The surprise program was given by Dwight Frizzell, Assistant Professor of Photography and New Media at the Kansas City Art Institute, who actually grew up in Independence. He brought his wife Rhonda and his mother who still resides in Independence. Dwight researched an aspect of Missouri Civil War history that is little known about an enclave of Irish immigrants who settled in an area near West Plains, Missouri, above the Eleven Point River.

Christmas Party Report (continued...)

In addition to the paper trail which he collected in a notebook and shared with us, he created a radio program called "The Irish Wilderness" which includes narrative from a Catholic Priest who later came to Kansas City as well as ambient sounds from the caves and dripping water in the area. Dwight brought four CD copies of the radio broadcast to give away and also had musical recordings for sale by the group called BCR (Black Crack Review), a jazz ensemble in which he plays saxophones. Please see Christmas Party photos in this newsletter.

Upcoming Events

The 48th Annual Missouri Conference on History, sponsored by Central Missouri State University and State Fair Community College, will be held on the campus of State Fair in Sedalia March 30-31, 2006.

The conference seeks nominations for its book and article prizes. The book award will be given to the best volume on any historical topic written by a Missouri resident and published in 2005. Articles eligible for nomination must also relate to a Missouri history topic and have been published during 2005 (no restriction on the residence of the author). The deadline for nominations is January 15, 2006. Three copies of each book or article should be sent to Dr. Delia Gillis, Central Missouri State University, Department of History and Anthropology, Wood 136J, Attn: Missouri Conference on History, Warrensburg, MO 64093.

Change of Address for Bea and Lee

Bea Cornish, longtime member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the United Daughters of the Confederacy; good friend of Sonny and Karen Wells; and visitor at many of our events, recently moved to John Knox Village. Her new address is 1702 S.W. O'Brien Road., #313, Lee's Summit, MO 64081.

Our board member, Lee Jackson, has also recently moved to John Knox (we will soon need an auxiliary there). Her new address is 501 N.W. Moore Street, #212, Lee's Summit, MO 64081.

Stationery for the Round Table

The Board feels it's time to order stationery and possibly establish a post office box address for on-going use. Because no one officer can guarantee that he or she will be able to receive the Round Table's mail in perpetuity, it would be helpful to have an on-going address that could be accessed by successive officers. The stationery could continue to be used as well. If you have comments or suggestions about design elements or an on-going address, please feel free to voice your opinion at the January meeting or by contacting a board member.

New Books Worth Noting

There has been a lot of publicity on National Public Radio and in print about a new book called *The Confederate Battle Flag: America's Most Embattled Emblem* by John Coski, Director of the Library and Historian at the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, VA. He seems to have a balanced and reasoned viewpoint of the flag controversy. There are some copies in the Mid-Continent Library system. The Kansas City Round Table is sponsoring a talk by Mr. Coski at their Dinner Meeting on March 28, 2006. There will also be copies of his book for purchase and signing.

Doris Kearns Goodwin has written a new book in which some may see her as having redeemed her reputation as a historical scholar. The book, *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*, begins in May 1860 when Lincoln bests such formidable rivals as New York's William H. Seward, Ohio's Salmon P. Chase and Missouri's Edward Bates. Lincoln stunned them all by winning - and then he stunned them by putting them in his Cabinet.

E-Mail Address?

To help distribute important CWRTWMO information, we would like to compile an E-mail directory of our members. This information will not be given out nor will it be sold or used for any other purpose! If you have an E-mail address, please legibly write it on a piece of paper and give to Beverly Shaw at the January meeting or send to Beverly as soon as possible.

Refreshments for the January Meeting

Volunteers helping Karen Wells with refreshments at the January meeting are Connie McQuain and Sue Valentine. Please thank these workers for the important contribution they make at our meetings!

Pre-decorated Symphony Designers' Showhouse

The Symphony Designers' Showhouse for 2006 is the Richard and Annette Bloch home, 6315 Ward Parkway (east side of street between 63rd and Greenway Terr.). It usually has bright blue awnings in the spring and summer. Mr. Bloch passed away last year and his wife is moving to the Plaza so the house is on the market. Some of you might like to see the house before it's decorated. The weekend for the pre-decorated tour is January 28-29, 2006. The hours on Saturday are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Sunday, Noon to 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$5.00.

The house is English Georgian style designed by Edward Tanner who did many of the J. C. Nichols houses. This was built on speculation and was started in 1925 and completed in 1926. The first owner was Mr. Dan Moser who, at various times, was a cigar store owner like his father and later sold refrigerators. He had the first swimming pool in Kansas City installed in 1927, and Hare & Hare designed the grounds for the home which takes up four city blocks. He died at the house in 1940.

The second family was Samuel Greenberg and his wife Gertrude. They owned The Leader Clothing Company, 632 Minnesota Ave., Kansas City, KS.

The third family was Hyman and Rosalind Davidson of the Davidson Furniture Company in the 1950's. The Bloch family bought the house in 1957 and have lived there since.

2006 Dues

CWRTWMO dues are on a calendar year basis so now is the time to renew for 2006. An individual membership is \$15.00 per year and for a couple it's \$22.50. For those who can't attend our meetings, we also have a subscription for \$10.00 per year to receive "*The Border Star*." Please send your check made payable to "Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri" to Beverly Shaw, 17313 E. 51st Terr. Court, Independence, MO 64055. You can also pay in person at the January 11th meeting.

William Clarke Quantrill Society

For more information, please visit the WCQ Society website at; www.geocities.com/quantrillsoc