



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 2005

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

2005 Officers

President ----- Tim Cox
1st V.P. ----- John Martin
2nd V.P. ----- Art Kelley
Secretary ----- Karen Wells
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Historian ----- Paul Tate

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Pat Gradwohl Lee Jackson
Don Moorehead Michael Grossi
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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 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)-- 9.00

For information:

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Beverly Shaw ----- 478-7648
Art Kelley ----- 373-4101

Mailing Address:

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

I'VE SEEN THE ELEPHANT, AND. . .

I've seen the elephant, and it was huge, gigantic, as was the food and table setting for this year's Christmas Party at the Harris-Kearney House (see Beverly Shaw's article). This year, the party was held in conjunction with the folks of the Union Cemetery Historical Society. Many thanks to them and to the Westport Historical Society for hosting us. We really appreciate their help in providing such a historic meeting site for our event, and with very little advance notice, I might add. We kept up the tradition of the White Elephant gifts and door prizes, and had a good crowd.

As usual, a very public thank you to Beverly Shaw from everyone as well.

A few comments as we start the New Year and think about the one just past:

- ▶ Our good fortune was gaining Betty Key and Ted Stillwell as friends and hosts for our meetings. Thank you!
- ▶ A Jefferson City archeologist will soon begin doing some digging as part of the EIS for the new MRC highway project near The Little Blue Battlefield. He'll be looking for historical artifacts. We will keep you posted and maybe we can volunteer to help.
- ▶ Check out the results of our November election (see column on the left). It will be a fun year with fun people.
- ▶ Delivered Dr. Anderson's Christmas card to him at the Cameron Veterans Home. He is doing well and sends his regards.
- ▶ Anyone ever heard of the 98th Regiment of Missouri Militia? Friend Tom Perry is looking for information regarding his Union Army Civil War ancestor, John R. Perry, of Platte County but I can't find the 98th.
- ▶ Working on plans for field trips to Cole Camp and Marais de Cygnes Massacre site.

Until next month, happy elephant trails to you. ~Tim Cox, President

Sonny Wells Little Blue Battlefield Memorial Fund Sees \$3,000 Donation

Exciting News! Jane Wells, mother of our founder and past president Sonny Wells, has donated \$3,000 to the memorial fund in Sonny's name (see the Treasurer's Report for more information). This brings the total of the dollars earmarked for preservation of The Little Blue Battlefield to just over \$5,000!

2004 Chistmas Party



Calendar

CWRTWMO – January Regular Meeting

Wednesday, January 12th, 7:00 p.m.

Program: “Open Round Table”

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

Please contact Tim to sign up for your 5 to 10 minute “show and tell” presentation.

CWRTWMO – January Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 19th, 7:00 p.m.

17313 E. 51st Terr. Court, Independence, MO

CWRTWMO – February Regular Meeting

Wednesday, February 9th, 7:00 p.m.

Program: “American Battlefield Protection Program” and Wilson’s Creek by Connie Langum

Connie is the Midwest Coordinator, employed by The NPS at Wilson’s Creek Battlefield

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

CWRTWMO – February Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 16th, 7:00 p.m.

17313 E. 51st Terr. Court, Independence, MO

CWRTWMO – March Regular Meeting

Wednesday, March 9th, 7:00 p.m.

Program: “Guerrillas in Elmwood Cemetery” by Richard Stewart

Richard is a volunteer historian with Elmwood Cemetery

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

CWRTWMO – March Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 16th, 7:00 p.m.

17313 E. 51st Terr. Court, Independence, MO

GUARDIANS OF THE LITTLE BLUE BATTLEFIELD

Tuesday, January 25th, 7:00 p.m.

Blue Hills Elementary School

1911 N. Blue Mills Road

(Just north of Blue Mills Road and 24 Highway)

Meeting Site

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri meets at the Old Blake Museum, 106 E. Walnut Street, Independence, Missouri (northeast corner of Walnut and Main). Parking for the meeting is at any street parking near by and a few spaces across the street at the Plasterers’ Union building, 301 S. Main. Please do not use any other private parking until we receive permission from business owners.

Public Preview of Symphony Designers’ Showhouse

by Beverly Shaw, House Historian

One of the spring activities of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri has been to volunteer to be docents at the annual Symphony Designers’ Showhouse on a designated Thursday evening from about 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The sponsoring auxiliary of the Symphony obtains the use of a large house for about six months and invites area interior designers to decorate a room or a design area (including outdoor gardens and porches). The public is then invited to see the results which resemble something out of House Beautiful magazine. The ticket prices, boutique, lunch room, private parties, and school tours usually raise about \$100,000 a year for the Kansas City Symphony.

The house for 2005 is located at 5300 Bellevue, Kansas City, Missouri. It will be the 36th year of this project, and in fact this particular house was a Showhouse 25 years ago. It has had extensive remodeling two years ago and is in wonderful shape for a 1914 house and carriage house.

If you would like to see “The Before,” you can do so the weekend of January 29-30, 2005, for a fee of \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children under 12. On Saturday the hours are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Sunday the hours are Noon to 4:00 p.m. One interesting thing about the house is that it has been used as the residence of the Japanese Consul General for the Midwest Region. The consulate in Kansas City is closing at the end of 2004, and Mr. Shibata will be returning to the UN in New York. The present owner is graciously allowing the Junior Women’s Symphony Alliance to present the house as the 2005 Symphony Designers’ Showhouse. Advance tickets are not necessary; you just pay at the door. Call Beverly Shaw at (816) 478-7648 if you need directions. It is near Loose Park and Ward Parkway in Kansas City. Remember, if you volunteer to help us after it’s decorated, you get to see the end result for free instead of paying \$12 at the door or \$10 for advance tickets.

The Missouri Irish Brigade

For information about the Missouri Irish Brigade, please E-mail the MIB at: jpbairkc@yahoo.com or visit their website: <http://www.geocities.com/missouriirishbrigade/index.html>

Notes From the Treasurer

by Beverly Shaw, Treasurer

► Just a reminder that membership dues are on a calendar year basis so you can mail your dues to the treasurer or bring them to the January 12, 2005 meeting:

Individual - \$15.00 / Family - \$22.50 / Student - \$5.00

Please make your check payable to Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri, and mail to:

Beverly Shaw
17313 E. 51st Terr. Court
Independence, MO 64055

For those who just want to receive the newsletter, we have a subscription rate of \$9.00 for the year.

► In December, 2004, we received a generous \$3,000 donation in honor of Sonny Wells from his mother, Jane Wells of Lincoln, Nebraska. The Board decided to establish a separate savings account to hold the funds that are earmarked for the Little Blue Battlefield preservation in memory of Sonny, our founder and past president. The new account is called the "Sonny Wells Little Blue Battlefield Memorial Fund" and is held at United Missouri Bank along with our checking account and regular savings account. The new account had an opening balance of \$5,050 which included a transfer from our regular savings account.

► The regular savings account balance is \$1,349.63 and the checking account balance is \$49.35. In addition to publishing our monthly newsletter, we had a one-time expense in 2004 of buying period flags and staffs for use at special events.

► The Treasurer and President have been hard at work on the application for 501(c)(3) status with the IRS so that future donations for battlefield preservation will be tax-deductible. We received a very generous donation from Donna Daniels to pay the filing fee.

I want to thank our members for their dues and the spirit of cooperation and friendship within the group.

Western Missouri Round Table Trivia

compiled by Tim Cox for the 2004 Christmas Party

By request, the following is the Trivia presented at the 2004 Christmas Party. Please let Dennis know of any errors!

1. Who was the Blonde Apollo of the Prairie?

2. Civil War Medal of Honor winner buried in Union Cemetery?

3. Last resident of the Confederate Veterans Home in Higginsville?

4. _____ Thieves?

5. Painting by artist Tom Lea that hangs in the Pleasant Hill Post Office?

6. Name the 5 Confederate Generals who planned Battle of The Little Blue?

7. U. S. Grant chaplain buried in Union Cemetery?

8. Who said, "I owe my allegiance to a higher power?"

9. Who was Dingus?

10. Year Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri was organized?

11. Union Cemetery member whose name is an insect and a vegetable?

12. Who wrote first hand account of Six Man Massacre site near Lone Jack?

13. Colonel Henry Routt led raid on Liberty Arsenal, April 1861. Who was the Union commander of the fort?

14. The 1959 TV show "The Rebel," starred Nick Adams as who?

15. The first Civil War memorial erected west of the Mississippi?

16. The door to John Brown's house is located where?

17. Lincoln's carriage is located?

18. Lincoln's Funeral Train eagle decal is located?

19. Round Table members from Minnesota?

20. Name of John Wayne's cat in the movie True Grit?

21. John Wayne visited this site in 1964, and made mention of it in the movie True Grit, "lost my eye at a little place in Missouri called?"

22. Defense attorney at the Lincoln assassination trial. Union Commander at the Battle of Pilot Knob. Issued Order Number 11.

23. Warsaw and Cole Camp. Which was Union, Which was Confederate?

24. Who lost hair at age 19, due to the measles, and wore a wig?

25. What did Ben Cartwright (Lorne Greene) of Bonanza fame do in the Civil War?

26. Round Table member who has the same last name as the U.S. Secretary of The Navy during the Civil War?

27. Who in Union Cemetery is buried near his wife and her husband?

28. Had 2 first names, was killed at the Battle of The Little Blue?

29. The members of the famous freighting firm, "Russell, Majors, and Waddell" are buried where?

30. Union Cemetery member who is the opposite of his name, when describing his ability to lead tours at Union Cemetery?

31. Round Table members from the capital of the Confederacy?

32. Guerrilla known as The Little Comedian?

33. How could I have obtained my 10 cent stamp during the Civil War?

34. Round Table member named for a holiday?

35. John Newman Edwards is buried where?

16. Trading Post Museum

17. Fort Leavenworth

18. 1859 Old Jail

19. Harlan Klukow and Mrs. McConnell

20. Sterling Price

21. Lone Jack

22. Brigadier General Thomas Ewing

23. Warsaw – Confederate and Cole Camp – Union

24. George Caleb Bingham

25. Union Sailor

26. Karen Wells, same as Gideon Welles

27. George Caleb Bingham, near Mattie Lykins Bingham and previous husband John Lykins

28. George Todd, the guerrilla

29. Alexander Majors – Union Cemetery, Kansas City
Waddell – Macpelah Cemetery, Lexington, Missouri
William Hepburn Russell – Palmyra, Missouri

30. Rusty Corwin

31. The McKorkendales from Richmond, Missouri

32. Dave Poole

33. Cut a 20 cent stamp in half

34. Sue Valentine

35. Dover, Missouri

Historic Preservation Manager

The City of Independence Heritage Commission held a reception on December 9, 2004 to introduce its new manager, Wendy Shay. The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri was invited to bring a copy of our mission statement and information about our organization. Beverly Shaw mailed a packet of information and Tim Cox attended the reception. We are fortunate that Mike Calvert has served on this commission in the past, Vicki Nave (Chairperson) is currently on the commission and our newsletter Editor, Dennis Myers, is a recent appointee.

Trivia Answers

1. William Clarke Quantrill, alias Charlie Hart
2. Nathaniel Gwynne
3. John Graves, 102
4. Penick's Thieves, named for Clay Co. Union Officer, took doors for trenches at WJC
5. "Back Home, April 1865"
6. Marmaduke, Fagan, Cabell, Thompson, Shelby
7. Addison Madeira
8. Abner Deane, regarding Test Oath (Iron Clad Oath)
9. Jessie James
10. December of 1992
11. Bea Cornish
12. Martin Rice, "What I Saw of Order #11"
13. Nathaniel Grant
14. Johnny Yuma
15. 2nd Colorado Monument, 07/31/64 for Grinter Farm fight, 07/02/64

150th Anniversary of the Civil War

In just six short years, the United States will observe the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War (1861 – 2011). This momentous period in the history of the nation will merit observances and projects similar to the Lewis and Clark celebration in 2004. The *Missouri's Civil War Heritage Foundation*, with headquarters in Columbia, Missouri, is willing to be a clearinghouse for activities in partnership with the Missouri Division of Tourism. It is not too early to have a say in what is done to bring attention to the importance role of the Civil War that took place in Missouri. You can visit the award-winning website at www.mocivilwar.org

Christmas Party in Westport

On Saturday, December 4, 2004, about 35 members of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri and the Union Cemetery Historical Society held a Christmas luncheon and program at the Harris-Kearney House, 4000 Baltimore, Kansas City, Missouri. Hopefully you received a telephone call to say the location of the party was moved from the Loose Park Garden Center to the 1855 brick museum house that is the headquarters of the Westport Historical Society as the garden center was without heat.

After a bountiful potluck luncheon (complete with Karen Wells' famous "slush" and J. R. Russell's purchase of homemade tamales), we retired to the dining room to enjoy door prizes supplied by both organizations and a trivia quiz prepared by Tim Cox.

Those who had never visited the Harris-Kearney House (which was used by Union troops during the Battle of Westport) were allowed to view the south parlor and two upstairs bedrooms which have been furnished by the Woman's City Club, Colonial Dames Chapter 13 and private donors. At the time of the Civil War, the house stood at Westport Road and Main Street, looking toward downtown Kansas City, Missouri. In 1878 a back wing was added by Charles Esmonde Kearney who married one of Colonel Jack Harris' daughters – thus the name "Harris-Kearney House."

In the 1920's the house was in danger of being torn down so a group of civic minded citizens raised enough money to "save the Harris House." The back wing was severed, the two parts of the house were placed on skids and moved one block to 4000 Baltimore, where it was reassembled.

~Beverly Shaw, Recording Secretary of Westport Historical Society



2004 Christmas Party

Save the Little Blue Buttons

Just \$1.00 each

