



# ★ *The Border Star* ★

*Official Publication of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri*  
*"Studying the Border War and Beyond"*

June 2017

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

### **2017 Officers**

*President* ----- Mike Calvert  
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### ***The Border Star* Editor**

Dennis Myers ~ (816) 769-6490

### **Meetings**

2nd Wednesday of each month  
7:00 p.m. ~ Fellowship Hall  
Village Heights Community of Christ  
Church  
1009 Farview Drive  
Independence, Missouri

### **Visitors Always Welcome!**

### **Annual Dues**

Individual ----- 25.00  
Family ----- 35.00  
Student (under 21) ----- 5.00  
Newsletter Only (no meetings) 12.00

### **For Information**

Mike Calvert ----- (816) 898-2603  
Beverly Shaw ----- (816) 225-7944  
Pat Gradwohl ----- (816) 781-8871  
Karen Wells ----- (816) 429-5165

### **Mailing Address**

CWRTWM, P.O. Box 3019  
Independence, MO 64055

### **Website**

[www.CWRTWM.org](http://www.CWRTWM.org)

## ***President's Letter***

We just finished a long weekend holiday called Memorial Day or as some of us remember Decoration Day. I'm sure that many of you spent at least part of your weekend visiting and remembering those loved ones who have as they say "gone before." Your remembrance, like mine, probably took you to multiple cemeteries. My immediate family is buried in Lobb, Woodlawn, Blue Springs and Mount Washington cemeteries. The one place I don't have a love one buried is in a national cemetery. There is at least one national cemetery in every state including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. 135 in total. Missouri has three; Jefferson Barracks, Jefferson City and Springfield National Cemeteries. National cemeteries were created out of necessity. The Civil War brought death on a scale unprecedented in our nation's history. We all know the numbers. The Army, fully aware of the problem, had no established way to deal with the number of casualties until July 17, 1862 when Congress gave President Lincoln the ability "to purchase cemetery grounds and cause them to be securely enclosed, to be used as a national cemetery for the soldiers who shall die in the service of the country." Prior to the creation of these national cemeteries, military personnel were buried at the place of death, such as in a military post cemetery, where they fell on the battlefield or the body was removed by family members and reburied at a private cemetery. There is a whole story to be told about the many convolutions Congress went through to establish the cemeteries and the grave markers we see today. More story than we have space for. Let's just be grateful that Congress was able to come together and agree that those who sacrificed their life for the defense of their country deserved a better eternal resting place than a forgotten grave in a lonely field in some back country of rural America. National Cemeteries are a place of honor and I will say a place of beauty. Go to a National Cemetery sometime. You will find very few places of such tranquility and no better place to honor our fallen heroes.

PS you should be asking yourself what about the Confederate casualties. Another story for another time.

*~Mike Calvert*

*President, Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri*

## **CWRTWM Calendar**

### June 2017 Membership Meeting

Wednesday, June 14, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. for Indoor Potluck Picnic at Village Heights Community of Christ Church, 1009 Farview Drive, Independence, MO. Come at 6:00 p.m. for a picnic of fried chicken provided by the Round Table. Members are asked to bring a dish to share. Drinks and plates will also be provided. Program about 7:00 p.m. Jim Beckner will be giving a tribute to Art Kelley, our late 2nd Vice President. Bring your best “Art” stories.

### Future Programs

July 12<sup>th</sup> – History of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri. August 9<sup>th</sup> – The History of Independence, MO by Ted Stillwell. September 13<sup>th</sup> – Born a Slave by David Jackson. October 11<sup>th</sup> – The Battle of Liberty by Jay Jackson and Tony Myers. November 8<sup>th</sup> – The Confederate Railroad by Robert Walz. December 2<sup>nd</sup> – Christmas Luncheon (TBA).

## **Other History Events**

### Dawn at Black Jack – 161st Anniversary

Friday, June 2, 2017 – 5:00 a.m. – 7:00 a.m. Black Jack Battlefield, 163 E. 2000 Road, Wellsville, KS. Special tour of the Battle of Black Jack on the exact date and time the battle occurred. Arrive at the park no later than 4:45 a.m. Bring flashlights or lanterns. For information, please call Kerry Altenbernd (aka John Brown) at (785) 380-9156.

### Shoal Creek First Saturday

Saturday, June 3, 2017, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Shoal Creek Living History Village, 6800 NE Barry Road, Kansas City, MO. Free family event with living history reenactors, food, and craft vendors with family activities and demonstrations. Some activities do charge for their services (cash only). Inside Robert Hodge Park and Golf Course. From I-435 take Highway 152 east ½ mile and turn north onto Barry Road. Go west on Barry to Hodge Park. Follow the road past the driving range and up the hill to the iron gate entrance.

### Explore Liberty’s Heritage Walking Tour

Saturday, June 3, 2017 – 10:00 a.m. Dougherty & Prospect Heights Historic Districts. Tour meets at

the parking lot at the corner of Franklin and Gallatin.

### Confederate Memorial Day – Higginsville, MO

Saturday, June 3, 2017 – 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Confederate Memorial State Park, 211 W. First Street, Higginsville, MO (intersection of Business Route 13 and 213.) 124th anniversary of the official opening of the Confederate Veterans Home (1893 to 1950) with Gen. Jo Shelby in attendance. 10:00 a.m. – Chapel (Jon Linn speaks about the Veterans Home). 10:30 a.m. – Hank Roberts, Southern and Spiritual Music. 11:00 a.m. – Quantrill Society meeting and program. 11:30 a.m. – Children of the Confederacy. 12:15 p.m. – Lunch. Brown bag or buy sandwiches from the UDC. 1:00 p.m. – Parade enters. Confederate Memorial Day Program.

### First Saturday Lecture – Arrow Rock, MO

Saturday, June 3, 2017 – 10:00 a.m. Arrow Rock State Historic Site, 39521 Visitor Center Drive, Arrow Rock, MO. Paul Kirkman: Missouri’s prisons from the one-room calaboose at Arrow Rock to the eerie penitentiary at Jefferson City and the underpaid lawmen who often lived with their families within the same walls.

### National Trails Day Rendezvous

Saturday, June 3, 2017 – 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Lone Elm Rendezvous Shelter, 21151 W. 167th Street, Olathe, KS. You can bring your own lunch.

### **Directions to Meeting Place; Village Heights Community of Christ Church**

The address is 1009 Farview Drive in northeast Independence, Missouri. Take Highway 291 north to Highway 24. Turn east about .8 of a mile to Farview which is across the street from Hardee’s in Susquehanna Shopping Center. Turn north and you will find the church at the intersection of Farview and Swope Drive. The parking lot is on the east side of the church, and we enter from the east side to the fellowship room. If you are unsure if weather and road conditions will prevent a meeting, you can call Beverly Shaw on her cell phone: (816) 225-7944.

### Commemoration of Battle of Black Jack

Saturday, June 3, 2017 – 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Black Jack Battlefield, 163 E. 2000 Road,  
Wellsville, KS. 161st Battle of Black Jack will be  
remembered with two battlefield tours – one at 1:00  
p.m. and one at 4:00 p.m. Led by Kerry Altenbernd  
(aka John Brown.) Free.

### Night at the Museum, Arrow Rock, MO

Saturday, June 3, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. State  
Historic Site, 39521 Visitor Center Drive, Arrow  
Rock, MO. Interpreters will portray some of Arrow  
Rock's most famous residents such as Jane  
Sappington. Refreshments.

### Abraham Lincoln – Wrestling with His Angel

Saturday, June 3, 2017 – 6:30 p.m. Plaza Library,  
4801 Main Street, Kansas City, MO. Sidney  
Blumenthal: Second volume of his biography of  
Lincoln called *Wrestling with His Angel, 1849-  
1856*. These programs are very well attended so it  
is best to RSVP to (816) 701-3481.

### Lincoln Days Civil War Reenactment

Saturday and Sunday, June 3-4, 2017. Lake  
Pittsfield, IL (18 miles west of Louisiana, MO).  
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – Camps open for tours. 11:00  
a.m. – Vintage baseball. 2:00 p.m. – Battle  
Reenactment. 8:30 p.m. – Night Cannon Firing.  
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. – Camps open for tours. 9:30  
a.m. – Period church service. 11:00 a.m. – Civil  
War Ladies Aid Society Program. 1:30 p.m. – Battle  
reenactment. Continuous: Sutlers and Food,  
Embalming Demonstrations and Civil War Funeral,  
Blacksmith and Crafts. For more information and  
updates, visit [www.pikelincoln.com](http://www.pikelincoln.com).

### Osher Lifelong Learning – Columbia, MO

Mondays, June 5, 12, 19, 26. 10:00 a.m. Moss  
Building at Waters – Moss Memorial Wildlife Area,  
Columbia, MO. The Mid-Missouri Civil War  
Round Table presents four topics: June 5 –  
Engineering Victory by George Davis. June 12 –  
Resolved and Unresolved Issues of the American  
Civil War by Barry Cardwell. June 19 – From  
“Lost Cause” to Light Show: Stone Mountain as a  
Confederate Symbol by Von Pittman. June 26 – The  
Voyage of the C.S.S. Shenandoah by Gene  
McArtor.

On those same dates at 1:30 p.m., Joan Stack will  
be giving programs on George Caleb Bingham and  
Thomas Hart Benton.

There is a tuition fee for these programs. You can  
go to [www.osher.missouri.edu](http://www.osher.missouri.edu).

### Forgotten Warriors: The Role of the American Indian – Thursday, June 8, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.

Liberty Library, 1000 Kent Street, Liberty, MO.  
Arnold Schofield chronicles the role Indian tribes  
played on both sides of the Civil War in Southern  
Kansas, Northeastern Oklahoma, and Northwestern  
Arkansas. To be repeated Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> at  
the Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 Lee's Summit  
Road, Independence, MO. To RSVP for the Liberty  
program, call (816) 781-9240. For the Midwest  
Genealogy program, call (816) 252-7228.

### Celebrating Juneteenth at the Quindaro Ruins

Saturday, June 10, 2017 – 7:30 a.m. – 5k Run/Walk.  
Quindaro Overlook, 3507 North 27th Street, Kansas  
City, KS. Food, games, music, and speakers until  
5:00 p.m.

### Juneteenth at the Nelson-Atkins Museum

Saturday, June 10, 2017 – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, 45th and Oak,  
Kansas City, MO. Live music, artist demonstra-  
tions from Gullah basket weavers of South Carolina,  
Kansas City textile artist Nedra Bonds, KC muralist  
Michael Toombs, and 18th & Vine poet laureate  
Glenn North. At noon artist Renee Stout will  
discuss African art, cultural appropriation and  
healing through creativity.

(Juneteenth is an abbreviation of June 19th, the date  
in 1865 that Union General Gordon Granger read an  
order freeing the last slaves in the United States, in  
Galveston, Texas, more than two years after the  
Emancipation Proclamation was issued by President  
Lincoln).

### Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, June 13, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. Buffet Menu  
(about \$12), Golden Corral, 8800 N.W. Skyview  
Ave., Kansas City, MO (near Home Depot). Deb  
Buckner- “Shakespeare in the West.” Visitors  
welcome.

### Cass County Civil War Round Table

Tuesday, June 13, 2017 – Picnic at the park. No Meetings in July and August 2017.

### Battle of Lexington Public Meeting

Tuesday, June 13, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. Battle of Lexington State Historic Site, 1101 Delaware Street, Lexington, MO. Share comments about this historic site and its operations. The staff will also speak about the current status and future plans for the park.

### Lock Down: Outlaws, Lawmen and Frontier Justice

Wednesday, June 14, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee's Summit Road, Independence, MO. David Jackson takes you on a virtual tour behind the iron bars of Jackson County's historic 1859 Jail and Marshal's Home.

### Friends of the Missouri State Archives

Thursday, June 15, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center, 600 W. Main, Jefferson City, MO. Larry Wood: Bushwhacker Belles, The Sisters, Wives, and Girlfriends of the Missouri Guerrillas. Free.

### Recaptured Africans

Monday, June 19, 2017 – 6:30 p.m. Central Library, 14 W. 10th Street, Kansas City, MO. Sharla M. Fett: Recaptured Africans: Surviving Slave Ships, Detention, and Dislocation in the Final Years of the Slave Trade. In the years before the Civil War the U.S. Navy seized roughly 2,000 captured Africans from illegal slave ships and brought them to temporary camps in Key West and Charleston. Some were later returned to Liberia.

### Brown Bag Lunch at the Shawnee Indian Mission

Wednesday, June 21, 2017 – Noon. Bring your own lunch. Shawnee Indian Mission, 53rd and Mission Road, Shawnee Mission, KS (north building; come up stairs from the street). Frank Justus from the Smithville Historical Museum.

### Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, June 21, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Perkins Restaurant, 3939 S. Bolger Drive, Independence, MO (across from Walmart). Ralph Monaco will give a presentation about William Wallace's pursuit of the James Gang.

### Forgotten Warriors

Thursday, June 22, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee's Summit Road, Independence, MO. Arnold Schofield will speak on the role of American Indian tribes in the Trans-Mississippi. RSVP to (816) 252-7228.

### Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, June 27, 2017 – 6:30 p.m. – Dinner (\$27). Holiday Inn and Suites, 8787 Reeder Road, Overland Park, KS. Sunset Ballroom, 8th Floor. Dr. Timothy B. Smith: Shiloh, Conquer or Perish. Dinner reservations must be made by Thursday noon, June 21<sup>st</sup> by calling Susan Keipp at (816) 333-0025.

### Blue Springs Connection To Its Early History

Thursday, June 29, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee's Summit Road, Independence, MO. Barbara Hughes will portray Rhoda Harris who settled with her husband, William, in the Blue Springs area in 1832. RSVP to (816) 252-7228.

## **Current Exhibits**

### Hunting Freedom: Many Paths to Emancipation

Through June 2017. Alexander Majors Home, 8201 State Line Road, Kansas City, MO. Open during normal tour hours and is included with the house admission or a self-guided tour of the exhibit only is \$5.

The Kansas-Missouri border provides a unique view into the process of emancipation. The presence of the Union Army, the proximity of free states, the division of white society, and the mobility and knowledge of enslaved people living in small-scale slavery allowed enslaved Missourians to gain freedom earlier and in greater numbers than many other states.

Coming to Missouri-German Immigration in the 1800's - Through September 5, 2017. 1859 Jail, Marshal's Home and Museum, 217 N. Main Street, Independence, MO. Open Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors 55 and older, \$3 for ages 6 to 16 and free those 5 and under.

This wave of immigration from Germany got a boost from a widely read book report of a "Journey to the Western States of North America." It told readers that Missouri had two things Germans of that era wanted: cheap land and political and social freedom.

## News About Members and Friends

**Jim Beckner**, our speaker on June 14<sup>th</sup> and the organizer of the Confederate Memorial Day on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, has just returned from a trip to Vicksburg.

**Greg Biggs** is President of the Clarksville, TN Civil War Round Table and Program Chair of the Nashville Civil War Round Table and Bowling Green, KY Civil War Round Table. We exchange newsletters with Greg, and he has alerted us to a situation in Nashville involving Fort Negley. There are plans for a development of mixed use including condos, stores and more which would dwarf Fort Negley on three sides. He solicits the help of the Civil War community to E-mail the mayor of Nashville, Megan Barry, at Megan.barry@nashville.gov, to try to stop this development.

We want to wish **Steve Hatcher** all the best as he retires from DST in July 2017. We have appreciated Steve's donations to the Round Table which were matched by his employer. Steve keeps our website updated and populates it with our monthly calendar.

Five people were honored with the annual **Hickman Award** for historic preservation in Independence, MO. **Brian Schultz**, a social studies teacher at Van Horn High School and noted history advocate, has implemented a trails-based curriculum to help students learn about pioneer lives. **Steve Schreiber** is the immediate past President of the Bingham-Waggoner Historical Society. **John and Lottie Cianciolo** are longtime volunteers with the 1859 Jail on the Square, often dressing in period costume to give tours. **Charlotte Olejko**, Horticulturalist for the City, volunteers at the Vaile Mansion and was instrumental in its accreditation for the tree collection on the estate. **Doug McClellan** has volunteered numerous hours in the archives department of the Truman Presidential Library and Museum.

The Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre at the Silver Heart Inn operated by our Board Members, **Melanie and Perry Johnson**, has been put on the bucket list for the members of Xi Xi Sigma chapter of Beta

Sigma Phi which attended a 1970's-themed evening in October 2016.

The **Juneteenth** activities in Kansas City, MO will include the return of a parade which has been absent for more than two decades. On Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m., there will be floats and marching units which will wind through the 18<sup>th</sup> and Vine district. Juneteenth is not to be confused with the celebration of **Emancipation Day** in August in various Missouri towns. We will have a special article in August to talk about the origin of Emancipation Day.

The May 2017 issue of *Missouri Life Magazine* had an interesting article about **John Langford** who is known as "The Man Who Killed Quantrill." The remains of William Clarke Quantrill found little peace in death. His bones have been scattered at Dover, Ohio; Louisville, KS; and the old Confederate Soldiers Home Cemetery in Higginsville, MO.

The **Quindaro Ruins** in Kansas City, KS are being nominated for National Historic Landmark status. Only 26 Kansas historic sites claim that title which is much rarer than National Register of Historic Places status.

There is now a new Civil War park near Joplin, MO called the **Sherwood/Rader Farm**. It has a kiosk with a plaque that tells the story of a black Union infantry unit which was ambushed by Confederate Guerrillas. This escalated into a skirmish and later the destruction of everything within five miles of the Rader farm, including what was then the community of Sherwood.

Congratulations to the **Santa Fe National Historic Trail** which officially turned thirty years old on May 8, 2017. President Ronald Reagan signed legislation establishing the 950 mile Santa Fe Trail as an official National Historic Trail.

**Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation** has recently announced the acquisition of two new cannon carriages. As soon as cannon barrels can be acquired, they will be placed on the battlefield. Artillery pieces are important interpretive elements. The Round Table is planning a weekend trip to Wilson's Creek this fall.

## What To Do About Confederate Monuments

By Beverly Shaw (copies of the complete viewpoints below may be obtained by calling Beverly at (816) 225-7944)

You have probably been reading about the effort to remove Confederate monuments in New Orleans. In a guest commentary in the Kansas City *Star* on May 21, 2017, Darryl Levings, former reporter and now history columnist from time to time, wrote “Spare us the Confederate monuments.” He thought that Kansas Citians would not be much interested in the controversy because “we don’t really have any” except the statue of Sterling Price in Keytesville and Jo Shelby in Waverly, the latter erected in 2009. However, if you read our Round Table books about monuments and memorials, you will find that a great many of them are for the Confederate cause. Missouri was one of the border states that even though it did not officially secede, it still had many citizens who fought for the South. Levings says that such quiet tributes among the graves of the Confederate Memorial Cemetery in Higginsville is one thing. No one is forced to go there after all, but it’s another matter to dedicate busy civic squares to those who championed the “wringing of one’s bread from the sweat of other men’s faces” as described by Lincoln.

Actually, there has been one controversy in St. Louis, Missouri. Dedicated in 1914 by the United Daughters of the Confederacy of St. Louis, it’s located in Forest Park and is 32 feet high. It shows a bronze tablet depicting a Confederate soldier leaving his family for the Civil War with an angel hovering above them. The mayor would like to have it removed but there is a question of cost. Therefore, a crowdfunding effort has been started. Already it has been vandalized by graphic language. The mayor would like to put in storage until “someone is interested in displaying it and surrounding it with historically complete context and interpretive materials.”

Don Gilmore, Civil War author and technical consultant for the motion picture “Ride with the Devil,” thinks that the destruction of Confederate monuments is a radical socialist view that we should censor our past and bury Southern monuments in trash piles to erase Southerners past and present.

Oddly enough Condoleezza Rice, former Secretary of State, also believes that the monuments should not be removed as a way of sanitizing history to make us feel better. “I am a firm believer in ‘keep your history before you.’ So I don’t actually want to rename things that were named for slave owners. I want us to have to look at those names, and realize what they did, and be able to tell our kids what they did and for them to have a sense of their own history.” She continues, “What we should celebrate is that from the Jeffersons and the Washingtons as slave owners, look at where we are now.”

“Confederate monuments, more than 700 across USA, aren’t budging” according to Rick Hampson of USA Today. He uses the example of Helena, Montana’s Confederate fountain that forms the answer to the trivia question, “What is the northernmost Confederate monument?” He says there are at least 700 and possibly more than 1,000 Confederate monuments in 31 states – in public parks, courthouse squares, and state capitols. Many were created by the United Daughters of the Confederacy, which was advancing what Hampson calls the “spurious idea that the South left the Union and fought the Civil War over states’ rights, not slavery.” They are not just memorials to the fallen but were erected decades after the end of the war and provided a justification for rolling back black civil rights, which had advanced during post-Civil War Reconstruction. In some States the number of monuments continues to grow. North Carolina has added 36 since 2000.

On the other hand, the mayor of Charlottesville, Virginia, Michael Signer, voted “no” on removing his city’s Confederate statue. He has advocated for reimagining parks by building new monuments as a powerful counter-narrative to the Jim Crow-era celebrations of the Confederacy – neither forgetting the past nor accepting its grasp on the present and the future. In fact, he says that numerous Charlottesville African-American residents who have lived through decades of suppression of their history oppose removal of the statue as yet another example of hiding their experience. The statue could remain as a “teachable moment” about their history. The mayor says that his approach “will allow us to create a living history that at once rebukes and transcends the past, mirroring democracy itself – the constant churn of speech and ideas that has made our country the beacon of the free world.”

Is there a good spot for a controversial Civil War monument? Tim Isbell of the Mississippi Sun Herald thinks that the answer is our national battlefields, many of which have precious few monuments to serve as a visual stimulus for conversation on history and military tactics. The reason for the lack of Confederate monuments in some battlefields is that after the Civil War and Reconstruction, the South was too poor to spend money on monuments. In 1866, Mississippi spent more than half its annual budget providing Civil War veterans with artificial limbs. The great thing about the national battlefields is the educational programs led by park rangers. History is actually being taught at these sites which ranges from the conduct of the war itself to how some Southern leaders preached reconciliation between North and South.

And finally, in his letter to the Editor of the Kansas City *Star*, David W. Anderson of Olathe, KS reminded us that we “must consider America warts and all. No nation is perfect, but we must strive for it.” He concludes, “We must understand that a lack of historical knowledge will hurt us in the long run.”