



★ *The Border Star* ★

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

July 2017

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

2017 Officers

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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
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Mailing Address

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

Website

www.CWRTWM.org

President's Letter

Those of you who were at last month's Round Table meeting were recipients of a great presentation by Jim Beckner and John Moloski about their travels to Vicksburg. This got me to thinking about another connection to the battle. Schuyler Lowe was a local Independence boy moving to this city in 1853 at the age of 19 from Washington County, Kentucky. He began his Confederate service by leading troops in the Battle of Rock Creek. Later under command of Sterling Price, Lowe became a cavalryman. When Sterling Price asked the troops under his command to join the regular Confederate Army, Lowe agreed to make that transfer. On September 19, 1862 by the order of Brig Gen William Cabell, Schuyler Lowe became commander of the 7th Light Battery or better known as the Jackson Battery because it was originally formed in Jackson County. Lowe commanded the battery at Iuka and Corinth. After seeing duty in several locations in Mississippi, the battery found itself on May 12, 1863 at the Battle of Champion Hill where it fired 600 rounds. Following this they were engaged at Big Black River and finally within the defenses of Vicksburg. They took up a position south of the Green Redan (today a marker indicates the location.) In that position during the 47- day siege the Jackson Battery fired approximately 2,500 rounds. After the capitulation and according to Schuyler Lowe's obituary he was sent as a POW to Fort Delaware. Lowe was taken from the fort to Charleston, SC where he and other prisoners were placed between the combatants as human shields and became known to history as "The Immortal Six Hundred". Lowe rejoined his battery (now combined with the St. Louis Battery to become Dawson's Battery) and participates in The Battle of Mobile Bay. They abandon Mobile and are surrendered by General Richard Taylor on May 4, 1865. Receiving his parole at Meridian, MS Schuyler Lowe comes back to Independence. He became a salesman in the Kansas City Stockyards and in November 1910 ran for and became the Justice of the Peace for Blue Township. He lived at 302 S. Osage. Lowe served as Justice of the Peace until his death at 4 am, January 13, 1913 from "weakness of the lungs contracted during the hardships of the war." Schuyler Lowe is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, plot: Division 1, Section 6, Block 6, Lot 6.

Local Civil War history can be found in many places. This is just one.

Looking ahead I hope you will make plans to join the Round Table when we make the trek to Springfield, MO to join our friend Connie Langum, Historian at the Battle of Wilson's Creek National Park as she gives us a personal tour of that battle and the First Battle of Newtonia. See the article in this issue of the Border Star for details.

~Mike Calvert

President, Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

CWRTWM Calendar

July 2017 Membership Meeting

Wednesday, July 12, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Village Heights Community of Christ Church, 1009 Farview Drive, Independence, MO. Mike Calvet: Mount Washington Cemetery.

July Board Meeting

Short Board meeting following refreshment time on July 12th.

Other History Events

Highlights in History at Fort Scott, KS

Saturday, July 1, 2017 – 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Fort Scott National Historic Site, 1 Old Fort Blvd., Fort Scott, KS. Talks, tours, demonstrations and living history programs about Fort Scott's role in pivotal events.

Jim Beckner's Civil War Sale

Saturday, July 1, 2017 – 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Coronation of our Lady Catholic Church, 13000 Bennington Ave., Grandview, MO. (Take 71/49 Highway to Grandview Main Street Exit. Go east on Main/Highgrove Road for 1 mile. Turn left at the traffic light and go up the hill next to the Grandview High School. Church is at the top of the hill behind the High School. For sale: Men's and women's reenacting clothing, accoutrements, weapons, and cooking items. Cavalry saddle, figurines and statues, posters, maps, newspapers, magazines, pictures, insignia. No books.

Shoal Creek First Saturday Saturday

July 1, 2017 – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 pm. 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 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.

After Lunch Book Club – Sugar Creek Library

Thursday, July 6, 2017 – 3:00 p.m. Sugar Creek Library, 102 S. Sterling, Sugar Creek, MO. Shirly

Maldonado leads a discussion of Colson

Whitehead's Underground Railroad. Discussion to continue on Thursday, July 20th. Please RSVP to (816) 701-3489.

Kansas City Posse of the Westerners Tuesday

July 11, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. Buffet Menu (about \$12), Golden Corral, 8800 N. W. Skyview Ave., Kansas City, MO (near Home Depot). Dennis Garstang: "A Famous Outlaw That You Have Never Heard Of."

Brown Bag Lunch at the Shawnee Indian Mission

Wednesday, July 19, 2017 – Noon. Bring your own lunch. Shawnee Indian Mission, 53rd & Mission Road, Shawnee Mission, KS (north building; come up the stairs from the street). Bridgette Job, Executive Director of the Kansas City, KS. Convention Bureau, will talk about the Quindaro Ruins.

2,500 Miles to Freedom

Wednesday, July 19, 2017 – Noon. Bring a sack lunch. Poplar Heights Living History Farm, northeast of Butler, MO. (In Butler, take Hwy. H east to UU Highway. Turn north and go 2 miles to County Road 5004. Turn east and go 1.2 miles. Parking at the Learning Center is on the north side of the road. Walk back in time to John Brown's Raid on Bates County, MO where he kills David Cruise and leads 11 slaves to Canada.

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.

Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, July 19, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Perkins Restaurant, 3939 S. Bolger Drive, Independence, MO (across from Walmart). Jim Beckner will be giving his presentation about the Youngers.

After Lunch Book Club – Sugar Creek Library

Thursday, July 20, 2017 – 3:00 p.m. Sugar Creek Library, 102 S. Sterling, Sugar Creek, MO. Continuation of discussion about Colson Whitehead's, *The Underground Railroad*. RSVP to (816) 701-3489.

Information Meeting About Battle of Island Mound

Thursday, July 20, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. Shelter House at 4837 NW 1002, Butler, MO. Missouri State Park representatives will provide information on future plans for the facility and answer questions. This is a chance for feedback and suggestions about park services and operations.

Third Thursday at Clay County Museum

Thursday, July 20, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Clay County Museum, 14 N. Main Street, Liberty, MO. David Jackson will be speaking about the Thomas Swope family in Independence and the murders that took place at the mansion.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, July 25, 2017 – 6:30 p.m. – Dinner (\$27). Holiday Inn and Suites, 8787 Reeder Road, Overland Park, KS. Sunset Ballroom, 8th Floor. Rev. George Wunderlich: "U.S. Army Medical Corps." Rev. Wunderlich previously served as Executive Director of the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick, MD. Dinner reservations must be made by Noon Thursday, July 20th, by calling Susan Keipp at (816) 333-0025.

Trivia Night at Belvoir Winery

Thursday, July 27, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Belvoir Winery, 1325 Odd Fellows Road, Liberty, MO. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. This is a benefit for the Clay County Museum and Historical Society where tickets may be purchased, 14 N. Main Street, Liberty, MO. Reservations are encouraged for those buying tickets at the door by sending an E-mail to info@claycountymuseum.org or calling (816) 792-2854. There will be 10 rounds of trivia questions with a Grand Prize of \$100 for the winning team. Teams may be formed with 4 to

8 members in advance or on the night of the event. Door prizes, refreshments, and surprises! A cash bar is available.

Current Exhibit

Coming to Missouri – German Immigration in the 1800's. Now through September 5, 2017 at the 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 for those 5 and under.

News About Members and Friends

We want to wish **Karen Wells** a speedy recovery after knee surgery.

The Round Table extends its condolences to **Winnie Case** who lost her husband, **Bill**, on June 10, 2017. Winnie does not get to attend meetings too often, but we appreciate her continued support.

We were pleased to receive a \$5.00 contribution from **Amazon Smile** in June and thank the members who have chosen to contribute by naming the Round Table when they make purchases.

A word that has become part of our language began during the Civil War. It's the word "**deadline**" and came as a result of Civil War prisons. It was a "do-not-cross" circle around prisons. Guards were told to shoot and kill any prisoner who might "touch, fall upon, pass over, under or across the said "dead line." By 1920 the word "deadline" worked its way into the American news media industry and meant the time by which a writer must complete a story for publication.

The Round Table received an unexpected donation of four Civil War framed prints recently from **Mrs. Sue Farley** of Platte County whose late husband, Jim, had collected them. The gift was not restricted so we can use them for fundraising if we wish. The board will be considering the best way to market the prints at our meeting on July 12th. Mrs. Farley also donated two books to our collection that her husband wrote: *Missouri Rebels Remembered* – Si Gordon & John Thrailkill and *Forgotten Valor*, The First Missouri Cavalry Regiment C.S.A.

We want to congratulate **Freedom's Frontier** which recently earned a GuideStar Gold award as a symbol of nonprofit transparency and accountability. GuideStar is the world's largest source of nonprofit information.

On the occasion of the 154th anniversary of the **Battle of Gettysburg** (July 1-3, 1863) we would like to quote from a "Short Take: Important Civil War Lessons" by Dahleen Glanton of the Chicago Tribune. The impetus for the essay was President Trump's question "Why was there a Civil War?" The question is relevant, perhaps now more than ever because America still disagrees on what kind of country it wants to be. In the Gettysburg Address given on the battlefield, President Lincoln talked about the thing the soldiers had most in common – their dedication to standing up for what they believed in. Perhaps this is why there was the Civil War. It serves to remind us that a nation so divided destroys itself from within.

Recently historic panels were dedicated on the Indian Creek Trail in Overland Park, Kansas to reveal the origin of street names. Did you know that the name of **Lamar Avenue** commemorates a former colonel in the Confederate Army who never lived in Kansas, yet was so regarded by John F. Kennedy that he merited a chapter in Profiles in Courage?

The latest episode in the story about the Confederate monument in St. Louis which was to be removed is that the **Missouri Civil War Museum** has raised funds to have the monument moved and stored until it can be placed on a permanent basis. The museum itself is raising funds to erect a new facility. Several years ago some of the Round Table members visited the present location at Jefferson Barracks.

Trip to Wilson's Creek

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri will be taking a fieldtrip to the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield south of Springfield, Missouri on October 7-8, 2017. We plan to go by car and stay at the Sleep Inn in Springfield on Saturday night. On Sunday our guide, Connie Langum who is the historian at Wilson's Creek will take us to the Battle of Newtonia Park.

We will keep the expenses as low as possible. If you wish to ride with someone else, we estimate that the cost for transportation will be about \$15, the hotel (double occupancy) would be about \$45.50 with a hot breakfast included, and meals would be about \$40 for a total of a little over \$100.

The Battle of Wilson's Creek in Missouri was the first major battle west of the Mississippi River. On August 10, 1861, Union Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon attacked Confederate forces commanded by General Sterling Price and General Benjamin McCulloch. The battle raged on for more than five hours, resulting in approximately 2,300 total casualties, including Lyon. Following Lyon's death, his successor, Major Samuel Sturgis ordered a Union retreat.

Although the Confederates were poorly equipped and trained at this early stage of the war, Price and McCulloch had a combined force nearly twice the size of Lyon's. However, the impetuous Union Commander did not want to cede the region without a fight. As the first major Civil War battle fought in the Western Theater, the Battle of Wilson's Creek is often referred to as the "Bull Run of the West." (Notes from the History Channel website)

Did you know...

Major General Sterling Price of the Missouri State Guard repeatedly complained that of his 7,000 to 8,000 men, "Several thousand had no arms of any kind; the rest were, for the most part, armed with shot-guns they had brought from their homes." And, at Wilson's Creek, Price had no uniform. When he met Federal forces, he wore a suit of rough linen, a black plug hat and a pair of "citizen's breeches" held up by suspenders.

SOURCE: "Civil War Curiosities" by Webb Garrison, Copyright 1994, pages 136 and 225.

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.wcq society.com or send an E-mail to wcqsociety@aol.com.