



★ *The Border Star* ★

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

October 2017

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

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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
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
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Mailing Address

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

Website

www.CWRTWM.org

President's Letter

First, let me start out by stating that I am a huge Ken Burns fan. I have enjoyed his body of work for some time. In fact, when his film on the Lewis and Clark Expedition was due to be released, I had the pleasure of meeting him in person. Yes, I shook his hand and yes, I have washed that hand many times since. I find his presentation of history to be not only well researched, but presented in such a compelling manner that you have to learn from it.

What about those presentations that don't quite achieve the standard of a Burns production. Let me list a few:

1. Birth of a Nation 2. Gone with the Wind (I know, I know this is blasphemy to some) 3. Dark Command 4. Horse Soldiers 5. North and South.

Just to name a few. The list could go on for some time.

Here's the deal. While the movies I named are entertaining, they are not the place to study history. I know I'm preaching to the choir, but so many people get their knowledge from movies. The story can be mostly correct, and it should make you want to go to a reliable source to vet the information. Even films like "Lincoln" get it mostly correct. The two Congressmen from Connecticut did vote for the amendment to abolish slavery unlike in the movie where they are shown voting against it. That's not a real obvious departure from history. Movie makers have the right to make stories more dramatic and do. My wife and I will be watching a movie and I can't help myself: I must call out the inaccuracies. Of course, she tells me just to watch and enjoy. I know some of the inaccuracies. I'm worried about those who don't and become convinced that what they see is correct. Enjoy the movie. Be entertained by it. Just don't always accept it as accurate.

The next time you watch "Dark Command" and Roy Rogers pulls his pistol from its holster, you'll be looking at a Colt Peacemaker about 10 years before it was made. I won't even begin to call out the holster. Oh, by the way, Quantrill's mother was not with him in Kansas.

~Mike Calvert

President, Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

CWRTWM Calendar

October 2017 Membership Meeting

Wednesday, October 11, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Village Heights Community of Christ Church, 1009 Farview Drive, Independence, MO. Tony Meyers and Jay Jackson will be giving a program on “The Battle of Blue Mills” in costume.

Trip to Wilson’s Creek National Battlefield

October 7-8, 2017. We have a total of 20 Members and Friends who will be taking the Tour to Wilson’s Creek and the First Battle of Newtonia.

Other History Events

Independence, MO Haunted Ghost Tours

October 6, 7, 14, 20, 21, 27, and 28. Tour times are 7:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m., and 9:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for children ages 8-16. Not suitable for children 7 and under. The tour includes the 1859 Jail and Marshal’s House at 217 N. Main Street and a covered wagon ride around the Independence Square for a total of two hours to hear about the history and ghosts. For more information, visit www.jchs.org or call (816) 252-7454. Tickets may be bought through Eventbrite.com and will **NOT** be available at the door. Be sure to bring your printed ticket with you.

Liberty, MO Heritage Walking Tour

Saturday, October 7, 2017 – 10:00 a.m. Mt. Memorial Cemetery. Meet at the entrance of the cemetery by entering the William Jewell College campus from Miller Avenue and continuing up the hill. Free.

William Clarke Quantrill Society Reunion and Tour

Saturday, October 7, 2017. Tour begins at Noon at the Bates City BBQ, 201 E. Market, Bates City, MO. Bus returns about 4:00 p.m. Cost is \$13. Awards Banquet begins at 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$10. Reservations are requested by October 2nd, but late inquiries can be made to info@wcqsociety.com.

Fall on the Farm-Watkins Woolen Mill State Park

Saturday, October 7, 2017 – Noon to 5:00 p.m. Watkins Mill, 26600 Park Road North, Lawson, MO. Witness 1870’s style sheep shearing, stroll through an heirloom garden and participate in

activities such as wood stove cooking, cross-cut sawing, rag doll making, rope making, and blacksmithing. Free with an open house at the Watkins Family Home. There will be a limited number of Mill tours at a reduced rate.

Clay County Museum Antiques Appraisal

Sunday, October 8, 2017 – 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Clay County Museum, 14 N. Main Street, Liberty, MO. \$5 per item or small collection.

The Museum will also have a book launch of “A Self-Guided Tour of Historic Clay County, Missouri” sites from 1800 to 1850 with an accompanying CD to give driving directions and information on each site. The book and CD are \$20 at this launch.

Brother John Presents the Battle of Island Mound

Monday, October 9, 2017 – 6:30 p.m. Woodneath Community Hall, 8900 NE Flintlock Road, Kansas City, MO. John Anderson: Before the famed 54th Massachusetts marched on to the battlefields of the Civil War, the 1st Regiment Kansas Colored Infantry was the first African-American military regiment to engage the enemy at the Battle of Island Mount near Butler, MO in Bates County. See the battle through the eyes of one of the soldiers – Lt. Patrick H. Minor. Reservations at (816) 883-4900.

Other presentations will be Tuesday, October 10th at 6:30 p.m. at the Excelsior Springs Library, 1460 Kearney Road, Excelsior Springs, MO. Reservations at (816) 630-6721.

[See more dates next page]

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.

Thursday, October 12th at 1:00 p.m. at the Red Bridge Library, 11140 Locust Street, Kansas City, MO. Reservations at (816) 942-1780.

Thursday, October 12th at 7:00 p.m. at the Liberty Library, 1000 Kent Street, Liberty, MO. Reservations at (816) 781-9240.

Saturday, October 21st at 2:00 p.m. at the Claycomo Library, 309 NE 69 Highway, Claycomo, MO. Reservations at (816) 455-5030.

Saturday, October 28th at 2:00 p.m. at the Blue Ridge Library, 9253 Blue Ridge Blvd., Kansas City, MO. Reservations at (816) 761-3382.

Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, October 10, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. Buffet Menu (about \$12), Golden Corral, 8800 N.W. Skyview Ave., Kansas City, MO (near Home Depot). Erin Pouppirt: “Pioneer Families.”

Cass County Civil War Round Table

Tuesday, October 10, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Pearson Hall, Cass County Library, 400 E. Mechanic, Harrisonville, MO. Peggy Buhr, Director of the Bates County Museum – “Freedom’s Frontier.”

Missouri State Archives

Thursday, October 12, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Kirkpatrick State Information Center, 600 W. Main Street, Jefferson City, MO. Victoria Cosner: *Missouri’s Mad Doctor McDowell: Confederates, Cadavers and Macabre Medicine*. Dr. McDowell is primarily remembered for illegally exhuming corpses to study human anatomy.

Shawnee Indian Mission Fall Festival

Saturday and Sunday, October 14-15, 2017 – 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. 3403 W. 53rd, Fairway, KS. Living History presenters in front of the North Building.

Civil War Soldiers: A Day in the Life

Saturday, October 14, 2017 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Battle of Lexington State Historic Site, 1101 Delaware, Lexington, MO. Members of the Holmes Brigade will interpret soldiers from the Missouri State Guard and Federal troops in the 1861 Battle of Lexington. A Drill demonstration will be held at 1:00 p.m.

The Bandit Rides Again

Saturday, October 14, 2017 – 1:00 p.m. Brady Courtroom in the Historic Truman Courthouse, 112 W. Lexington, Independence, MO. Reenactment of the trial of Bill “Whiskeyhead” Ryan and his involvement in the 1881 robbery of an Alton & Chicago train about five miles east of Independence at the Glendale Station. Space is limited. \$10 tickets at Eventbrite.com.

Friends of the James Farm Reunion

Saturday, October 14, 2017 – 5:00 p.m. Claybrook Shelter across from the James Farm and Museum, 21216 James Farm Road, Kearney, MO. Free. Menu includes hamburgers and hotdogs, potato salad, dessert and beverages. Aaron Barnhart: “Jesse James, Jo Shelby, and the War after the War.” Please RSVP on Friends of the James Farm Facebook page or website.

Mid-Missouri Civil War Round Table

Monday, October 16, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Boone County Historical Society Museum, 3801 Ponderosa Drive, Columbia, MO. Gene McArtor: “The Great Locomotive Chase.”

Brown Bag Lunch at the Shawnee Indian Mission

Wednesday, October 18, 2017 – Noon. Bring your own lunch and enjoy a speaker about 12:30 p.m. 3403 W. 53rd Stret, Fairway, KS. North Building, come upstairs from the street. Shari Wilson – “Kaw Point.”

Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, October 18, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Perkins Restaurant, 3939 S. Bolger Drive, Independence, MO (across from Walmart). Dennis Garstang: “Kidder Massacre.”

Clay County Museum’s Third Thursday

Thursday, October 19, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Clay County Museum, 14 N. Main Street, Liberty, MO. Chris Harris: Historic Downtown Liberty Buildings.

A Virtual Tour of Historic Clay County

Friday, October 20, 2017 – 3:00 p.m. Adventures in Learning, United Methodist Church, 1001 Sunset Ave., Liberty, MO. Tony Meyers introduces the new self-guiding tour of Clay County with a book

and CD prepared by the Clay County Historical Society.

Wornall House Ghost Tours

Friday and Saturday, October 20, 21, 27, 28, 2017. Tours begin every 15 minutes at 6:30, 6:45, 7:00, 7:15, 7:30, 7:45, 8:00, 8:15, and 8:30 p.m. Wornall House Museum, 6115 Wornall Road, Kansas City, MO. Some times are already sold out. Go to www.wornallmajors.org/ghosttours to see availability and reserve at \$15 per person.

Big Shoal Cemetery Tour – Gladstone, MO

Saturday, October 21, 2017 – 1:00 p.m. Big Shoal Cemetery near the Atkins-Johnson Farm and Museum, 6607 NE Antioch Road, Gladstone, MO. Guided tour of the cemetery which holds Clay County's earliest settlers, veterans, and colorful characters. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the gate. In case of severe storms, the event will be cancelled.

Victorian Funeral Customs – Vaile Mansion

Saturday, October 21, 2017 – 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Vaile Mansion, 1500 N. Liberty Street, Independence, MO. Learn about jewelry worn only during the mourning period and see exhibits showing various Victorian funeral customs. \$25/couple or \$15/single. Tickets available at Eventbrite.com or at the door.

155th Anniversary of the Battle of Island Mound

Tuesday, October 24, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. Island Mound Shelter House at 4837 NW 1002, Butler, MO. For Information call Peggy Buhr at (660) 679-0134.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, October 24, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.-Dinner (\$27). Holiday Inn and Suites, 8787 Reeder Road, Overland Park, KS. Sunset Ballroom, 8th Floor. Dr. Kyle S. Sinisi, professor of history at The Citadel: *The Last Hurrah, Sterling Price's Missouri Expedition of 1864*. Dinner reservations must be made by Noon, Thursday, October 19, 2017 by calling Susan Keipp at (816) 333-0025.

Celebrity Roast—Historical Society of Lee's Summit

Wednesday, October 25, 2017 – 6:30 p.m. The Stanley, 25 SE 3rd Street, Lee's Summit, MO. Russ Berlin of the Lee's Summit Symphony Orchestra

will be the guest of honor. \$65 tickets include dinner, silent auction, and cash bar. For information or to make a reservation, call Kathy Smith at (816) 363-9718 or E-mail to derbyshirelane@prodigy.net.

Elmwood Cemetery: Stories of Kansas City

Thursday, October 26, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee's Summit Road, Independence, MO. Bruce Mathews, photographer and author, shares the stories of the people buried at historic Elmwood.

A Virtual Tour of Historic Clay County: 1800-1850

Thursday, October 26, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Liberty Library, 1000 Kent St., Liberty, MO. A new book and CD takes you on a virtual tour of historic homes and sites of pioneer settlement in Clay County. Reservations at (816) 781-9240.

Cemetery Crawl in Jackson County, MO

Saturday, October 28, 2017 – 8:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Meet at National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 W. Pacific, Independence, MO. Bus tour to eastern Jackson County cemeteries from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.. Lunch on your own at the Independence Square. Bus tour to western Jackson County cemeteries from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Cost is \$25. Call the National Frontier Trails Museum for tickets at: (816) 325-7575. Tour guide is Mike Calvert.

The Battle of Island Mound

Saturday, October 28, 2017 – 2:00 p.m. Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee's Summit Road, Independence, MO. Jim Rehard: Presentation of the Emmy Award-winning documentary about the Battle of Island Mound.

Civil War Spirits at Lone Jack, MO

Saturday, October 28, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Lone Jack Battlefield, 301 S. Bynum Road, Lone Jack, MO. Walk with the Civil War Spirits around the battlefield as people tell their story. \$5 for the tour and free admission to the Lone Jack Museum.

Exhibit

Photographs Along the Underground Railroad

Through October 10, 2017. Wyandotte County Historical Museum, 631 N. 126th, Bonner Springs, KS. Hours are Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Closed Sundays.

Free admission. A pictorial exhibit “Through Darkness to Light: Photographs Along the Underground Railroad.” In conjunction with this traveling exhibit from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Wyandotte County Museum will also display Civil War and Quindaro Township artifacts.

News About Members and Friends

Just a reminder that the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri is signed up with **Amazon Smile** to receive a 0.5% donation based on your purchases if you designate us for such a gift. Everything else is just the same. The unique link for our organization is;

www.smile.amazon.com/ch/43-1748686



Aaron Barnhart and his wife Diane have been our speakers on several occasions – once at our combined Christmas luncheon with Union Cemetery and once at our monthly meeting. Recently he updated us with some health issues. Aaron just had his five-year checkup at NIH and is still doing great. Diane had open-heart surgery in August and she is doing really well too. In fact she's back at work on her book about the Kansas Vegetarian Colony of 1856. Aaron is starting a new blog on which he will act as a “history critic” to highlight films, books, and news to see how history is being used and abused. You can go to www.aaronbarn.com.

The Cass County Historical Society has a new Executive Director named **Cynthia M. Ammerman** who is a graduate of the University of Missouri-Kansas City with a Masters in Urban Planning and Historic Preservation. **Don Peters** is stepping aside in order to devote more time to programming and research.

Mike Calvert was asked by the *Examiner* (Independence, MO) to share his “President’s Letter” from the September Border Star with the newspaper on September 26, 2017 as a “Letter to the Editor” on the topic “There needs to be dialogue on monuments.”

We were glad to see **Bob Grover** at a recent meeting. He attended the 127th Annual Convention of the National Society of Sons of the American Revolution in July at Knoxville, Tennessee. He was a delegate of the Harry S Truman Chapter which was honored with a Partners in Patriotism Certificate. Bob participated in the JROTC program for the last two years. To learn more about the organization, you can go to www.SAR.org. If you are interested in membership through the Harry S Truman Chapter, you can contact Bob at GroverSAR@aol.com.

During the annual Santa-Cali-Gon Days in Independence over Labor Day weekend, there was an historic block with booths and activities to give a glimpse back to 1849 with interpreters volunteering in period costume. One *Examiner* picture on September 5th showed our friends **John and Dianne Lehman** playing music on the street.

We congratulate the **Jackson County Historical Society** and **Ralph Monaco** for one of the more colorful historical presentations on October 14th when they reenact “The Bandit Rides Again: Jesse James, Whiskeyhead Ryan and the Glendale Train Robbery.” Ralph will also be speaking at the Quantrill Awards Banquet on October 7th and will receive the “Don Hale Award” along with **Harold Dellinger**.

The Civil War Round Table has been the recipient of several new history titles published by the Oxford Press. They like to get feedback from interested groups so I asked **Dick Titterington** of the Kansas City Round Table to go back to his youth to write a book report on *The Republic for Which It Stands: The United States during Reconstruction and the Gilded Age, 1865-1896* by Richard White. I chose Dick to tackle this large book because he has been interested in putting together a seminar on reconstruction after the Civil War. Some of you may recognize the name “Richard White” from our trip to St. Louis several years ago when he spoke about his new biography of U.S. Grant.





Cemetery Crawl

Learn about

Jackson County Trail Blazers

October 28, 2017

9:00am-4:00pm

*Travel by **coach** to little known cemeteries where
Jackson County Trails Blazers are buried.*

*Tour Guide & Historian **Mike Calvert***

8:45am-Meet at National Frontier Trails Museum

9:00-11:30am-Travel to cemeteries in Eastern Jackson Co.

11:30am-arrive Independence Square

11:30am-12:45pm-Lunch on your own

around the Independence Square

1:00-4:00pm-Travel to cemeteries in Western Jackson Co.

Around 4:00pm-Arrive National Frontier Trails Museum

Cost \$25.00

Call for Reservations:

National Frontier Trails Museum

318 W. Pacific

Independence, MO 64050

Phone: (816) 325-7575

friendsnftm@yahoo.com

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