



# ★ *The Border Star* ★

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

September 2016

## The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

### 2016 Officers

President ----- Mike Calvert  
1<sup>st</sup> V.P. ----- Pat Gradwohl  
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### *The Border Star* Editor

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### Meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> 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

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### Website

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

## *President's Letter*

On April 12, 1861, in Charleston, South Carolina, the Confederate batteries surrounding Ft. Sumter opened fire. This bombardment continued until the 34<sup>th</sup> hour and on April 13<sup>th</sup>, the fort surrendered. We all know the result of this action; four long years of war, a countless expenditure of money and 1 million dead.

On or about April 13, 1961 secession again became a reality. As history has recorded the following are the actions that lead up to McDonald County severing its ties with the sovereign state of Missouri. The Missouri Highway Department distributed their annual Family Vacationland Map on April 3, 1961 with one grave and fateful error. They forgot McDonald County. Now McDonald County and the city of Noel were the Silver Dollar City of the day, less rides and other attractions. It was a land of natural beauty and not a lot else, so tourist dollars were very important and being left off of the map meant a decrease in income. Immediately a petition was circulated to bring forth the complaint and this was sent to the county representative. The next week after a resolution to remove the map the matter was given to the House Committee on Miscellaneous Affairs. Two guesses as to what happened there. Mired in the governmental abyss with no action coming forth, the citizens of the county decided to secede. A president and all the offices of government were established. "Welcome to McDonald Territory" signs were erected. Passports, territorial stamps and visas were printed and 300 men were called out to form a border patrol against "the tyranny of omission" and to keep certain people out like the Missouri tax collectors.

At one point there was talk of contacting the United Nations for \$4 billion in foreign aid. Television interviews were granted with the border guard dressed in mountain man garb and antique muzzle loaders. In an ironic twist of history the United Sons of the Union and Confederacy club from Jasper County sent a message to the succession leaders: "Stop the secession or risk war." In fact, a 75 man army invaded the county and skirmish ensued with an estimated 4000 spectators on hand. Peace was restored when one of the antique muskets misfired and injured the individual. Shortly after that the secession petition was withdrawn. In 1962, it seems the Missouri Highway Department learned their lesson and McDonald County was back on the map. As written by Patric Stevens for the McDonald County Historical Society: "The secession was not initially a publicity stunt, although it turned in a great one. It had real meaning to the people of McDonald County. The territorial uprising will be regarded in history as time when a small community organized and made the statement, 'We count, too. We don't want a government without representation.'"

To have true representation we as citizens must make our voices heard and we do this by going to the polls. It doesn't really matter to me what party you support. It only matters that you don't waste your voice by not voting. Vote this November.

Thanks to the *Missouri Life*, August issue for the inspiration and information for this article.

~Mike Calvert

*President, Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri*

## CWRTWM Calendar

### September 2016 Membership Meeting

**Tuesday, September 13, 2016 – 6:30 p.m.** Plaza Library, 4801 Main Street, Kansas City, MO (highrise office building with library on the ground floor and parking adjacent to the building.) The Round Table would like to alter our usual meeting night and place in order to hear a special program sponsored by the Kauffman Foundation and the Truman Library Institute. Jonathan Earle will be speaking about his new book *Electing Abraham Lincoln: The Revolution of 1860*. Jonathan is the dean of the Honors College at Louisiana State University. There is a reception preceding the program at 6:00 p.m. These programs are well attended so it's imperative that you call the library to reserve a seat. **Please call 816- 701-3407 or go to the Library website at [www.kclibrary.org](http://www.kclibrary.org). It's suggested you try to arrive by about 6:00 p.m. to procure a seat.**

The Library describes the program as follows: "This year's election stakes are high, as always. But perhaps no presidential vote in U.S. history was more consequential than that of 1860.

The national roiled over the issue of slavery. Abraham Lincoln captured the Republican nomination over New York Sen. William Seward and then took on the divided Democratic party. His win in November – with less than 40% of the popular vote – prompted the immediate secession of South Carolina, roused the rest of the South, and ushered in the Civil War."

The Round Table is offering transportation to those who may not want to drive themselves to the Country Club Plaza area for this program. Volunteer drivers are Terry Chronister, Beverly Shaw, Mike Calvert from the Independence area, and Charles Childs from the northland. Call Beverly Shaw at 816-225-7944 to schedule a ride.

### NO BOARD MEETING IN SEPTEMBER 2016 WE WILL RESCHEDULE TO OCTOBER

Daytrip to Lexington, MO – Saturday, October 15, 2016  
Put this on your calendar for a wonderful time with the Round Table. We will use private cars instead of a bus and will be glad to pair you up with a driver. More details to follow in the October *Border Star*.

## Other History Events

First Saturday at Shoal Creek Living History Village  
Saturday, September 3, 2016 – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Inside Robert Hodge Park, 6800 NE Barry Road, Kansas City, MO. Free family fun with reenactors, food, craft

vendors and demonstrations. Some activities charge for their services – cash only.

### 2016 City Market Summer Book Sale

Saturday, September 3, 2016 – 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
City Market, 500 Grand Street, Kansas City, MO.  
Atrium north of the Steamboat Arabia Museum. Friends of the Kansas City Public Library are selling books and DVDs and CDs for \$1 and \$2. Some special finds are priced at \$5 and up. The Arabia Museum is open 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. The book sale will also be held on Saturday, October 1, 2016.

### Arrow Rock First Saturday Lecture

Saturday, September 3, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. Arrow Rock Historic Site Visitor Center. Dr. Frances Levine, President and CEO of the Missouri Historical Society and History Museum (St. Louis, MO), will present "From Both Sides of the Trail: Cultural Exchanges on the Santa Fe Trail."

At 2:00 p.m. you can judge the annual Ice Cream Freeze-Off to be held on the lawn of the Huston Tavern. For an admission of \$4 you can enjoy cake and ice cream.

### A Tale of Two Nations

Through September 3, 2016 – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site, 1515 SE Monroe Street, Topeka, KS. A special exhibit "A Tale of Two Nations: Reconnecting Our African-Native Heritage." History has vague records of the first meeting between Native Americans and African Americans. The black presence in America began during European expeditions in the early 16<sup>th</sup> century with free blacks, indentured servants, slaves and conquistadores of the new world. Free.

### Freedom's Frontier Partners Meeting

Thursday, September 8, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.  
Battle of Lexington State Historic Site. Lexington, MO.

### Walking Tour in Liberty, Missouri

Saturday, September 10, 2016. 10 a.m. Tour of William Jewell College. Meet at the back entrance of the Pryor Learning Center (parking lot side) on the campus. Free.

### Big Shoal Country Fair

Saturday, September 10, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Atkins-Johnson Farm and Museum, 6607 NE Antioch Road, Gladstone, MO. Live music, museum tours, petting zoo, garden tours, craft market. Special museum exhibit "Dawn to Fashion: Clothing in Print from 1824-1924." As you tour the 22-acre farm, stop to see the

honey bee hives with a local bee keeper on site to share his knowledge. Free.

#### The Lost Arts Fair at the Harris-Kearney House

Saturday, September 10, 2016 and Sunday, September 11, 2016. Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Harris-Kearney House, 4000 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO. (same weekend as the Westport Art Fair at Westport Road & Pennsylvania). A gathering of artisans and craftspeople demonstrating blacksmithing, woodworking, chair caning, camp cooking, spinning, weaving, tatting, bobbin lace making, soap making, scrimshaw, basket weaving along with musicians offering period music. Free.

#### Raytown Historical Society Ambassadors Meeting

Monday, September 12, 2016 – 10:00 a. m. Museum at 9705 East 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, Raytown, MO. “Histories of Local Watering Holes.” Free.

#### Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, September 13, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. Buffet menu (about \$12), Golden Corral, 8800 NW Skyview Ave., Kansas City, MO (near Home Depot). Jim Beckner: Charles Lee Younger – the rest of the story.”

#### Cass County Civil War Round Table

Tuesday, September 13, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. Pierson Hall, Cass County Library, 400 E. Mechanic, Harrisonville, MO. Amanda Coonce: “Watkins Mill during the Civil War.” (Previously scheduled in May 2016.)

#### A Trip Back in Time to the American West

Tuesday, September 13, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 W. Pacific, Independence, MO. Lecture by historian and documentarian Audrey Kalavoda about an American family who crossed the distance of time and space to achieve their dreams in the American West. \$5. Call 816-325-7575 for reservations.

#### Third Thursday at the Clay County Historical Society

Thursday, September 15, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. Museum, 14 N. Main Street, Liberty, MO. Jana Becker: “World War II Internment Camp.” This camp for German prisoners was formerly a turkey farm off Highway 210.

#### Brown Bag Lunch Lecture

Friday, September 16, 2016 – Noon. National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 W. Pacific, Independence, MO. Bring your lunch and learn about the Santa Fe Trail from the perspective of Mexican merchants who interacted with the pioneers.

#### Freedom Festival – John Brown Memorial Park

Saturday, September 17, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 18, 2016 – Noon to 5:00 p.m. John Brown Memorial Park, 10<sup>th</sup> & Main, Osawatomie, KS. Special tours of John Brown Museum State Historic Site with Mary Buster, great-great-granddaughter of Florella Adair, half-sister of John Brown. Civil War reenactors camp. Frontier artisan demonstrations. Historic displays. On Saturday at 11:00 a.m. Mary Buster will portray Florella Adair. At 1:00 p.m. will be a vintage baseball game. At 2:30 p.m. is a Civil War scenario reenactment. At 4:00 p.m. is a reenactment of the Battle of Osawatomie. At 8:00 p.m. will be Civil War artillery night firing. On Sunday at 1:00 p.m. will be a reenactment of a battle between Union and Confederate troops. At 4:00 p.m. will be a Wild West gunfight reenactment by the Kansas River Gang.

#### Missouri River Outfitters Covered Dish Dinner

Sunday, September 18, 2016 – Dinner at 5:30 p.m. The Lodge, 502 Ames Street, Baldwin City, KS. Barbecue meat and drinks provided. Attendees please bring a side, salad, or dessert to share. Program by Joy Poole who will give a PowerPoint on her book *Over the Santa Fe Trail to Mexico: The Travel Diaries & Autobiography Of Dr. Rowland Willard 1825-1828*. Dr. Willard examined Glass, the subject of the movie “The Revenant,” in 1825 at Blue Springs, MO, a well-known mountain man rendezvous site on the Santa Fe Trail.

#### Informational Meeting about the Confederate Home

Monday, September 19, 2016 – 6:30 p.m. Confederate Memorial Chapel, 211 West First Street, Higginsville, MO. A meeting provided by Missouri State Parks to request input by citizens regarding facilities and services and to share future plans for the facility.

#### Mid-Missouri Civil War Round Table

Monday, September 19, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. Boone County Historical Society Museum, 3801 Ponderosa Drive, Columbia, MO. Harold Miederhoff: “1861 Battle of Lexington.”

#### Shawnee Indian Mission Wednesday Luncheon

Wednesday, September 21, 2016 – Noon. North building at the Shawnee Indian Mission, 3403 W. 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, Fairway, KS. Bring a sack lunch and a beverage and hear an interesting program on the history of Wyandotte County with an emphasis on Quindaro and the Underground Railroad.

#### Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, September 21, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. Perkins Restaurant, 3939 S. Bolger Drive, Independence, MO (across from Walmart). Mary Ellen McVicker, historian from Boonville, will speak about George Caleb Bingham, covering both his life and his art.

### Black Powder Shoot

Saturday, September 24, 2016 – 8:00 a.m. – Noon.  
Jesse James Farm, 21216 Jesse James Farm Road,  
Kearney, MO. Cap & Ball Revolver or Cartridge  
Revolver; replicas OK. Fixed sights and dueling stance  
only. \$25 entry fee. Registration at 8:00 a.m. Shoot  
begins at 9:00 a.m. with 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes. Historically  
accurate costume is encouraged but not required. For  
more information, please call 816-736-8500.

### Austin Bean Eatin' Day

Saturday, September 24, 2016 – 10:30 a.m. 'til ?  
Grounds of the Austin Baptist Church, Austin, MO.  
Serving ham and beans, corn bread, coleslaw,  
homemade pie, tea or coffee. \$7 for adults; \$3 for  
children under 12. Take a historical tour of Austin on  
Laverne Welch's team and wagon. Civil War reenactors  
from the 10<sup>th</sup> Missouri Regiment. Local history authors.  
Entertainment by the Wildwood Band. All proceeds go  
for the upkeep of the Austin Cemetery.

Directions: Take 71 Highway, south to Archie Exit.  
Take B blacktop east 3 miles to T blacktop. Go 1 mile  
north.

If anyone would like to attend and take some of our  
"Monuments" books to sell, we can reserve a space.  
Call Beverly at 816-225-7944.

### Tea and Etiquette Workshop

Saturday, September 24, 2016 – 1:30 p.m. Harris-  
Kearney House, 4000 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO.  
Kids ages 6 and up, bring your favorite adults to a  
Victorian Tea Party. Enjoy tea and cake while learning  
about mid-19<sup>th</sup> century etiquette and play parlor games.  
\$5.00/person or \$15.00/family of four or more. Pre-  
registration and payment is required by calling 816-561-  
1821 or E-Mail westporthistorical@gmail.com.

### Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, September 27, 2016 – 6:30 p.m. – Dinner  
(\$27). Holiday Inn and Suites, 8787 Reeder Road,  
Overland Park, KS. Sunset Ballroom, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor. Col.  
Kevin Weddle: *Lincoln's Tragic Admiral: The Life of  
Samuel Francis DuPont*. Dinner reservations must be  
received by Friday Noon, September 23, 2016. Call  
Susan Keipp at 816-333-0025.

### Families in and around Island Mound

Thursday, September 29, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. Battle of  
Island Mound site, 4837 NW County Road 1002, Butler,  
MO. This program by the Bates County Museum will  
feature the history of the families in and around Bates

County and their roles in the history of the county and  
the Civil War.

## **Coming Events**

### Ars Moriendi: The Art of Dying

Saturday, October 1, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. Arrow Rock  
State Historic Site, Arrow Rock, MO. Paula Zalar  
will talk about the cultural evolution of American  
death and mourning customs from Colonial times  
through 1900.

## **News About Members and Friends**

For those of you who buy things through Amazon, we  
wanted to let you know that we have enrolled the Civil  
War Round Table of Western Missouri into the  
**AmazonSmile** program which makes a donation of .5%  
to not-for-profits based on purchases. Instead of going  
to [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) to start shopping, you would go to  
[www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com). You can use your same  
Amazon account and password. There are many  
charities available to select from so you can use our  
name (Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri) or  
our tax I. D. number (43-1748686). Happy shopping!

**Don "Doc" Ballard**, a Congressional Medal of Honor  
recipient who lives in Grain Valley, MO recently  
participated in the Heartland Outdoor Days at the  
Independence Bass Pro Shop. Don is an avid fisherman  
and hunter and is very generous with his time to appear  
at history events such as some that Sonny Wells, our  
first President, planned for the Round Table.

You have probably noticed articles and programs related  
to the centennial of our **National Parks** in August 2016.  
You may not think that Missouri has much to offer in the  
way of National Parks, but a recent listing showed  
several that you may not be aware of because they are  
National Historic Trails and stretch across many states  
including Missouri. They include the California Trail,  
the Lewis & Clark Trail, the Oregon Trail, the Pony  
Express Trail, the Santa Fe Trail, and the Trail of Tears.  
Missouri also has a National Scenic Riverway called the  
Ozark in Van Buren, Eminence, Salem, and Winona.  
We have a National Monument at Diamond, MO in  
honor of George Washington Carver, the "plant doctor."  
We have a National Historic Site right here in  
Independence, MO at the Harry S Truman home and in  
Grandview, MO at the Truman Farm. Another National  
Historic Site is the Ulysses S. Grant home and museum  
in St. Louis, MO. There is also a National Expansion  
Memorial at the Gateway Arch and the Old Courthouse  
in St. Louis. And finally we have a National Battlefield  
at Wilson's Creek in Republic, MO.

The **National Register of Historic Places** has turned 50 years old. It has some 90,540 total listings and growing daily. In fact the Union Cemetery in Kansas City, MO was recently added. Our Round Table has nominated the Little Blue Battlefield to be placed on the National Register so maybe it will be added some day. Recently the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park extended its boundary in West Virginia and Virginia because of its significance in archeology, industry, military and social history.

**Matthew Stith** who wrote our National Register nomination is now teaching at the University of Texas at Tyler. He has written a new book *Extreme Civil War: Guerrilla Warfare, Environment, and Race on the Trans-Mississippi Frontier*. It lists for \$42.50, but you may be able to buy it new through Amazon for \$32.25 plus \$3.99 shipping or used at \$29.37 plus \$3.99 shipping. A recent review says the following: “During the American Civil War the western Trans-Mississippi frontier was host to harsh environmental conditions, irregular warfare, and intense racial tensions that created extraordinarily difficult conditions.”

We have received a note of good wishes from **Kathy Pickering** for our upcoming tour to Lexington, MO. She wishes she could be with us, but she now uses a wheelchair and has sight in just one eye. However she is still able to enjoy the *Border Star* newsletter and would enjoy receiving cards and letters at her home at The Groves. Her address is 1415 White Oak Street, Room 487, Independence, MO 64050.

Cathay Williams, the black woman who disguised herself as a man to enlist in the army and became a Buffalo Soldier, was originally from Independence, Missouri. She has been honored with a bust in front of the Richard Allen Cultural Center, 412 Kiowa Street, Leavenworth, Kansas. This is in the City of Leavenworth rather than Fort Leavenworth where the Buffalo Soldier monument is located. It has become very difficult for non-military personnel to access Fort Leavenworth as evidenced by a letter to the Editor of the *Kansas City Star* called “Tourists rebuffed.” This is made especially difficult for Missouri residents whose driver’s license is not approved for entering federal installations; you have to take something extra such as a passport or birth certificate. However the staff person at the Richard Allen Cultural Center is able to provide an escort if you want to see the Buffalo Soldier equestrian statue. For a tour cost of \$5/person they will provide transportation Monday-Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. You should call ahead to 913-682-8772 to make arrangements.

There is a museum of African-American history in Sedalia, Missouri called the **Rose M. Nolen Black History Library** located at 109 Lima Alley, Sedalia. There has been controversy about the museum because of the construction of a slave cabin on the grounds. You can go to [www.rosemnolenblackhistorylibrary.org](http://www.rosemnolenblackhistorylibrary.org) to learn more about the exhibits.

The Independence *Examiner* has been running a series of photographs called “Back to School.” We enjoyed seeing the photo of young **Armin Schannuth** and the orange, white and black schoolbus and his big black lunch pail in the fall of 1946.

**The State Historical Society of Missouri** will have a new home by about 2019 in the proposed Center for Missouri Studies in Columbia, Missouri. The \$35 million building has been designed by Kansas City-based Gould Evans architects and will be funded by state revenue bonds. It will be open to the public for historical research and will also house the society’s administrative offices. Until then the offices are located at 1020 Lowry Street, Columbia, Missouri.

The new Education Outreach Coordinator of the State Historical Society of Missouri, **Alexandra Waetjen**, is introducing herself to historical groups. She will be steering the planning for the Missouri Bicentennial in 2021. One thing to watch out for is a Commemorative Bicentennial License Plate which can be issued to Missouri drivers from January 1, 2019 through the year 2021.

The State of Missouri is blessed with two state historical societies – one in Columbia, Missouri and one in St. Louis, Missouri. The **Missouri Historical Society** in St. Louis is celebrating 150 years of preserving history. On August 11, 1866, forty-seven individuals met at the Old Courthouse and voted to organize a historical society “for the purpose of saving from oblivion the early history of the city and state.”

**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.wcqociety.com](http://www.wcqociety.com) or send an E-mail to [wcqociety@aol.com](mailto:wcqociety@aol.com).

