

The Border Star

Official publication of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri, Inc.

December 2001

Vol. IX No. 9

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF WESTERN MISSOURI INC.

Year 2001

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Sonny	(816) 628-9910
Beverly	(816) 478-7648

ANNUAL DUES

Individual	\$15.00
Family	\$22.50
Student (under 21)	\$ 5.00

MEETINGS

The Second Wednesday
Of the month at 7 pm
July-Annual Picnic
September-Historic Tour
December meeting is
Annual Christmas Party

**Visitors Always
Welcome!**

*The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri, Inc.
10th Annual Christmas Gathering
Saturday, December 8, 2001*

Schedule of Activities

11:00 am—Decorate the Hall

Noon—Lets Eat

Brisket-a-la Karen

Lean Deli Ham, Beef, and Turkey

Bread and all the fixin's

Special entrees prepared by some of the gals

Store bought items from some of the guys

Coffee, Soda, Water, or Southern Slush

Approx 1:30 pm—Door Prizes, including 9-11 T-shirts

Books, 34 Star Flag,

Barn Wood Framed Pictures

And more....

Approx 2:00 pm—Presentations

Approx 2:10 pm—Music by John & Dianne Lehman

(Their new tape is now available)

Approx 2:30 pm—Program on the Pixlee Letters

Open to the Public

Approx 3:15 pm—Refreshments & Music

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee report, for the officers for the 2002 leadership of the
CWRTWMO, is:

Officers to be Elected

President	Sonny Wells
First Vice President	Tim Cox
Second Vice President	Art Kelley
Secretary	Fran Mason
Treasurer	Beverly Shaw
Historian	Paul Tate

Directors to be Elected

Michael Calvert	Robert L. Mason
Tom Carroll	Charlotte Tindall
Harriett Lionberger	Karen Wells

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, November 28, 7pm

Board Meeting

--Note Date Change--

Saturday, December 8, 11am to 4pm

🔔 *Christmas Party* 🔔

10th Annual Christmas Party

Liberty Christian Church

427 East Kansas, Liberty, Missouri

Meat and drinks will be furnished.

Please bring some food to share and
your own table service.

Decorating 11am, eat at noon

Wednesday, January 9, 2002

CWRTWMo Meeting

Open Round Table

Call Tim Cox 478-8833 or Sonny Wells 628-9910

For your ten minutes

Bring things for show and tell

Wednesday, January 16, 2002

BOARD MEETING

Want your name included on the Birthday List?

Give Sharon or Sonny the date

Music, Music, Music

(The following appears in the book The Civil War: Strange & Fascinating Facts by Burke Davis)

Federal armies in the first days of the war had half their regiments equipped with bands. Musicians drew higher pay than privates, and hats were passed for them after concerts; this attracted many famous civilian bands. Most Union bands were of twenty-two pieces, and they overcame Confederate competition in many engagements. Southern troops gathered eagerly to listen to music from enemy bands, throughout the war.

Fifty Union bands staged a Sunday concert at the White House before the Seven Days battles in 1862, but served only to arm critics in the North and reduce the blare of martial music. It was charged that the War Department spent \$4,000,000 a year on bands, and that in July, 1862, there were 618 bands in service, a ratio of one musician to every forty-one soldiers. The protests ended regimental bands, and thereafter only brigades had official bands—of sixteen men each. Best of them were the German bands, thoroughly trained in civilian life.

Most Confederate bands had but three or four pieces, usually played by Germans, and though they got no such handsome treatment as Federal musicians, the Southerners adapted themselves readily. Bandsmen learned to serenade the most prosperous-looking houses in a neighborhood, in return for food. The piano player would walk uninvited into the house, play at the instrument until the family gathered, and charm the hosts as his comrades joined him singly. Such concerts invariably produced rations.

DUES FOR 2002

Dues for the year 2002. You can pay at a meeting, or mail a check made payable to:

CWRTWMo

Mail to: Beverly Shaw, Treasurer

17313 East 51st Terrace Court

Independence, Missouri 64055

Dues are:

Single \$15.00

Family \$22.50

Student \$ 5.00

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the next issue of

The Border Star will be

December 22, 2001

Send articles to: **Sharon I. Kelley, Editor**

15110 East 38th Independence, MO 64055

Fax # 816-578-4080

Email: sharonkelley8@home.com

OUR NATIONAL WAR SONGS

In October, 2001, Flora May McPherson donated a book called Our National War Songs, to the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri. This is her story of how she came to have the book.

"Sometime in the late 1950's, I acquired this book of Civil War songs through Peyton Baker, an attorney in Akron, Ohio. Mr. Baker was the husband of my dear college friend, Wanda Baker, who taught art at the school where I taught music.

"Mr. Baker was handling the estate of an elderly woman who had few heirs, and the heirs wanted none of her music books and history books. Mr. Baker called one day and said he had in his garage all of her music and old Etude music magazines, and told me to go through the music books and sheet music she had accumulated over the years.

"I found this gem called Our National War Songs. At the top of this book seems to be the name of the woman who purchased this book many years ago in Cleveland, Ohio, at an Arcade Music Store no longer in business. The lady's name on the book is Etta Chandler.

"This book was one I used many times for programs about the Civil War. It seemed to favor the Grand Army of the Republic (The North).

"I have been living in Independence, Missouri, since coming here in 1995, and I saw in the paper a story of a couple restoring their home to the way it might have looked in the War times. I noticed the name of Mr. Cox at the side of the article in The Examiner, and I thought your group would like this book among the artifacts of the War."

Submitted by Beverly Shaw

Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri, Inc.

The Letters of

The Pixlee Boys

of Mosby, Clay County, Missouri

During and after the War of Rebellion

3 went off to war, only 1 came home

Saturday, December 8, 2:30 pm

Liberty Christian Church Fellowship Hall

427 East Kansas Liberty, Mo.

Park in the back lot

**Copies of several original letters and documents
will be on display following the presentation**

including

**Nov. 6, 1861-Peter's Commission as Major in MSG
signed by Claborne F. Jackson**

**June 3, 1861-William's last letter to his father
asking dad to pay his bills**

**Aug. 13, 1862-Benjamin's letter to the family
"by Christmas we expect to end this war"**

**Aug. 3, 1863-Letter tells family of Ben's death
June 14, 1863, at Port Hudson**

Jan, 26, 1865-P. C.'s Permit to carry arms

**Nov. 6, 1866-refuses to accept P.C.'s ballot
and many more....**

Open to the Public

Refreshments will follow

**For more information contact Tim Cox at 478-8833
or Sonny Wells at 628-9910**

Items from the Pixlee file to be on display

- June 3, 1861** **William informs dad that he and Benjamin are going off to the War.**
Ben still owes some money, please pay it for him. Signed by *William F. Pixlee*
- Nov. 6, 1861** **Official Document--Peter C. appointed Major in Missouri State Guard**
Signed by *C. F. Jackson*, Commander-in-Chief, M.S.G.
- Mar. 26, 1862** **Hand Written--Peter C. appointed QM, 5th Infantry Brigade, MSG**
Signed by *A. E. Stein, BG, MSG* (Brigadier General, Missouri State Guard)
- Aug. 13, 1862** **Benjamin writes from Camp Saltillo, Msp., near Port Hudson, La.**
Benjamin is now a Colonel.. Tells how to smuggle mail in to him via St. Louis and states "we should end this war by Christmas"
- Aug. 3, 1863** **Cecelia Pixlee-Bird informs others of Benjamin's death**
Signed by *C. I. Bird* (Her husband was teller at Clay County Savings Assoc. when it was robbed in Feb. 1866)
- Sept. 3, 1863** **David T. Bronaugh writes from Johnson Island Prison**
Signed by *D. T. Bronaugh*
- Sept. 3, 1863** **Major Swagerty writes to William Pixlee from Johnson Island**
Tells of sale of Benjamin's personal effects and some receipts
Signed by *L. N. C. Swagerty, Major, 16th Arkansas Regiment*
Note--the Clay County Volunteers were part of the 5th Arkansas Infantry at the Battle of Wilson's Creek. The 5th later became part of the 16th Arkansas Regiment.
- Oct. 5, 1863** **Peter C. Pixlee pays \$50 to avoid being put on Draft Roll**
Terrill agrees to refund money if Pixlee signs up for the draft.
Signed by (As'st Provost Marshall) *H. Terrill*
Note--P.C.P was wounded at Vicksburg in May 1863 and was released from duty in June 1863 He returned to Liberty in July. He died 9 years later from war related injuries.
- April 29, 1864** **P.C. paid for Slave Sandy and cattle bought months earlier**
Signed by Auctioners Calhoun & Hodges
- Undated** **Permit for Peter C. Pixlee to carry arms**
Signed by *W. P. Kemper, As'st Prov. Mar.*
- Jan. 2, 1865** **More info on Benjamin's personal effects**
Signed by *O. D. Lankensley*
- Undated** **Notice--Benjamin was at Battle of Wilson's Creek, Mo.**
escaped unhurt to join [Col.] John Hughes (Hughes killed at Battle of Independence)
- Nov. 6, 1866** **Election Board refused to accept P. C. Pixlee's Ballot**
Signed by 4 witnesses
- Aug. 5, 1867** **Peter C. appointed Administrator of Estate of Benj. F. Pixlee, Deceased**
It took over 3 years to get Ben legally declared dead.
- Mar. 10, 1872** **Uncle-in-law Charles Price writes from Texas**
Left Clay County in 1863, been gone many years, tells of his family, Asks about others.
- Aug. 15, 1902** **Newspaper article tells of Benjamin's death, as told by eye witness**
- ALSO...**
- May 29, 1874** **Congress passes bill to pay \$12,000 for damage to building at William Jewell**