



The Border Star

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

April 2001

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THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF WESTERN MISSOURI INC.

Year 2001

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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!**

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, April 11, 2001
7:00 p.m. at

*Jackson County Historical Society Archives
Original Jackson County Courthouse
Independence Square
Independence, Missouri*

Mr. James W. Farley
Author of 1st Missouri Cavalry, CSA

Refreshments following program

The Cannon Will Go BOOM!!

Saturday, April 7, 2001, at 10:00 am, The Ferris Battery will have its annual Spring Muster at Joel and Dori's place, about five miles northwest of Clinton, Missouri.

The muster will include some drill, some practice, some training, and some live fire.

Spectators are welcome. Bring your own folding chairs and a snack for lunch.

The training session will be for those from our group who wish to learn the proper steps involved in loading and firing the cannon.

Boots and blue jeans are suggested. Shorts and halter tops, while appreciated by the gun crew, are not considered proper.

Directions to the Semler's are as follows: South on Highway 71 to Highway 7. Left on Highway 7, past Garden City and Creighton to County Highway O, about 5 miles west of Clinton.

Left (North) on Highway O to 500th Street, approximately 1 1/8 miles. Right (East) on 500th to the Semler's place, or just watch for a bunch of cars.

The practice field is just across the road from the house.

The muster will last all day, but the live fire portion should be over by noon.

Car pooling has been suggested. Meet in the parking lot behind the Cracker Barrel at I-70 and Lee's Summit Road. Departure time is slated for 8:30 am. Bring your camera.

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Saturday, April 7, 10:00 am

Spring Muster for Ferris Battery
Training for New Gun Crew
At Semlers near Clinton
Details in this issue

Wednesday, April 11, 7 pm

CWRTWMo. Meeting

Mr. James W. Farley, author of
1st Missouri Cavalry, CSA
at Jackson County Archives

Wednesday, April 18, 7:00 pm

Board Meeting

At Truman Center, Room 101

Friday-Saturday, April 28, 29

Civil War Re-enactment of the
Battle of Pea Ridge at
Keokuk, Iowa, in Rand Park

Wednesday, May 9, 7:00 pm

CWRTWMo Meeting

At Jackson County Archives

Thursday, May 10

Designer Showcase Home
Article in this newsletter

Tuesday-Wednesday, May 15-16

Lincoln Tour

Contact Sonny for more information

Wednesday, May 16, 7:00 pm

Board Meeting

Room 101, Truman Center

Wednesday, June 13, 7:00 pm

CWRTWMo Meeting

At Truman High School

Wednesday, June 20, 7:00 pm

Board Meeting

Room 101, Truman Center

Sunday, July 1, 2:00 to 5:00 pm

Karen & Sonny's 40th Anniversary

At their home north of Liberty
All Invited, No gifts please

Wednesday, July 4,

Civil War Display & Camp

For Square 1 & Celebration Committee
9:00 am to 6:00 pm
Contact Tim Cox

DUES FOR 2001

Dues for the year 2001. You can
pay at a meeting, or mail a check
made payable to:

CWRT-WMo

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

April 22, 2001

Articles are always welcome

Send them to:

Sharon I. Kelley, Editor

15110 East 38th

Independence, MO 64055

Fax # 816-578-4080

Email: sharonkelley2@home.com

Answer to Last Month's Trivia Question

(Who was the only man, other than Charles
Lindbergh, to be awarded a Medal of Honor by Act of
Congress?) **MAJOR GENERAL ADOLPHUS**
WASHINGTON GREELEY, U.S. Army (Ret.)

Authorized by Act of Congress, March 21, 1935

Presented at Joint Session of Congress on March 27,
1935 in recognition of his 70 years of service to the
Army. Born in 1849, he enlisted in February of 1865, at
the age of 16. He served in the Civil War, the Indian
Campaigns, the War with Spain, and World War I. He
retired in March of 1935, at the age of 86.

THIS MONTH'S TRIVIA

Sacramento is....

- A) a brand of olives
- B) a city in California
- C) a Mexican War/Civil War cannon
- D) a kind of ice cream

Land of Lincoln, Here We Come

In conjunction with Pastor Royce and the Jolly 60's Travel Club, there is planned a trip to the Lincoln sites around Springfield, Illinois, for the 15th and 16th of May.

The tour will include a visit to the Lincoln Home Visitors Center, a tour of the Lincoln Home, a tour of the Lincoln Historic District, a visit to the CNW Railroad Station, a tour of the Lincoln Tomb and mausoleum, a nightlites tour of the Illinois State Capitol and the Lincoln Historic District, a tour of the New Salem Visitors Center and the restored log home village of New Salem, a visit to the first grave of Ann Rutledge, and a stop in Hannibal on the way home.

This is a shared cost tour. Cost is estimated to be \$129.00 per person, based on double occupancy. That is \$70 less than the usual charge for this trip.

This includes room, all meals, the bus, all fees and taxes. It does not include coffee breaks, souvenirs, or tips.

Bring plenty of film as film is a bit pricey in the tourist area in the summer.

For more information, contact Sonny at 816-628-9910.

Contributed by Sonny Wells

WILSON'S CREEK SYMPOSIUM "1861: Storm Over the Land"

April 6-8 at the Clarion Hotel in Springfield, Missouri
Telephone 417-883-6550, \$75.00 for all events

Battlefield Anniversary

This year is the 139th Anniversary of the Battle of Pea Ridge. On March 3rd and 4th, a celebration of the anniversary "began with the marching beat of a drum and fife and included a bagpipe version of Amazing Grace. It ended with the playing of Taps," according to *The Benton County Daily Record* reporter Shirley A. Johnson-Wolfe.

"The musical sounds reverberated Sunday afternoon throughout the woods surrounding Elkhorn Tavern at Pea Ridge National Military Park, stirring many to consider, perhaps for the first time, what actually happened at the site in 1862," writes Ms. Johnson-Wolfe.

In the first week of June, the \$300,000 remodeling and renovations to the Pea Ridge National Military Park Visitor Center will be completed. There will be a dedication, and the showcasing of a new film documentary and recently acquired Sam Curtis coats. Curtis was a Union commander who won a promotion for his performance at the Battle of Pea Ridge. The documentary, called "Shooting in the Woods," was made by re-enactors this past winter.

Newspaper obtained from Sonny Wells' mother

Symphony Designers' Showhouse

On Thursday evening, May 10, 2001, members of the Civil War Round Table are invited to use their guiding skills to act as docents at the 32nd annual Symphony Designers' Showhouse located at 1030 West 65th Street, Kansas City, Missouri. For the last several years, some 10 of our members have participated in this community effort to raise money for the Kansas City Symphony. It is really a lot of fun for people who enjoy seeing large, historically interesting houses decorated by area designers.

Our job is to stand in different areas of the house and act as guides from 4 pm (or as soon after work as you can get there) until 8 pm. Thursdays are the only "late night" viewing of the house for those who can't get there during the day or on the weekends.

If you can't participate as a guide, maybe you would like to tour the house during its public viewing from April 28 through May 20. The cost at the door is \$12, but Beverly Shaw will have tickets in advance for \$10. For those who work with us on May 10, the admission is free.

The house was built in 1936 for a daughter of Tom Pendergast, and was significantly enlarged by the Berl Berry family in the 1950's.

See Beverly Shaw at a meeting, or call her at (816) 478-7648, to volunteer to serve on May 10

Submitted by Beverly Shaw

July 4th Celebration in Independence

The Civil War Round Table will have a display near the Ferris Battery camp, and the Civil War Shoppe will be set up on the far end adjacent to the Round Table's display. There will be The Missouri Fur Trappers, food, a Living History Camp, cannon firing demonstrations, food, a talk on Women in the Civil War, a free concert, a fireworks display, and food.

All of these events are scheduled, and will take place beginning at 9:00 am. The fireworks will be at approximately 9:30 pm.

Tim, Joel, and Sonny are in on the planning.

An Order

June 3, 1865: Persons at Memphis, rejoicing over the death of President Lincoln, have been sentenced to one year's hard labor, by the military court. (From the Soldier's Letter of the Second Colorado Cavalry, Volume 1, No. 24, Page 1.)

What's in the News

The Kansas City Star reported on:

Civil War Graffiti (March 29, 2001)

Winchester, Virginia ----- Restoration crews working at an old courthouse have discovered Civil War era graffiti condemning Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

Someone wrote: "To Jeff. Davis: May he be set afloat...(on a) boat without compass or rudder...eaten by a shark, the shark by a whale, the whale in the Devil's belly, and the Devil in Hell, the gates locked...and, further, may he be put in the northwest corner with a southeast wind blowing ashes in his eyes for all ETERNITY."

The Frederick County Courthouse is being converted into a Civil War Museum.

Spielberg fires back (March 30, 2001)

A *Times* of London report that Steven Spielberg is planning a film that will portray Abraham Lincoln as a manic-depressive racist who nearly lost the American Civil War is "tabloid hogwash," Spielberg's spokesman says.

Marvin Levy confirmed that Spielberg had optioned a Lincoln book by historian Doris Kearns Goodwin. But the book isn't finished, and Spielberg "is waiting to see what the book says."

Goodwin says she doesn't portray Lincoln as a racist and she doesn't say Lincoln and his wife, Mary, were "the most dysfunctional first couple" in Washington history.

"That's totally fabricated," she said. "I never thought it, and I never said it."

Honest Abe, the beard's real!

This was the headline on the front page of the *Pleasant Hill Times*, on March 21, 2001, with a great picture and a caption that read: "Fourth grader Tamara Slayden tugs on Abe Lincoln's beard following the former President's visit to the Pleasant Hill Elementary School Friday morning and discovers that the whiskers are real. The 45 minute living history program was presented to students at the Elementary School by nationally-known Lincoln presenters Max and Donna Daniels of Wheaton, Ill."

Article submitted by Faye Dennison

Additions to the Maienschein Collection

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri, is very appreciative of recent gifts to the Maienschein Collection of historical books, which is housed at Sonny and Karen Wells' home. At the death of Robert Maienschein, his collection of books was left to the organization, and other books have been donated from time to time. These books are available to be read by members, and returned promptly to the collection. A few signed first editions are not circulated, but others are available by contacting Sonny Wells at 816-628-9910. We are in the process of adding bookplates to the collection.

Carla Stoebeck recently donated the following books:

Shelby Foote's Three Part Narrative in paperback

Fort Sumter to Perryville
Fredericksburg to Meridian
Red River to Appomattox

Stonewall Jackson, The Man, The Soldier, The Legend by James I. Robertson, Jr.

Carla also donated a set of four sandstone coasters from the Mort Kunstler collection of Civil War battle scenes, which we will probably use for a raffle or auction item. We really appreciate her thoughtful gifts.

Harold Dellinger has donated a copy of "The Lykins Neighborhood Guidebook," which he was instrumental in producing as a KC150 project. This 94 page booklet is "everything you need to live in or visit the Lykins Neighborhood of Kansas City, Missouri." The boundaries of the area are from Truman Road to 24 Highway and Benton Boulevard to Hardesty. The Lykins Neighborhood gets its name from Dr. Johnston Lykins who is considered the first legal Mayor of Kansas City. He was a self-taught medical doctor, realtor, and Baptist missionary. It is interesting to note that he was married to Mattie Lykins, who later became the wife of George Caleb Bingham. On May 9, Katie Armitage will be presenting a program on Mattie Lykins Bingham to our group.

Sonny wells has received a donation from the Cass County Historical Society to the collection called Cass County Missouri Families, which is a 1976 reprint of an 1908 book.

Beverly Shaw will bring the Shelby Foote volumes, the Stonewall Jackson, and the Lykins Neighborhood book to the April meeting, if anyone would like to check them out.

Contributed by Beverly Shaw