

# The Border Star

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

June 2000

Vol. VIII No. 6

## THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF WESTERN MISSOURI INC.

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### ANNUAL DUES

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

### MEETINGS

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of month at 7 PM  
Truman H.S. Library, 3301 S.  
Noland Rd., Independence, MO  
July - Annual Picnic  
September - Cemetery Tour  
December - Christmas Party

**VISITORS  
WELCOME!**

## NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

At

*Jackson County Archives*

Brady Courtroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Historic Courthouse on the Independence Square

7:00 p.m.

## Chaos Itself!: The Battle of Mine Creek

Presented by

Kip Lindberg, Director of Mine Creek Battlefield State Historic  
Site in Linn County, Kansas

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**Note:** The courtroom can only be accessed by stairs. Refreshments will be served in the hall outside the Archives on the first floor. The book-store will be open (10% discount to CWRT members). After refreshments, the business meeting will be held in the Archives.

**Hope to see you there!**

## Special Thanks to...

The following members for their presentations at the May meeting:

*Dori Semler - The Valentine Museum in Richmond, VA*

*Mike Calvert - Andersonville*

*Lucky Mason - The Lawson Moore House/Battle of the Little Blue*

Each of these individuals made their presentations interesting by the use of slides, memorabilia, and artifacts. Thanks for a job well done!



## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### June 2000

- 10 Field Trip - Higginsville Confederate Veterans Home  
CANCELLED - TO BE RESCHEDULED LATER
- 14 7PM - CWRT-WMo Meeting - Jackson County  
Archives - Program: *Chaos Itself: The Battle of Mine  
Creek* by Kip Lindberg
- 21 7 PM - Board Meeting - Truman Campus, Rm. 101
- 27-1 Heartland Chataqua - Osage Beach, MO

### July 2000

- 11 Picnic - Hill Park, 23<sup>rd</sup> St., Indep. - Eat at 6 PM  
Smallwood Noland House/Frank James Burial Site
- 18 7 PM - Board Meeting - Truman Campus, Rm. 101

### August 2000

- 9 7 PM Kansas Flag reservation by Blair Tarr,  
Curator of Decorative Arts, KS Museum of History
- 12 138<sup>th</sup> Annual Commemoration - Battle of Lone Jack
- 16 7 PM - Board Meeting - Truman Campus, Rm. 101

### ***Upcoming Reenactments***

June 16-17-18	Wilson's Creek
August 12-13	Lone Jack
September 16-17	Lexington
October 14-15	Booneville
December 2-3	Prairie Grove (Arkansas)

## A SPECIAL SALUTE

A special salute to Harold "Sonny" Wells for putting together a wonderful sunset memorial service at the Elmwood Cemetery on May 29<sup>th</sup>!

There are over 100 Confederate and more than 500 Union soldiers buried at Elmwood in addition to servicemen from all of the other wars.

The program featured special music of each war era, starting with War Between the States up to the present. There were ten songs on the program as well as a reading of "Why 21" and John Wayne telling "The Origin of Taps". Approximately 75 people attended this very touching service!

Thanks, Sonny... looking forward to a repeat next year. A pleasant way to end the holiday!

## CONFEDERATE VETERANS HOME

As most of you may know by now, Sonny Wells had a fight with his lawnmower last weekend and unfortunately for Sonny the lawnmower won!

As a result of Sonny and Karen not being able to conduct the tour scheduled for June 10, it was decided to reschedule at a later date. At this writing, Sonny is at home. Keep him and Karen in your thoughts and prayers.

Here is a little history about the Confederate Home that you may enjoy reading.

It was decided to build a Confederate Home for the less fortunate veterans in 1889. Thus, the Confederate Home Associate was incorporated on August 17, 1889. The location of the home was decided the following January, and 365 acres was purchased, one mile north of Higginsville. Mr. Grove Young, a Union sympathizer, gave \$5,000 to help establish the Home in Higginsville, because he was sympathetic for the South.

Cottages were built on 100ft. x 200 ft. lots. Each cottage had three rooms, front and back porch, grassy front yards and plots for vegetable gardens.

The Ladies from Lafayette County built the Chapel, simply furnished, which offered a place for all to attend services every Sunday.

June 8, 1893 a formal dedication of the Home was held. By the end of 1893 a total of 115 old soldiers lived at the Home.

The State of Missouri took over the Farm and buildings in 1897, which included the main brick building, the Superintendent's Home, 14 cottages, two farm houses and the Chapel. The state assumed all financial obligations with the understanding it would be used as a Confederate Home as long as one eligible veteran or his wife wished to remain there.

The United Daughters of the Confederacy deeded the two and one half-acre Cemetery to the Confederacy in 1904.

Life at the Home was simple and the old soldiers lived their final years with dignity and pride. The last Veteran of the Confederate Soldier's Home, Johnny Graves, died in 1950 at the age of 108. He was the last of Shelby's men!



## Bits N' Pieces

**The KC 150 Project is still on target!**

\* \* \* \* \*

**According to the letters published in the last issue of the "Blue and Gray magazine, Winter 2000, page 43, there are readers who are opposed to the Southern flag on display. If a person finds fault with that, they might also look at it this way: If the ancestors of today's African-Americans had acted mutually in a protect-your-brother-against-the-slave traders, there would have been no slavery. And, importantly, as a result, there would have been no need for more than a half-million men dying in the Civil War. So, we can say today that Northern and Southern men died for the sins of omission on the part of the ancestors of today's African-Americans**

(Submitted by Beverly Shaw)

\* \* \* \* \*

In a Kansas City Star article on May 1, 2000, the Associated Press stated that officials from the West African nation Benin apologized for their country's role in once selling fellow Africans by the millions to white slave traders. "We cry for forgiveness and reconciliation," the minister of environment and housing stated. "The slave trade is a shame, and we do repent for it."

The country of Benin is made up of 6.3 million people called Dahomey in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, when it was a major supplier of slaves for exporters shipping from what was called the Slave Coast. It is estimated that more than 3 million people were rounded up for sale to slave traders.

Slaves were shipped into Richmond, unloaded and marched across a bridge to downtown holding pens to await auction.

A trail is being developed at the James River site in Richmond as a monument.

## Thought of the Day

"All the historical books which contain no lies are extremely tedious."

(Anatole France, Independence Examiner, 6-7-2000)

## How to pronounce Missouri

The experts agree that the word Missouri was first pronounced by Illinois Indian guides who traveled with Marquette and Joliet. The word, recorded by Marquette, referred to the people who lived here. He wrote it phonetically. Transferring it to simplified spelling, it was pronounced "oo eh meh soo REET and means "where Missouris are."

After Marquette's journal, visitors recorded the word in several ways. It became the generally accepted name of the river. Some simply respelled it, others sounded it out as they heard it. So how is the word supposed to sound? The pronunciation has been in dispute throughout its lifetime.

"Mizzoura" rolls from the tongue with melifluous [sic] grandeur. It must be spoken with open mouth and erect head," observed Boonville's Weekly Advertiser in 1897, "It suggests beauty and greatness. 'Mizzoury' is diminutive. It ends in a piping squeak. A lion's roar to the pewee's pipe! . . . a pretty name for a nice little school girl, but it will neve do for the Queen of the Union."

In 1897, Walter Williams, founder of the MU School of Journalism, wrote about another pronunciation style: "Recently . . . there has sprung up in this state a preference for a pronunciation that gives the hissing sound of 's' to the letters and we hear, among our newly imported friends, that the name should be M-i-s-s-o-u-r-i. This is not euphonious; it is contrary to established usage; it is incorrect. It is a fad that should not be transplanted to our state."

Williams also asserted that "The old-fashioned said either Mizzourah or Mizzouri, the best educated the latter.' His statement correctly acknowledges that pronunciation is partly a matter of fashion, and that each generations finds its own way. But Williams repeats the notion that the split between -ah and -ee has to do with schooling. Other thinkers have said that the split has to do with rural vs. urban dwellers or with southerners vs. northerners. None of these notions holds water.

The arguments were well practiced and oft repeated by the time Professor of English Donald Lance started his linguistic research in the state. In 1969 Lance began polling Missourians on their pronunciation of the name. His surveys are complex, breaking out preferences along the lines of age and length of residence. Among people born before 1945, he found a preference for the "uh" ending, but each generation since shows a greater preference for "ee." In most parts of the state, both pronunciations are traditional.

As far as "urban vs. rural," "educated vs. uneducated," or "southern vs. northern," Lance's findings dispute all these theories. Instead, he found a preference for "ee" in the eastern part of the state and "uh" in the west. Other scholars, polling people in the 1930s-1950s across the United States, found a preference for "-uh" in parts of the New England states of Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey and the southeastern states of West Virginia and North Carolina.

(Cont'd Page 4)



**Okay, ladies! Here is the CORRECTED recipe for Charlotte and Harriet's Scrumptious Cookie Recipes.**

### **Harry's Chocolate Pudding Chocolate Chip Cookies**

1 Cup	Butter (or margarine..Blue Bonnet, etc.)
1-1/4 Cup	Brown
2 Each	eggs (chicken eggs preferred!)
1 Pkg	Instant chocolate pudding mix
1 Tbsp	Almond flavor
2-1/4 Cups	Flour
1 Tsp	Baking soda
1/2 Pkg	12 oz. Chocolate chips
1-1/4 Cups	Chopped nuts
1/2 Pkg	Peanut Butter chips
1/2 Pkg	White Chocolate chips (12-oz)

Cream butter, eggs, brown sugar, then add pudding and other ingredients adding chips and nuts last Place on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake at 375 or 325 convection oven for 10 minutes. **DO NOT OVERBAKE---LET REST ON COOKIE SHEET FOR 3-5 MINUTES BEFORE REMOVING.**

From: Charlotte Tindell and Harriet Lionberger

## **Appreciation to Designer Showhouse Participants**

Beverly Shaw would like to thank the following people who acted as docents at the 31<sup>st</sup> annual Symphony Designers' Showhouse on May 11: Sonny and Karen Wells, Bob Benson, Art Kelley, Janann and Barbara Adams, and Bill and Lucille Jewett. Connie McQuain and Bea Cornish worked the following Thursday from noon to 4 PM. Our group was recognized in the official program book for its contribution of time in years past. Beverly Shaw has served as "house historian" for the last three years for the Junior Women's Symphony Alliance who sponsors the showhouse as a benefit for the Kansas City Symphony.



## **Did Memorial Day Originate with the Confederates?**

**A recent article in the Independence Examiner posed the question: Was Memorial Day originally a Confederate idea?**

The custom goes back well before America existed, certainly, although the name Memorial Day (originally Decoration Day) did get pinned on immediately following the Civil War. Confederate loved ones had been routinely strewing flowers over the dead soldiers graves for some years before the first official mention of the holiday. Southern hymns and songs mention the practice.

Commander in Chief, Major General John A. Logan, of the Grand Army of the Republic, issued the order for May 30, 1868, to be recognized as a day of memorial for comrades in arms - from both sides. Arlington National Cemetery, where both Union and Confederate soldiers were buried, was the chosen site of the first such

recognized event. Today it remains as a pilgrimage for those who wish to honor the memory of Civil War soldiers. It was later that Memorial Day was extended to honor the lives of all American veterans of war.

In 1971 it was decided to make the last Monday in May the official national day of observance for Memorial Day. North and south, east and west, parades and other events are held to honor the occasion.

(Submitted by Beverly Shaw)

## **How to pronounce Missouri (Cont'd)**

As time has gone on, the "uh" ending [muh ZOO ruh] is disappearing thanks to standardization in the media and the perception that "uh" is somehow hillbilly-ish. A survey at the state fair in 1989 recorded 1,942 people saying "Mizzouree" and 1,074 saying "Mizzouruh."

It is interesting to observe, however, especially in an election year, how the old "uh" pronunciation rolls off the tongues of our politicians, evoking memories of the glorious linguistic past.

(Submitted by Tim Cox)

## **CWRT Members Continue Contributing to History**

History buff Harold Dellinger, along with other neighbors, want to make sure history is remembered and passed along to future residents in an area bordered by Hardesty Street, Independence Avenue, Benton Boulevard and Truman Road.

Thus the Lykins Neighborhood Assn. is drawing on Dellinger's penchant for historical research to compile a neighborhood guide that will go beyond recollections of local lore and luminaries. It will include information to help newcomers settle in, list community resources, police contacts, and school information.

Dellinger is encouraging people to share their memories, photos, or anything they might have about the Northeast Kansas City area. Call Ron Heldstab at 816-483-6006.

John and Dianne Lehman performed as "Pick and Hammer" at the cowby music fundraiser at the old jail on June 1.

Lucky and Fran have both written articles for the Jackson County Historical Society, and Beverly Shaw wrote the "house history" for the Symphony Designers' Showhouse!



# Battle of Mine Creek

