



# The Border Star

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

February 2000

Vol. VIII No. 2

## 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, February 9, 2000

At

Truman High School - Library  
3301 S. Noland Road  
Independence, Missouri

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Program: *History of the Battle &  
Preservation of Stones River*

Presenter: *Jim Sanders, National Park Service*

Jim Sanders is currently superintendent of the Truman Historic Site in Independence. He was at Stones River, Murfreesboro, Tennessee for 13 years. (See Jim's biography on page 2 of this newsletter.)

*Refreshments to follow*

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**Hope to see you there!**

**Looking Ahead!**

Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Lincoln will be here for our March meeting. **That meeting date and location has changed. The meeting will be held on March 15 and it will be held at the George Caleb Bingham 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center, 1716 S. Speck Road.** A map giving directions to the Bingham school will be in the March issue of The Border Star.

**\*\* The March Board meeting has been moved to Wednesday, March 22, 2000, at the usual site, Truman Campus, Rm. 101.**

OK  
02/16  
2000



## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### February 2000

- 8 12-1 PM – Brown Bag Lunch – William Curtis
- 9 Black History – A Small Town Story  
Blue River Community College – 78 Hwy.
- 9 7 PM – CWRT-WMo Open Meeting – Stones River  
National Battlefield – Presented by Jim Sanders, NPS  
Truman High School Library,  
3301 S. Noland Rd.
- 12 10 AM – Cheryl Harness – Book Signing, Slides on  
two new children's books – JC Archives, Indep. Sq.
- 16 7 PM – Board Meeting – Truman Campus, Rm. 101
- 26 1:30 PM – Friends of Lone Jack Meeting –  
United Methodist Church, Bynum Road, Lone Jack

### March 2000

- 15 7 PM – CWRT-WMo Open Meeting – Mr. and Mrs.  
Lincoln Return to CWRT-WMo  
Truman High School Library, 3301 S. Noland Rd.
- 22 7 PM – Board Meeting – Truman Campus, Rm. 101

### April 2000

- 12 7 PM – CWRT-WMo Meeting – Program to be  
Announced  
Truman High School Library,  
3301 S. Noland Rd.
- 19 7 PM – Board Meeting – Truman Campus, Rm. 101

### May 2000

- 6-7 10-5 (Sat.) and 11-3 (Sun.) – Civil War on the Border  
Mahaffie Farm, 1100 Kansas City Rd., Olathe, KS  
(For info. call (913) 782-6972)
- 10 7 PM – CWRT-WMo Meeting –
- 17 7 PM – Board Meeting – Truman Campus, Rm. 101

## Upcoming Local Missouri Reenactments

May 13-14	Carthage
June 16-17-18	Wilsons Creek
August 19-20 12-13	Lone Jack
September 16-17	Lexington
October 14-15	Booneville
December 2-3	Prairie Grove (Arkansas)

## "War West of the River" Wilson's Creek National Battlefield!

April 1, 2000

Greene County Library Center  
4653 S. Campbell Avenue  
Springfield, Missouri

This seminar will bring together some of the most respected scholars in the field (Civil War West of the Mississippi), and is a unique opportunity to learn more about one of the most important but forgotten military conflicts during the Civil War.

Cost: Free (open to the public)

Time: 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

Pre-registration required

Limited seating (150 participants)

Contact Tim or Sonny to carpool to this event!

## Jim Sanders to Speak

Jim is currently the superintendent of the Truman Historic site in Independence. Jim hails from Elgin, Illinois, is married, has one son, one daughter, and two grandchildren.

He received a Bachelor of Science, Outdoor Recreation and Park Administration, degree from the Colorado State University. Also received an Associate of Arts in Forestry from Elgin Community College in Illinois.

Since 1968, Jim has held several positions with the National Park Service (NPS), one of which was superintendent at the Stones River National Battlefield site in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. He spent 13 years at that site.

Jim spent three years in the U.S. Navy as an Aerographers Mate, Petty Officer, from February 1963-1966.

Among his many hobbies are color slide photography, model railroading, and landscaping & gardening.

Jim has received several Special Achievement Awards from the NPS as well as receiving a Meritorious Service Award from the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 8, and a Memorial Award while at Colorado State University. He received these awards because of his "spirit... inspiration...contributions...preserving...restoring...and protecting our natural resources and historical sites.

The CWRT-WMo is pleased to have Jim share his experiences at Stones River with our group on February 9.

## Special Thanks to...

Jim Beckner, Kathleen Touhey, Toby Giese, and Dale Snair for their participation in January's "Show & Tell".



## RIDE WITH THE DEVIL

Several CWRT-WMo members have commented on the movie "Ride With the Devil." This article will share some of those comments.

- "From a national viewpoint an outsider would not really know what Missourians are about. Felt the movie depicted Missourians were:
  - ✓ not as smart as Kansans
  - ✓ all southerners
  - ✓ all bushwhackers
  - ✓ were hillbillies"
- "Thought the movie was confusing in many parts, not quite historically adequate."
- "Definitely followed the book—book was a novel, meant to be entertaining and not a documentary."
- Kathleen Touhey stated, "I saw the movie twice. The first time I didn't know what to think about it. So I went to see it again and enjoyed it much more because I picked up on things I had missed the first time. I suggest everyone see it."

Probably the most entertaining and most lengthy response came from Bonnie Sommerville. Her comments are as follows:

"I had been practically foaming at the mouth in anticipation of the release of the movie ever since Kevin Wells visited with us at the picnic at Pitcher Cemetery in July of 1998. I came close to feeling actual physical pain each time there was a delay in the opening?

On Wednesday, Nov. 24, 1999, my friend Janet and I drove to 119<sup>th</sup> & Nall in Kansas and was present for the first showing. I was so excited I thought I might faint.

At last the lights went down and the screen was filled with beautiful, lush Missouri scenery. I immediately began to look for faces I recognized—and received my first disappointment. The faces of those in the background were blurred out to focus on the stars. So much for seeking faces I recognized.

The next disappointment was when I saw what appeared to be a zipper snaking up the back of the dress worn by Mrs. Chiles.

I was sorry the raid on Lawrence was not so much considering the impact the event had on changing the lives of practically everyone in western Missouri, i.e. Order #11.

I was disappointed that so many events were lumped together—including some that did not occur until after the war.

So far it sounds as though I hated the movie—but it is quite the contrary—I loved the movie! I've waited so long for a Hollywood treatment of my favorite subject — (the War on the Border) that came even a little bit close to being accurate that I'm thrilled!

I've seen the movie twice and it definitely is a movie needed to be seen more than once in order to see all that is included.

I can't want to see it again and when it comes out on video the movie will be mine!

Thanks to everyone who took time to comment on this movie. We will now consider the subject closed!

## Get Well

Paul Tate, Historian, had a heart attack on December 30, 1999. Our heartfelt wishes for a speedy recovery, Paul!

## A Little Bit of Humor

Southern hill-people were found amusing by New Englanders. A volunteer in the Massachusetts 36<sup>th</sup> Infantry remembered that his hostess in a cabin apologized for the proffered fare. "Our butter is gin out," she said, "but you can wobble your corn dodgers in the ham fat if you choose." When asked if she had any molasses, she replied, "Well, we haven't many but we have a few."

At mess, men would "grab a root", pancakes were "slapjacks, and sorghum was "black strap." One Civil War word was "flattern." A boy would write home, "I was knocked flattern a pancake."

Source: Civil War Slang and Humor  
Jay Mongahan, Author

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### Reminder — dues are due!

Send check to CWRT-WMo, c/o Beverly Shaw, 17313 E. 51<sup>st</sup> Terr. Ct., Independence MO 64055, or pay at the next meeting.

Single	\$15.00
Family	\$22.50
Student	\$ 5.00

## On the Book Shelf

### The Division, Defending Little Rock

A highly detailed narrative of the 16 days leading to the fall of Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1863. The battles of **Brownsville**, **Reed's Bridge**, **Shallow Ford**, (**The Walker-Marmaduke Duel**), **Ashley's Mill** and **Fourche Bayou** are vividly relived.

Author: Timothy Wayne Burford  
& Stephanie Gail McBride  
Cost: \$29.95  
Website: [wsc@wirestorm.com](mailto:wsc@wirestorm.com)

### "They Deserved a Better Fate"

The Second Kansas Militia and the Price Raid, 1864.

Cost: \$25.00 s/h  
Address: Talking Horse, 9820 SW  
69<sup>th</sup>, Auburn, KS 66402



## KC 150 Grant Participation

Several CWRT-WMo members have agreed to participate as photographers for the KC 150 Grant Project... Mike Calvert, Lucky Mason, Terry McConnell, and Bonnie Sommerville, to name a few.

Anyone interested in taking photos needs to contact Sonny Wells. Sonny will assign markers in a designated area, which need to be photographed. The following guidelines are necessary in order to be considered in the Civil War site booklet:

1. Glossy Prints
2. 200 Speed film (color or black and white)
3. Do not write on back of prints in ink. Use pencil only!
4. Either a 3x5 or 4x6 glossy photo is acceptable.

There will be a 45-cent reimbursement for each photo considered. Contact Sonny Wells for further information.

## Corrections!

Two corrections to the January newsletter are:

1. KC Grant was awarded to the Lone Jack Museum not to the Friends of the Museum
2. Time for Friends meeting in January was 1 pm, which was omitted.

## Answers to Fort Sumter Puzzle

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26	S	T	A	R	T					27	P	I	C	K	E	N	S				

Letters to the editor are welcome as well as any articles, etc. that a member would like to have published. E-Mail: [Fmason3428@aol.com](mailto:Fmason3428@aol.com).

Frances E. Mason, Editor  
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