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THE BORDER STAR

A Publication of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
OF WESTERN MISSOURI, INC.

1997

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1997

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ANNUAL DUES

Individual 15.00
Family 22.50
Student (Under 21) 5.00

MEETINGS

The second Wednesday
at 7 pm, in the Library,
at Truman High School,
3301 South Noland Rd,
Independence, Missouri,
except July, August
and December.

**Visitors Always
Welcome**

FROM THE PRES.....

Please take special note of the schedule and the board meeting notes. Several program changes have been proposed and some have been acted on.

Moving the Annual Cemetery Tour to October to get out of the heat and get onto the colors of Fall were the primary factors in this move. Thus, the August meeting will be in the *air conditioned* comfort of the Truman Campus facility.

Tim is exploring the possibilities of having the September meeting at the new Battle of Lexington Visitor's Center. This would include a driving tour of South Street and some of the off battlefield sites of the area.

Again this month pages 3 and 4 are arranged so they may be detached from the business portion of the newsletter. Page 3 has historical data on it. I have been told there is a Rohr saddle on display at the Fort Leavenworth Museum. Page 4 is from an old book *The Story of Lone Jack* by Romulus L. Travis. The book was printed in 1907 and reprinted in 1963. This book does not mention the killings of which Martin Rice wrote.

July is our Annual Picnic month. Everyone is invited to attend. Everyone is also asked to bring a dish of some kind for the dinner table. A meat tray of sliced, low fat/no fat meats will be furnished by the Round Table, as will the sarsaparilla, creme soda and iced tea.

Picnickers are reminded of the shortage of tables at the Lone Jack Park and advised to bring their own chairs, blankets, plates & service and bug spray. I plan to set up the serving tables starting at 5 pm, start serving by 6 pm and do the egg toss by 7.

Joel Semler will have his 6 Lb. Field Piece (cannon) on display and will fire it to close the 9:00 Memorial Program which will be in front of the battlefield cemetery.

Those wishing to visit the Six Man Cemetery Site, about 5 miles SE of Lone Jack, should gather at the parking lot immediately after the egg toss competition. Departure must be by 7:30 to be back by 9:00.

Continuing where I left off last month in recognizing those who have made cookies, contributed to the coffee fund, and helped as needed....Homemade cookie makers have included **Harriett Lionberger, Charlotte Tindall, Ginny Werline, Jo Anna Dale, Cheryl Harness, Joyce Morgan, Linda Cawby, Debbie Richey, Bonnie Summerville,....** man o man, this could go on for ever!

On behalf of those who have munched, pigged out and chowed down on the goodies and/or in any other way benefited from the culinary efforts and contributions of these ladies,**Thank ya, thank ya, thank ya** ...(burp).

The video of the Lincoln's visit should be ready by the picnic. It has been a very difficult task to edit over 14 hours of tape into just 2 hours. Plus my being under the weather has limited the time I had to work with Pat on the editing. Cost is \$20.00 to CWRTWMO members and event sponsors, 29.50 to all others.

And, the Prairie Star School event video is done. Copies of it will also be available at the picnic. Cost is \$19.00 to CWRTWMO members, \$28.50 to all others.

Weather permitting, we will visit the Six Man Cemetery after the dinner at the annual picnic. The museum will also be open to tour. There will be a shortage of chairs so be sure to bring a card table or blanket. The Memorial Program will be very short and conclude with a salute from the re-enactors.

See you at Lone Jack!

At the Board Meeting

The Board of Directors met on Wednesday, June 18th at 7:00 pm at Truman Campus. Twelve board members were present.

Mail and letters from the students at Prairie Star School were distributed and discussed.

The following reports were given...

Newsletter.. 120 printed, 93 mailed, cost \$.56 ea. Spent \$72.13.

Treasurers Report...as of 5/31/97

Begin. Balance \$1,145.75 Deposits \$ 30.00

Paid Out \$ 65.65 New Bal. \$ 1,110.10

Balance in Reserve Account \$190.62

Total Funds \$1300.78

Coffee Fund Report...as of 6/18/97

Beg. Bal. \$ 47.34 Purchases \$ 26.70,

Donations \$ 23.27 Special Donation \$ 20.00,

New Balance \$63.91.

2nd V.P. Report...

38 members & 2 visitors at June meeting.

1st V.P. Report...

July 9th Civil War Picnic '97

August 13th Meet at Truman Campus

Old Business

Discussed Change in Meeting Site

Several possibilities are involved.

Update on KC Star On-Line Program

Tim reported nothing really new.

Discussed moving Cemetery Tour to October. Board voted to approve this move. The Cemetery Tour has been moved to Wednesday, October 15th. Better weather and trees in Fall colors is the hope.

Other than the fact that Jeanne's birthday is November 3rd, no other items were discussed.

New Business

Board was advised the Incorporation Papers would be submitted to the state with ammended wording as suggested by the IRS.

A Fall trip was discussed...Also the possibility of having the September meeting in Lexington. Tim is checking out Lexington for the September 10th meeting. Much interest was expressed in the Land of Lincoln Tour. Sonny is checking out the Lincoln Sites for a November 1-2 Trip. Alternative will be a Cass County Civil War Sites tour on Saturday, November 1st.

The Chairman was appointed for the Christmas Party. Bob Benson will again be event ramrod.

Joel Semler brought in a listing of boats sunk in the Missouri River. Very interesting list. Copies will be available at the picnic.

Toby Giese showed his newest notebook and discussed it's possible uses.

(The splendors of Beverly & Jerry's garden was again in evidence.)

Meeting dismissed at 9:18 pm.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

July

Wed. 9th **Civil War Picnic '97 5:30 pm**
Lone Jack Museum Park

Wed. 14th **Board Meeting 7 pm**
Truman Campus, Room 101

August

Sat. 9th **Keytesville Tour**
Call Sonny or Tim for details

Wed. 13th **CWRTWMO Meeting 7:00**
Truman Campus, Room 102
Subject to be announced

Wed. 20th **Board Meeting 7 pm**
Truman Campus, Room 101

September

Wed. 10th **CWRTWMO Meeting 7 pm**
At Lexington Battlefield Site

Wed. 17th **Board Meeting 7 pm**
Truman Campus, Room 101

Upcoming Re-enactments

Sept 6-7 St. Charles, Mo.

Sept 13-14 Fulton, Mo.

Sept 20-21 Lexington, Mo.

Looking Ahead

Possible Day Trip Dates

Sat. Aug. 9th--Keytesville, Mo.
Tour Sterling Price Museum

Sat. Oct. 25th--Cemetery Search
Old Trail Sites East of Little Blue

Possible Two Day Trip

Sat.-Sun., Nov. 1-2--Springfield, Ill.

Includes the Lincoln Home, Lincoln Historic District, Lincoln Home Visitors Center, Lincoln-Herndon Law Office, RR Station, Lincoln's Tomb, Old Salem and more.

Depart 7 am Sat. Return 9 pm Sunday

Upcoming Programs

July 9th Civil War Picnic '97

5:30-9:00, Lone Jack Battlefield Park & Museum

7:30 Visit Six Man Cemetery

August 13th- Surprise, Surprise,

Tim's Special of the Year

Of Special Note...

Civil War Encampment

August 30-31, Fort Dodge, Iowa

This fully restored 1814 fort was once under the command of Confederate General Lew Armistead. His quarters have been restored and include several paintings and a uniform worn by him. Also an interesting little post museum and antique display

CIVIL WAR PICNIC 1997

Lone Jack Battlefield Park

(East of Lee's Summit on Hwy 50 at Lone Jack Exit)

Set up at 5, Eat at 6, Egg Toss Competition at 7, Memorial Service at 9

Bring a Dish (something to eat), your own service, chairs and bug spray

Meat tray, cheeses, Ice, Raspberry Sarsaparilla and Old Fashioned Creme Soda furnished

Veterans of "The Lost Cause" Unite

Cast aside politically and forgotten by all but their own people, the Confederate veterans were forced to pull together to survive.

Many different organizations were a part of this ongoing effort, the Virginia based Daughters of Confederates (D.O.C.) being among them.

The first all male group was the Association of the Army of Northern Virginia, established on November 5, 1870, in Richmond. This was a very exclusive group of officers of the ANV. Membership never exceeded 200.

Established in 1873, the loosely affiliated Louisiana Division of the ANV was among the first to assist ailing veterans.

The Association of the Army of Tennessee was established in 1877. For a time it was the largest of the Confederate veteran's groups.

The Confederate Survivors Association was established in Augusta, Georgia, in 1878. It was mostly a local organization and was not very active.

The North Carolina Society of Ex-Confederate Soldiers and Sailors was established in 1879 and became a statewide group in October of 1881. Many Gettysburg veterans associated themselves with this group.

The Robert E. Lee Camp #1, Confederate Veterans opened in Richmond in 1883. This quickly became a statewide movement.

Camp #1 created and supported the first permanent veterans home in the South. This home extended care for Union veterans as...."as a band of brothers bound to us by deeds greater than those wore on the field of battle...".

Four years later, in 1887, the Grand Camp of Confederate Veterans of Virginia organized. This movement quickly spread into Tennessee and Georgia.

In February of 1889, the Virginia group, the Tennessee Army Society, the Benevolent and Historical Association of Veterans of the Confederate States Cavalry and others endorsed a plan to organize into a single organization to be called the United Confederate Veterans.

General John B. Gordon was elected Commander and George Moorman was the Adjutant General. Gordon was very popular among the rank and file while Moorman was the one who made this happen, according to an article of the time.

Both remained in office until their deaths in 1904 and 1902.

Sumner Cunningham established the *Confederate Veteran* magazine in 1893. At it's peak, just after the turn of the century, it had a circulation of over 20,000.

In 1909, the *Veteran* was voted the most popular magazine in the South.

Two other groups soon became major role players in the Southern Heritage movement. The Sons of Confederate Veterans and the newly formed United Daughters of the Confederacy.

The S.C.V. was at first an auxiliary to the U.C.V. It later became an independent organization. By 1903, S.C.V. had over 16,000 members in 15 states including New York, California, Illinois and Missouri.

By 1912, U.D.C. had over 45,000 members in 800 Chapters in 15 states.

At its peak, the United Confederate Veterans had over 80,000 dues paying members which was over 30% of the living veterans at that time. They were organized into 1,565 Camps representing over 75% of the counties in the 11 states which formed the Confederacy. (Note...this figure does not include Missouri).

Confederate Re-unions became huge spectator events, 20,000 veterans in Birmingham in 1894, 12,000 veterans and 140,000 onlookers at Dallas in 1902.

The 1903 reunion in New Orleans had more spectators than Mardi Gras.

Age eventually took its toll and The Lost Cause veterans became a part of the never ending story of America's epic struggle.

Condensed from VFW Magazine, June/July 1997 Issue, pgs 22-30
Charles McCorkendale, contributor

Civil War Saddle Maker

Ever heard of a Rohr Saddle? Rohr saddles were made in Atchison, Kansas, for the U.S. Cavalry stationed at Fort Leavenworth.

A Rohr saddle looks much like a modern day Mexican saddle. It was built on a McClellan frame with a large 4-5 inch horn being its prominent feature.

The saddles were made in Rohr's Harness Shop in the 400 block of Commercial Street. He conducted business at that location for over 40 years and was elected Mayor some years after the war.

Clem Rohr was born in Buffalo, N.Y., in 1835.

He worked in Chicago, Detroit, Moline, Ill., and Davenport, Iowa, before coming to Kansas.

It was in Davenport that he heard Senator Jim Lane talk about Kansas.

Rohr came to Leavenworth in 1856, working as a rural mail carrier for a time.

He walked to Atchison in 1857 and opened a harness shop with Nick Greiner, a prosperous German farmer who lived south of town.

Rohr made the unique saddles for the military from 1862 to 1885

Early in war Rohr was elected Captain of the Home Guard. His father was one of Napoleon Bonaparte's body guard and was with him at the Battles of Austerlitz in 1806 and Waterloo in 1815.

Mr. Rohr died on May 23, 1910, in Atchison at the age of seventy-five.

Ingall's History of Atchison County, Kansas,
@1913 pg 209

Remaining Depots in Missouri (From 1969 Historic Preservation list)

Cass County- Pleasant Hill	Missouri Pacific
Clay County Kearney (Now a VFW Hall)	
Jackson County Blue Springs	
Grandview	
Independence (on N.R.)	Missouri Pacific
Independence	Chicago & Alton
Kansas City (on N.R.)	Union Station
Lee's Summit (Now City offices)	
Platte County Parkville (Now City offices)	C.B. & Q.
Weston	

cations and breast works. The Confederates advanced on and on and it was soon a hand to hand conflict. The artillery supports, the artillery horses and the artillery men were broken and shot down and the guns were taken by the Confederates. In a short time they were retaken by the Federals, taken by the Confederates and again retaken by the Federals. The blacksmith shop of John Bennett which stood near where Tom Rhoades now lives was used as a block house and fortification by each side in turn.

The hotel was at the commencement a fortification for the Federal forces, from the windows of which they fought and did great injury to the enemy, but the Confederates worked their way nearer and nearer and at length set fire to it and it was soon in flame and the occupants forced to retire leaving two or three dead bodies to be consumed in the flames. The hours passed and the contest was kept up. Up and down the street, back and forth across it, rattle and bang, cursing and shouting and yelling; it was Missourian against Missourian, neighbor against neighbor and brother against brother. Boys who had played together, gone to school together and grown up together were opposed against each other in deadly strife. Four hours passed and the conflict of arms was still going on; both parties, however, were nearly exhausted, faint with hunger, thirst, heat and fatigue and shortly after ten o'clock the Federals spiked the cannon, drew them off a short distance, collected their remaining horses and retired unmolested from the field and made good their retreat to Lexington. This was a hard fought contest and will ever be remembered throughout the State as such. And it is often asked which side had the better of it. Many accounts have been given of it more or less partial to one side or the other and perhaps some will regard this as such, however it is our intention to give it as it was. The Confeder-

south closely pursued for several days, but finally making their escape to Arkansas. This retreat of the Confederate forces left to the citizens the task of burying the dead and caring for the many wounded, and it was not till Wednesday the twentieth that the dead horses numbering about sixty or eighty were all removed. There have been many and conflicting statements as to the number of killed and wounded men on either side, but we think, and we base our statement on the reports of old citizens and soldiers who participated, that there was not over eighty on each side; the number on each side being about the same. Among the killed and wounded on the Federal side were Captain William Plumb and Captain James Dunden, of Catherwood's regiment, and Captain H. D. Moore and Lieutenant John R. Foster, of McChedgo's regiment. Captain Brady and Captain Bryant, Confederate officers, were also killed. The wounded on either side were well treated with the exceptions of a few cases. Lieutenant Levi Copland had encouraged the ill will of his captors and was turned over to Quantrell; he was never seen again. The trenches where they were buried were made near the snag of the old "lone jack" tree, the Confederate soldiers occupying the east trench and the Federal soldiers the west; each of which was six by eighty feet in size. There were about one hundred and sixty wounded on the Union side and about the same number on the other. The Confederate dead were wrapped in blankets and laid with their heads to the west. In most cases the subjects were recognized and head boards placed to mark their positions; many of which were later removed by relatives or friends to neighboring cemeteries. The Union soldiers were laid head and feet alternating close together in the trench so as to occupy the least room possible. Many of the wounded soldiers on each side afterwards died. The Union were sent to Jefferson City and the Confederate were taken by their relatives or friends.

ates could say with truth that the field was left in their possession, they buried their own dead and cared for their wounded and could show as trophy the two field pieces which they carried off with them the next day when they themselves were forced to retreat before superior numbers. On the other hand the Unionists claimed that when the fighting and the firing ceased they were in possession of the ground and Confederates had drawn off to the northern part of the village or old town and were being re-enforced by fresh troops, and thus it was when they heard re-enforcement of Tracy, Coffee and Quantrell the field was abandoned and the artillery was left on the field for the want of horses to draw it off. The Federal commander Major Foster was left severely wounded and his brother mortally wounded and the command fell on Captain Browner. The battle over the town presented a ghastly spectacle; the wounded were gathered up and nearly every house became a hospital, and there were thirteen houses, stores, shops and residences burned from one end of town to the other. Some prisoners, from eighteen to twenty in number, had been taken; they and a few citizens assisted in the task of burying the dead. At the request of the Federal surgeon W. H. Cundiff, Ambros Graham and A. L. Snow two of the citizens harnessed a team and gathered up and carried the dead to the place of burial and the wounded to the seminary which was used as a hospital. Alvis Powell held the medicines and surgical instruments for Dr. Cundiff while caring for the wounded left on the field. Mr. Powell was not in the battle, but was one of the first to arrive there after. On account of the scarcity of help none of the Federals were buried that day. Next morning (Sunday) while engaged in burying the Union dead and hauling off the dead horses, the advance of Warren and Blunt's army came in sight from the south and the Confederate forces retreated, making a detour to the east for a few miles and then turning

Many interesting incidents occurred during the battle. The hotel of B. B. Cave in which the family resided was occupied by soldiers. His wife and little children were there and there they remained until the building was set on fire, crouching in the safest rooms of the building when they and the soldiers were driven out by the flames into the leaden hail that fell on every side. Their mother Mrs. Galen Cave, was with them and, being very fleshy, could walk but slowly. However, with much difficulty they proceeded out of the Union lines into the corn field and weeds on the west, through the Confederate line and laid down among the tall weeds. Soon one of the children demanded attention and the young mother partially raising herself to pacify it was pierced with a ball which passed through the lungs inflicting a fatal wound of which she died after a few weeks of suffering. Dr. E. Ragsdale, then a young practitioner, attended her. W. H. Cave, of Kansas City, and J. M. Cave, of near here, were then children. At another house farther north the wife and two children and a niece of sixteen were alone. When the attack was made some of the Union soldiers were in the house eating breakfast. As the fight waxed warmer and warmer the women and children crept into a wardrobe to escape the bullets that were piercing the house. In the course of the fight the Confederates occupied the house and fought from it, firing from the windows above and below. When this was noticed the artillery was turned upon the house and ball after ball went crashing through, one ball cutting off part of the old-fashioned bedstead near the wardrobe. The soldiers then assisted them out and they fled to the old Baptist church six hundred yards away. The lady left her house a fortification undergoing a cannonade, she returned some hours afterwards to find a hospital filled with wounded and dying men, beds saturated with blood and the clothing being torn into strips to make bandages.