



MAY 1995

VOL. 3 NO. 5

# THE BORDER STAR

A Publication of the CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE of  
WESTERN MISSOURI 1209 Skyline Dr. Liberty, MO 64068

## THE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE OF WESTERN MISSOURI, INC.

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### NEWSLETTER

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### ANNUAL DUES

Individual 15.00  
Family 22.50  
Student (Under 21) 5.00

### MEETINGS

Meetings held the second Wednesday  
at 7 pm in the Library, at Truman  
High School, 3301 So. Noland Rd.  
except July, August and December.

## FROM THE PRES.....

If there ever was a meeting you should not miss, our May 10th Meeting may be the one.

*Thanks to an anonymous donor, we will be giving away a hand crafted, Early American Style, Mantel Clock. All proceeds go into the Coffee Fund which provides the free coffee, iced tea, soda pop, cups, napkins, ice, sugar, creamer, etc, for the meetings and tours.*

*Each member in attendance will receive a numbered ticket on which you will write your name on the back. Additional tickets may be obtained by making a donation to the Coffee Fund. Minimum donation of 50 cents per ticket or three tickets for a \$1 donation.*

*Deposit the ticket(s) as instructed and wait for the announcement of the winner after the Coffee Break. All members of the group except the President will receive tickets.*

*Estimated value of the clock- about \$100. Personally, I hope none of you win. I want it!*

*If you missed the last meeting you missed Mary Ann Hazard's home made Chocolate Chip cookies and Peanut Butter with M & M's cookies. As the Great Gleason might say ...M-M-M-M-M-Boy, Dat's Good!, or something like that.*

*That makes two months in a row that our gang has feasted on home-baked goodies during the break. Remember Ginny Werline's totally delectable, waist enlarging, guaranteed not to be non-fattening, feast at the March Meeting.*

*As the song says, Who Could Ask For Anything More? Well, you've had the best, now you'll get the rest, for it is back to Best Choice's mass produced munchies in May.*

*An Historical item of interest. The City of Kansas City has contracted with a Cleveland firm to do archeological and historical research relative to the Big Blue Battlefield Site, including the Byram's Ford Historic District.*

*Orvis Fitts of the CWRTofKC has given the researcher an extensive tour of the area.*

*I, along with several others, have been asked to fill out a questionnaire and have had an extensive telephone interview with the project director.*

*As I understand it, the purpose of the project is to determine the exact data as to the actual river crossing sites and battlefield actions.*

*Tom Goodrich's new book on William Clarke Quantrill and his partisans is now in the bookstores. We hope to have Tom back this fall to bring us up to date on his research.*

*Any of you watching the Channel 19 Auction may have seen some familiar faces. Sue Valentine, Connie McQuain and Beverly Shaw were among those helping out. Beverly was accompanied by our mutual friend Bea Cornish of Independence.*

*The May 10 Meeting is an open round table. Any member may have the mic for up to five minutes on any Civil War related topic. There will be a sign up sheet at the back table.*

*At last years open round table Harold Blackburn told of his research on clerics on the battlefield and Tim Cox told of his kin, one Dave Pool.*

*Among things already scheduled is the showing of the video tape on the ruins of the Fort Bibb (Alabama) Iron Works mentioned in last month's column.*

*During the extended Coffee Break & Social time, exhibitors will have items on display as part of a Show & Tell. No items may be sold or offered for sale on the school property.*

*As of this writing there are only 18 signed up to be on the bus for the Blackwater Tour. There are nearly that many private vehicles in the group!*

**PLEASE NOTE....**The May 21st tour with the CWRT of Ottumwa, Iowa, to the Little Blue Battlefield and the Battle of Albany site, has had to be postponed due to a lack of motel rooms in Lexington. Turns out Wentworth Military Academy is having its graduation on this weekend. Alternate date has not been confirmed but it may be July 2nd. If not then, we'll try in the fall.

## BLACKWATER TOUR-MAY 20th

The tour to the old Blackwater Crossing and nearby Blackwater Cemetery will be on Saturday, May 20th, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

People from the Kansas City area will depart at 8:30 am from the large parking lot one block south of the big Hy-Vee food store, just across the road from the Lee's Summit City Cemetery on Business 291 Hwy. (Look for the yellow School Bus)

First stop will be at the area known as "Stonestreit's Orchard", a heavily overgrown, very rugged area where the Confederate Partisans occasionally hid out.

From there we will get back on Hwy 50, to County Road NW 475, go right for 1/4 mile to Road 1121, then left for 1 mile to the Old Blackwater Cemetery, arriving at about 10:00 just in time to join those from the Warrensburg area.

At 10:15 in the little church on the cemetery grounds there will be a brief talk on the history of the area, after which there will be a tour of the cemetery.

Of special note will be the swails of the Warrensburg to Pleasant Hill Military Road which ran along the South edge of the cemetery, and the numerous unmarked graves, many of which are bunched together.

Lunch break should be around 11:30. You are reminded to bring your own sack lunch.

After lunch we will visit the crossing site and more trail markings about 1/4 mile west of the cemetery.

About 2 pm the group will gather back at the old church building at the cemetery for a group discussion.

On the way back you may choose to visit these sites.

1. Powell Gardens, 3 miles (Beautiful site--Small fee)
2. Old Civil War Cave, 5 miles (details at meeting)
3. Kingsville Massacre site (May 1865) & Cemetery

Those with metal detectors are reminded to bring them. All items found on the cemetery grounds will be and remain the property of the Blackwater Cemetery Association.

Seats are still available on the bus at a cost of \$9 for members and \$19 for non-members.

It is hoped those following in their own vehicles will car pool to keep the number of cars to a minimum.

Members of the William Clarke Quantrill Society and the Sons of Confederate Veterans will also be a part of this tour.

The plan is to have the bus back at the starting point by 4:30.

The Blackwater site is only 23 miles from the intersection of Hwy 50 and Business 291 in Lee's Summit, yet is virtually an unknown site.

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY ANNOUNCES

# The 1995 Civil War Battlefield Commemorative Coins

Clad Half Dollar



Gold Five Dollar



Silver Dollar

Reverse



### COIN SPECIFICATIONS

Legal tender gold five dollar coin weighs 8.359 grams.

Composition: 90% gold (0.24 troy ounce), 6% silver, 4% copper.  
Diameter: 0.850 inch. Surcharge: \$35. Maximum authorized mintage: 300,000.

Legal tender one dollar silver coin weighs 26.73 grams.

Composition: 90% silver (0.76 troy ounce), 10% copper. Diameter: 1.500 inches. Surcharge: \$7. Maximum authorized mintage: 1,000,000.

Legal tender clad half dollar coin weighs 11.34 grams. Composition: 92% copper, 8% nickel. Diameter: 1.205 inches. Surcharge: \$2. Maximum authorized mintage: 2,000,000.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CIVIL WAR  
BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION AND THE CIVIL WAR TRUST,  
CALL 1-800 CWTRUST (1-800-298-7878) IN D.C.  
CALL 202-326-8420 OR WRITE:  
THE CIVIL WAR TRUST, 1225  
EYE STREET, NW, SUITE 401  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005.

## RECIPE FROM ROGER

For those of you who like those rich, chocolately deserts, take a look at this item Roger Bomar brought back from the Fort Blakely Tour.

### Pots de Creme

Put in Blender:

- 1 Cup Semi-Sweet Chocolate Chips
- 1 & 1/2 cups Scalded Half & Half
- 2 Egg Yokes
- 3 tbsp Brandy

Cover,

Process at "Blend" until smooth.

Fill cups 2/3 full, Cover cups.

Chill 3 Hours or until firm.

May refrigerate over nite.

When ready to serve, fill cups with whipped cream.

Serve with crisp, not too sweet cookies, if desired.

Compliments of  
Conde-Charlotte Museum House  
Mobile, Alabama

## WELCOME.....TO NEW MEMBER

Carla Stoebeck.....of Independence

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### MAY

- 5-7 Re-Enactment Pea Ridge, Ark.
- 10 CWRTWMO Meeting....  
Open Round Table and Show & Tell
- 14 MOTHER'S DAY
- 17 Board Meeting
- 20 Blackwater Tour
- 21 Little Blue- Tour CANCELLED
- 27-28 Re-Enactments Creston, Iowa  
and Maysville, Mo.
- 29 Legal Memorial Day
- 30 Original Memorial Day

### JUNE

- 3-4 Re-Enactment Fort Dodge, Iowa
- 10-11 Re-Enactment Columbia, Mo.
- 14 CWRTWMO Meeting....  
The Civil War in Boonville
- 18 FATHER'S DAY
- 21 Board Meeting

## COMING IN JULY

### A CIVIL WAR DAYS PICNIC

6-9 pm, Pitcher Cemetery  
Wednesday, July 13(?)

## Suggested Book Reading

### Dixie Raider

by Murray Morgan

Submitted by Robert Maienschein

If anyone's interest was heightened by the question in a recent quiz concerning the ship C.S.S. Shenandoah, the book *Dixie Raider* by Murray Morgan is suggested.

This book relates a story of intrigue, of an incredible voyage and of unequalled feats of seamanship.

It relates how, in 1864, the sleek British ship of commerce, the *Sea King*, out of London, became the center of a secret deal in which it would be sold to the Confederacy.

Joined at sea by the *Laurel*, out of Liverpool, the *Sea King* was manned, outfitted for war and had her name changed to the C.S.S. *Shenandoah*.

Then began an around the world trip whose goal was to go after the Yankee whaling fleet, which it did with great success.

In August of 1865, somewhere off the Southern California coast, the captain finally accepted proof that the War was over and headed back to England.

The ship and crew surrendered to naval authorities in Liverpool on Nov. 6, 1865.

In just over a year the ship had sailed over 58,000 miles, captured 38 vessels (only 13 before Appomattox), without a single casualty or serious injury to its crew of those of its captives.

Library Reference Number 973.7, M 82  
Available at Mid-Continent Library

## APRIL TRIVIA ANSWERS

The picture was of then Captain George Armstrong Custer of the 3rd Michigan Cav.

His most famous command was, of course, the 7th U.S. Cavalry.

## GENERAL'S NICKNAMES

- |                            |    |                  |
|----------------------------|----|------------------|
| 1. Mudwall Jackson         | E. | Wm. Jackson      |
| 2. Little Napoleon         | D. | Geo. McClellan   |
| 3. Ole Wooly Horse         | Q  | John C. Fremont  |
| 4. Old Lop Ear             | M  | Jubal Early      |
| 5. Flying Dutchman         | A  | Franz Sigel      |
| 6. Bloody Chaplain         | B. | Rev J. Whitehead |
| 7. Mo. Swamp Fox           | C. | Jeff Thompson    |
| 8. Retreating Joe          | J. | Jos. E. Johnston |
| 9. Granny...               | L. | Robert E. Lee    |
| 10. Old Beeswax            | I. | Adm. R. Semmes   |
| 11. Pathfinder of the Seas | N. | Matt. Maury      |
| 12. Old Bald Head          | G. | Rich'd S. Ewell  |
| 13. Black Jack             | H. | John A. Logan    |
| 14. Kill Cavalry           | K  | H. J. Kilpatrick |
| 15. Ole Pap                | E. | Sterling Price   |

Thanks to Tom Goodrich's newsletter for some of these items

## GETTYSBURG TRIVIA

from Gettysburg, by CWTI editors

1. The Governor of Pennsylvania called for 50,000 new recruits to defend their home soil.  
How many actually responded?
2. Who was Governor of the state at the time?
3. Which newspaper covered the battle most extensively?
4. Who predeeded George Meade as commander of the Army of the Potomoc?
5. On what date did Meade take command of his troops?
6. Date first Confederate troops entered Gettysburg.
7. Who was the "hero" of the skirmish at Hanover?
8. Where was the "hero" headed and what was his objective?
9. Name of Confederate Cavalry engaged at Hanover.
10. Date first Confederate Cavalry crossed into Maryland enroute to Gettysburg.

(answers at next meeting)

## BOOK REVIEW

### Reflections on the Civil War

by Bruce Catton @ April 1994  
Edited by John Leekley

Submitted by Becky Carver

This is not a detailed, formal military history, nor is it a chronological history of the War. Rather Catton reflects on the cause and meaning of the war.

Actual experiences of a common soldier in army life and in some major campaigns.

Also included in the book is the sketchbook compiled throughout the War by a young Union Private named John Geyser.

Much of the text is based on tape recordings made by Catton and edited for transcription shortly before his death in 1978

Published by Berkley Books, New York

## The Battle of Morristown

Cass County, Missouri  
September 16-17, 1861

Like the Battle of Liberty on September 17, 1861, the Battle of Morristown was linked to the Battle of Lexington.

In early September of 1861, General Sterling Price sent two officers to recruit men to fill in the ranks of his beleaguered forces now engaged in the Siege of Lexington.

Col. John Boyd was sent to the St. Joseph area and set up his camp at Agency, Mo.

Col. Will Hugh Irwin was sent to the Cass County area with A. S. Bradley as his aide.

By September 15th, Irwin had 121 men in camp on the edge of Morristown, a small village about ten miles from the Kansas border.

The camp was on the North side of the road about 200 yards from the Grand River, just East of the Morristown Hotel.

Troops of the 1st Kansas Infantry, 2nd Kansas Cavalry and 2nd Kansas Light Artillery, under General Lane, were camped near Aubry, Kansas.

Upon hearing of the Rebel encampment they immediately struck camp and headed down the Military Road toward the small community of West Line.

From here Lane would turn his column due East and attack the Confederate camp from the West.

Lane had two regiments, almost 1500 men, and two field pieces at his disposal but his official report states that only 200 troops were utilized at Morristown.

In the early hours of the 16th of September, scouts from Lane's column made contact with Confederate pickets about two miles west of Morristown.

After exchanging a few shots the pickets withdrew. The Federal troops advanced toward the Confederate camp totally uncontested.

A company of Union Cavalry led by Col. William A. Johnson rode up the main street of town, past the old hotel, to the edge of the camp and fired several volleys into the tents of the supposedly sleeping and unsuspecting Confederate recruits.

The Union Infantry then moved into position on the North side of the camp, thus trapping the Rebels against the creek bank.

The infantrymen poured a heavy fire into the tents. Not a single shot was returned.

The encounter was a great victory, or so thought Col. Johnson and he boldly reported same to General Lane.

Actually, the Confederates were watching all the activity from a vantage point behind a stone wall just East of the former campsite, having been led out of the camp by a local lad, J. E. Berry, who was familiar with the area and had used the creek bed and a series of ravines as an escape route.

The Federals took over the camp, shot up tents and all.

As the night wore on the Confederates started "squirrel shooting". They hid in the trees and bushes, behind fences, rock walls and just about anything else, and preceeded to shoot at any "squirrel" that moved in their old camp.

Thru the night of the 16th and all day the 17th, the "squirrel shooting" went on.

Sometime during the night of the 17th, the remaining Federal troops withdrew back to Kansas following their famous leader who had slipped out of camp that morning.

Most notable casualty of the battle was Captain Johnson who was shot, "*clean between his eyes*," while standing in the door of the hotel, by a young recruit from the Paola, Kansas, area named Billy Anderson.

By sunrise on the 18th, not a single Federal soldier was in sight. The camp had been completely abandoned.

The Confederate recruits proceeded on to Lexington only to arrive a day too late to participate in the final battle.

After spending three days in camp the recruits were dismissed and sent home.

Lane's official report of the encounter to the Adjutant General of Kansas listed 9 killed, but did not indicate the number of wounded.

Other versions of the battle vary greatly from a minimum of 17 killed, to the report of Captain Bradley which stated 121 Yankees, dead and over 150 wounded.

Obviously, Bradley was on the Confederate side. More obvious perhaps, Lane was trying to cover his backside after suffering an embarrassing defeat at the hands of some untrained squirrel shooters.

Confederate losses are more plainly documented. One killed, a handful wounded and five captured, three soldiers and two civilians.

Robert Hamilton was wounded and taken prisoner.

Rutherford Hook and a Davis youngster were captured when they returned to camp that night. They rode into camp unaware that it had changed occupants.

A Mr. Sublett was accused of being a spy and was taken prisoner.

Two other locals were arrested for harboring the enemy.

The five were marched about a mile West of the hotel and made to did their own graves.

Unexpectedly, Hooks and Davis, were turned loose. The three others were shot.

These gravesites are beleived to be in or near the present day Freeman Cemetery.

The Hooks boy rejoined the recruits headed for Lexington. No further mention is made of the Davis youth or Robert Hamilton.

Later reports of the Battle indicated a number of Federals were buried on a rise just East of the old Hotel behind a large hedgerow.

There is no record of these bodies ever being moved and the exact location of the old hedgerow is not specified.

When the railroad came thru following the War, the buildings that could be salvaged were moved about a half mile South to the new town of Freeman, which had sprung up along the tracks.

The old hotel stood for many years at the old site until it was finally demolished in the 1940's. The rocks which were once part of the foundation of the old Hotel, now scattered about the field, are the only thing remaining at the site of this early Civil War encounter..

FOOTNOTE...In 1926, there was a reunion of the survivors of the Battle of Morristown at Freeman, Mo.

Only four veterans of the Battle were at the reunion.

<b>Jim Beegles</b>	<b>Tom Dolan</b>
<b>John Ed Berry</b>	<b>Robert White</b>

There are at least 24 members of Irwin's Company, known officially as the 11th Mo. Inf., Missouri State Guard, buried in the Freeman Cemetery.

<b>Berry, John E.</b>	<b>1842-1936</b>
<b>Bybee, Alfred</b>	
<b>Bybee, Fielding E.</b>	<b>1830-1910</b>
<b>Carpenter, O'Lonzo</b>	<b>1844-1922</b>
<b>Cummings, Ben</b>	<b>1821-1877</b>
<b>Cummings, C. B. (Dr.)</b>	<b>1834-1897</b>
<b>Dolan, William</b>	<b>1836-1920</b>
<b>Dolan, J. R.</b>	
<b>Dunn, Edward R.</b>	<b>1832-1904</b>
<b>Hall, John R.</b>	<b>1844-1926</b>
<b>Hall, Robert (Unmarked)</b>	<b>-1861</b>
<b>Holderman, Robert</b>	<b>1840-1873</b>
<b>Hook, Rutherford</b>	<b>1837-1915</b>
<b>January, George W.</b>	<b>1843-1922</b>
<b>Johnson, John S.</b>	<b>1844-1911</b>
<b>Jones, Ephriam</b>	<b>1834-1872</b>
<b>McSpadden, Samuel A</b>	<b>1844-1908</b>
<b>Morrison, Elam</b>	<b>1835-1894</b>
<b>Peterson, Garnett B. (Dr.)</b>	<b>1836-1916</b>
<b>Stark, John R.</b>	<b>1840-1916</b>
<b>Stark, William R.</b>	<b>1833-1901</b>
<b>Thomas, R. A.</b>	<b>1841-1892</b>
<b>Williams, Ligger "Green"</b>	<b>1830-1914</b>
<b>Wortham, I. T.</b>	<b>1841-1908</b>