



July 2015

## The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

### 2015 Officers

President ----- Mike Calvert  
1st V.P. ----- Pat Gradwohl  
2nd V.P. ----- Terry Chronister  
Secretary ----- Karen Wells  
Treasurer ----- Beverly Shaw  
Historian ----- Barbara Hughes

### Board Members

Michael Clay      Vonda Clark  
Perry Johnson    Melanie Johnson  
Don Moorehead    Barb Wormington  
Denis Wormington

### The Border Star Editor

Dennis Myers  
12800 E. 48th Street S.  
Independence, MO 64055  
(816) 769-6490

### Meetings

2nd Wednesday of each month  
7:00 p.m.  
Villages of Jackson Creek  
3980-A S. Jackson Drive  
(lower level)  
Independence, Missouri

### Visitors Always Welcome!

### Annual Dues

Individual ----- 20.00  
Family ----- 30.00  
Student (under 21) ----- 5.00  
Newsletter Only (no meetings) 10.00

### For Information

Mike Calvert ----- (816) 898-2603  
Beverly Shaw ----- (816) 225-7944  
Pat Gradwohl ----- (816) 781-8871  
Karen Wells ----- (816) 429-5165

### Mailing Address

CWRTWM, P.O. Box 3019  
Independence, MO 64055

### Website

[www.CWRTWM.org](http://www.CWRTWM.org)



Official Publication of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri  
"Studying the Border War and Beyond"

### THIS MONTH IN THE WAR:

July 7, 1865: The four alleged conspirators to kill President Lincoln are hanged at the Old Penitentiary in Washington, DC. There has been considerable public protest over the case of Mrs. Mary Surratt, whose guilt seems to come down to little more than that she kept the boarding house where Booth hatched his plot, but President Johnson refused to intervene. The other conspirators are imprisoned on an island off Key West, Florida. (Michael O'Laughlin dies of yellow fever in 1867; Dr. Samuel Mudd is pardoned in 1868 because of his work in the epidemic; and Edward Spangler and Samuel Arnold are pardoned in 1869.) From The Civil War Day by Day.

For their May 2015 meeting the Kansas City Round Table had as their speaker Daniel Weinberg, owner of the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop in Chicago, IL. He has written a new book called Lincoln's Assassins: Their Trial and Execution.

### President's Letter

Three things to consider:

1) History; 2) Slavery; 3) Flag

#### History

I am and always will be a strong advocate of telling history exactly like it happened; to do less would be a disservice to your listeners. If you don't tell the truth it's called fiction. Tell the story with sensitivity, but tell the truth. As always when you study history make sure of the facts and draw out the lesson to be learned. The study of the past will prepare you for your future.

#### Slavery

The root cause of the American Civil War was slavery. If you doubt this read three things. First, read any of the minutes from a secessionist convention that voted to secede. Slavery will be the main tenant for the reasoning to abolish the Union. It may be wrapped in state's rights or tariffs, but the south's way of life and economy was founded on the possession of chattel. Let there be no mistake: the holding of another person against his will, in bondage is wrong and forever will be wrong.

#### Flag

You can't miss it. It dominates printed media and the airwaves. It would seem that the majority of the citizens of the United States are for removing the Confederate States of America battle flag from every place it can be seen. Maybe they're right. Maybe it's time to place, in the background, the most divisive period in our history. I don't know enough to agree totally with either camp of thought. I do know that I believe that there is a time and a place to fly this flag. Most certainly it should be placed on the graves of Confederate soldiers who lost their life during the Civil War. These men died for a cause they believed in. It should not fly by itself on the graves of Ex-Confederate soldiers. These are the soldiers that fought in the war and then returned peacefully to the Union. Their graves should be decorated with the Confederate battle flag and the Stars and Stripes to honor both their service to the Confederate States and to their peaceful return to the Union.

I know that all will not agree with what I've written. I welcome and encourage a true and honest exchange of reasoning both for and against the display of the battle flag. Let's seek an understanding of each side of the issue. Do we erase history or do we learn from it?

~Mike Calvert, President, CWRTWM

## CWRTWM Calendar

### July 2015 Membership Meeting

Wednesday, July 8, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. Villages of Jackson Creek, 3980-A S. Jackson Drive (lower level), Independence, MO. Program: Don Gilmore – “Redlegs and Bushwhackers.” Don is a Civil War author and movie resource.

### No Board Meeting in July 2015

#### **Use of Keypad at Villages of Jackson Creek**

Our meeting room is in the Fitness Center on the lower level of the far east wing with the number “3980A” above the entrance. If the inside sliding door is secured, use the keypad on the right to enter 1207\* and stand in front of the door to activate. If there is a problem, call Beverly at (816) 225-7944 (cell). To exit the building, use the keypad to the left of the sliding door and enter 1207\*. Stand directly in front of the door to activate. Please do not try to force the door but instead call Beverly at (816) 225-7944 for assistance.

## **Future Events for the Round Table**

August 12, 2015 – Villages of Jackson Creek. 7:00 p.m. Jim Beckner: Trip to Appomattox and Lincoln’s Funeral in Springfield, IL.

September 9, 2015 – Villages of Jackson Creek. 7:00 p.m. Program: Lane Smith will be talking about Robert E. Lee. Lane portrayed Lee in “Road to Appomattox.”

September 12, 2015 – Daytrip to Osceola, MO

October 14, 2015 – Villages of Jackson Creek. 7:00 p.m. Program: Randal Durbin will be talking about Ulysses S. Grant. Randal portrayed Grant in “Road to Appomattox.”

November 11, 2015 – Villages of Jackson Creek. 7:00 p.m. Program: Barbara Hughes will be speaking about “Traditions of Mourning.”

December 5, 2015 – Christmas Luncheon at the Loose Park Garden Center, Kansas City, MO in cooperation with the Union Cemetery Historical Society.

## **Other Civil War Events and Exhibits**

Thursday, July 2, 2015. Radio Broadcast about the Confederate Flag Controversy. Approx. 10:30 a.m.

KCUR-FM (89.3). “Central Standard.” If you miss the program live, it will be archived at [www.kcur.org](http://www.kcur.org).

### Battle of Westport Museum – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday Program

Thursday, July 2, 105 – 1:00 p.m. Battle of Westport Museum, 6601 Swope Parkway, Kansas City, MO. Free. Cold water and handouts available from presenter, Private Joe Mattox of the United States Colored Troops, USCT. The topic is “Black Soldiers Fighting for Freedom and Slavery.”

### 19<sup>th</sup> Century Fireworks and Patriotic Celebration

Thursday, July 2, 2015 – 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop and Farm, 1200 Kansas City Road, Olathe, KS. Concert by the Olathe Civic Band at 7:30 p.m. along with 1860’s living history activities. Bring your own picnics, blankets and chairs to enjoy ground based 19<sup>th</sup> century fireworks beginning at dusk.

### Shoal Creek Living History – 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday

Saturday, July 4, 2015 – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Shoal Creek Living History Museum Inside Hodge Park. 6800 NE Barry Road, Kansas City, MO. Reenactors bring the village to life with food and craft vendors, family activities and demonstrations. Free admission but some vendors charge for their services – CASH only. Take Highway 152 to Shoal Creek Parkway and then an immediate left on to Barry Road. Take it west to the Robert H. Hodge Park entrance. Turn right and follow the road past the driving and up the hill to the iron gate entrance.

### Highlights in History – Fort Scott, KS

Saturday and Sunday, July 4 – 5, 2015 – 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Fort Scott National Historic Site, 1 Old Fort Blvd., Fort Scott, KS. Talks, tours, demonstrations and living history about Fort Scott’s pivotal events in American history. Explore the time known as “Bleeding Kansas.” Free.

### Dispersal of the Free State Topeka Legislature

Saturday, July 4, 2015 – 10:00 a.m. Constitution Hall-Topeka, the Old Kansas Capitol, 427-429 S. Kansas Avenue, Topeka, KS. The Lecompton Reenactors portray this dramatic Independence Day 1856 event in front of the Free State Capitol. On this date, Army Colonel Edwin Vose Sumner, then in command of Fort Leavenworth, marched 400 troops on horseback to Topeka to break up the Free State legislature assembled under the antislavery Topeka Constitution. (Approx. 30 minutes). Free. Visitors are welcome to tour Constitution Hall.

#### Family Fun Days – National Frontier Trails Museum

Saturday, July 11, 2015 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 W. Pacific, Independence, MO. Visitors can interact with spinners, weavers, tin smiths, blacksmiths, basket makers, quilters and Missouri Town dancers. Kids can make period crafts, play games, help weave a rug, pan for fake gold and play in a pioneer kitchen. All outside activities are free and children have a half price admission to the museum with a paid adult admission. Tour of the Chicago-Alton Depot is free. Take advantage of free wagon rides to and from the Museum and the Square. This is the same day as the Bingham-Waggoner Antique and Craft Fair across the street.

#### Battle of Westport Museum Program Series

Saturday, July 11, 2015 – 10:00 a.m. Battle of Westport

Museum, 6601 Swope Parkway, Kansas City, MO.

Gary Jenkins will be screening his documentary called “Freedom Seekers” about the western Underground Railroad.

#### Liberty, MO Walking Tour

Saturday, July 11, 2015 – 10:00 a.m. Dougherty

Historic District. Meet at Rotary Park, corner of Franklin and Gallatin Streets.

#### “Frontiers” Outdoor Theater in Independence, MO

Saturdays, July 11, 18, 25 and August 1, 2015 – 7:00

p.m. On the grounds of the National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 West Pacific, Independence, MO. Bring lawn chairs and blankets. Picnics are welcome. No alcohol. “Frontiers” tells the pioneer stories of 30 women during the westward expansion into Missouri and Kansas. 100 minutes of vignettes told from the viewpoint of women of the past. We are hoping for good weather on Saturday, **July 25<sup>th</sup>**, for some of our Round Table people to attend together.

#### Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, July 14, 2015 – 6:00 p.m. Buffet menu (about

\$12). Golden Corral, 8800 NW Skyview Ave., Kansas City, MO (near Home Depot). Robert Jones, Kennesaw, GA Historical Society.

#### Raytown Historical Society Indoor Picnic

Wednesday, July 15, 2015 – 5:30 p.m. (social), 6:00

p.m. (dinner). Fried chicken picnic for \$15.

Reservations by Friday, July 10<sup>th</sup>. Call (816) 353-5033 or E-Mail to raytownhistoricalsociety@sbcglobal.net.

Program: David Jackson will talk about his new book *Born a Slave*.

#### Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, July 15, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. Change of

location to the Perkins Restaurant, 3939 S. Bolger Drive, Independence, MO (across from Walmart). Lane Smith,

a retired insurance agent, historian, and past President of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City, will come as his alter ego, General Robert E. Lee.

#### Road Trips that Travel Civil War History

Thursday, July 16, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. Lone Jack Library,

211 N. Bynum Road, Lone Jack, MO. Aaron Barnhart, co-author of *The Big Divide: A Travel Guide*, will give tips on getting the most out of your history road trips.

RSVP to (816) 697-2528.

#### Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, July 28, 2015 – 6:30 p.m. – Dinner. \$27.

Holiday Inn and Suites, 8787 Reeder Road, Overland

Park, KS (Sunset Ballroom – 8<sup>th</sup> Floor). Park on the south side of the hotel and use the elevators in the lobby.

Terry L. Beckenbaugh of the U. S. Army Command and General Staff College will be speaking about the Grand

Review of Armies, a military procession and celebration in Washington on May 23-24, 1865 following the close

of the Civil War. Deadline of Noon on July 24<sup>th</sup> for

dinner reservations to Susan Keipp by E-Mail to

skeipp@kc.rr.com or call (816) 333-0025.

#### Outlaws!

Tuesday, July 28, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. Boardwalk Library,

8656 N. Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO. Gregg

Higginbotham: The history of lawlessness by ex-

Confederate soldiers Frank and Jesse James. RSVP to

(816) 741-9011.

#### Most Intrepid Western Writers Posse

Wednesday, July 29, 2015 – 6:30 p.m. Trails West

Library, 11401 E. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Independence, MO.

Award winning authors Chris Enss, Bill Markley,

Monty McCord and Sherry Monahan will discuss their

latest work and share stories of the Old West. RSVP to

(816) 701-3407.

#### Raytown Historical Society Ambassadors Meeting

Monday, August 1, 2015 – 10:00 a.m. Raytown

Museum, 9705 E. 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, Raytown, MO. The Cox

family story.

#### **Exhibit: Paleo Kansas City**

Now through September 12, 2015. Linda Hall Library,

5109 Cherry, Kansas City, MO (near UMKC). 9:00 a.m.

– 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and on the second

Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Exhibit of fossils

courtesy of Richard Gentile, curator of UMKC’s Richard L. Sutton, Jr. Museum of Geo-sciences. It showcases

several specimens found in the Kansas City Area.

Admission is free.

## We Need Your Help!

We wish Terry McConnell the best as he moves to San Antonio, but this means that we have another vacancy on the Board of Directors. If you would like to join the Board and help us with our planning, please call Beverly Shaw at (816) 225-7944 or Mike Calvert at (816) 898-2603 to see what all is involved. It does require a bi-monthly board meeting at the home of Beverly Shaw in Independence. We were very glad to meet Terry's sister from San Antonio at the June picnic. Her name is Merrie McConnell-Purpura. Other guests at the picnic were Danone Zupko and Rae Arnhart.

We have two opportunities in August to take our Monuments book to sell and possibly invite some new members. We plan to have a table or tent at the Family Day on Saturday, August 8, 2015, on the grounds of the National Frontier Trails Museum in Independence from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. We need a morning shift from 10:00 a.m. until about Noon, and an afternoon shift from about Noon to 3:00 p.m. We will have folding chairs and possibly a tent to shade you from the sun.

The second opportunity is the anniversary of the Battle of Lone Jack on Saturday, August 15, 2015. If you can help with either of these events, just give us a call.

Members have worked very hard to market our latest book, *Civil War Monuments and Memorials in Western Missouri* (available to members for \$15). They have taken sample copies to State of Missouri historic sites, Jackson County Parks department, and various independent book sellers. We would now like to have you bring back sample copies to the July meeting so that we know how many more we need to order for the events in August where we will be selling them. If you can't come Wednesday, please call Beverly Shaw at (816) 225-7944 to arrange a pickup time.

The Board has also authorized Barbara Wormington to prepare a revised and expanded issue of our first book called *Civil War Monuments and Memorials in the Greater Kansas City Area*. With the availability of on-line printing, we will be able to present it in color for about the same price as the previous black and white.

## News about Members and Friends

We are sorry to report that our member, **Stephen L. Miller** of Independence, MO passed away on June 19, 2015 at the age 60 after an 18 month battle with cancer. He is survived by his son, Zachary from Idaho Falls, Idaho; his mother, Beverly Miller of

Independence, MO; and his sister Stephanie J. Dumolt of Kansas City. We extend our condolences to the family.

The Civil War community in the Kansas City area is saddened by the death of **Orvis Fitts** on June 18, 2015 at the age of 96. Orvis was very active with the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City, the Monnett Fund, and the Westport Historical Society. Orvis came to Independence once as our guest speaker during historic preservation month and he will surely be missed.

"Welcome, Baby Sabastian" was the caption for the picture in the Examiner on June 20, 2015. He was born Sabastian Layne Salyer on May 25, 2015. The proud great-grandparents are **Jim and Judi Beckner**.

The Clay County Historical Museum celebrated a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on June 27, 2015 in Liberty, MO. Present were **Karen Wells, Pat Gradwohl, Linda Mangels, Beverly Shaw and Lila Aamodt** from the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City. **Barbara Hughes** did a wonderful job of portraying Mrs. Withers who founded the museum. As usual her husband **Dick Hughes** was her faithful "roadie" who set up all the AV equipment. The Hughes family is very proud of their son-in-law, **Theodore Knox**, who received the bronze star medal with valor on May 9, 2015 at the WWI Museum at Liberty Memorial for action in Vietnam.

The **Platte County Historical Society** was formed 70 years ago and we sent a congratulatory card.

Doubtless you have read various articles about the use of the Confederate battle flag at public locations, especially after the slaughter of black citizens in their own church by a man who proudly displayed the flag. If you have not kept up with all this and don't receive the articles by E-Mail that Beverly Shaw has distributed, she will be glad to make you photocopies upon request. Call her at (816) 225-7944. In the meantime she has also received notice of some helpful efforts towards reconciliation as we finish commemorating the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War. One occasion was the notice from Reno, Nevada of a recent military funeral for Pvt. Scott Carnal of the 1<sup>st</sup> Kansas Colored Infantry because it is unlikely he received any recognition after his death in 1917 in Dayton, about 40 miles south of Reno. The United States Colored Troops made up over 10% of the Union Army, while only 1% of the North's population was black, according to the African American Civil War Memorial and Museum in Washington, D.C. After President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation took effect on January 1, 1863, the War Department publicly authorized recruiting of blacks. "Without the military help of the black freedmen, the

war against the South could not have been won,” Lincoln said. Our friend, Joe Mattox, is presenting a series of programs at the Battle of Westport Museum to explain how some blacks fought for the North and their own freedom and some fought for the Confederacy.

The Mormon church is planning to index records of about four million former slaves and make them available to search on-line. They will use records of the Freedmen’s Bureau, an agency Congress created at the end of the Civil War to help the first generation of African-Americans experience freedom. LDS Apostle D. Todd Christofferson called on the nation’s African-Americans to help with the project to “potentially reunite the black family that was once torn apart by slavery.” Speaking in Los Angeles at the California African American Museum, he urged finishing the indexing of 1.4 million digitized records before completion next year of the new Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture on the mall in Washington, D.C.

Closer to home we were glad to read about the students of **Academie Lafayette** in Kansas City who have cleaned up and placed flags at the neglected African American Highland Cemetery in unincorporated Jackson County off Blue Ridge Boulevard. Some significant graves are those of jazz great **Bennie Moten**; **Lafayette Tillman**, the city’s first black policeman whom Daryl Levings wrote about in a long piece in the *Kansas City Star magazine*; and **Chester A. Franklin** who in 1919 founded the *Kansas City Call*, a leading African-American newspaper.

Our long-distance member, **Nancy Hitt** from Kentucky, keeps us informed of Civil War events in Europe. She says that **CSA General Patrick Cleburne** will be honored in Ireland on July 4, 2015. She wonders if there will be a memorial in Arkansas where he is buried. She also reports that plans are being made for a grand event in Liverpool, England to remember the famous ship **CSS Alabama** and that city’s connections to the War for Southern Independence.

The **James-Young Gang** organization headquartered in Owatonna, MN is planning their annual conference for October 1-3, 2015 in Kearney, Missouri. The registration deadline is August 31<sup>st</sup>. The full conference is \$89 and Beverly Shaw has registration forms if you are interested.

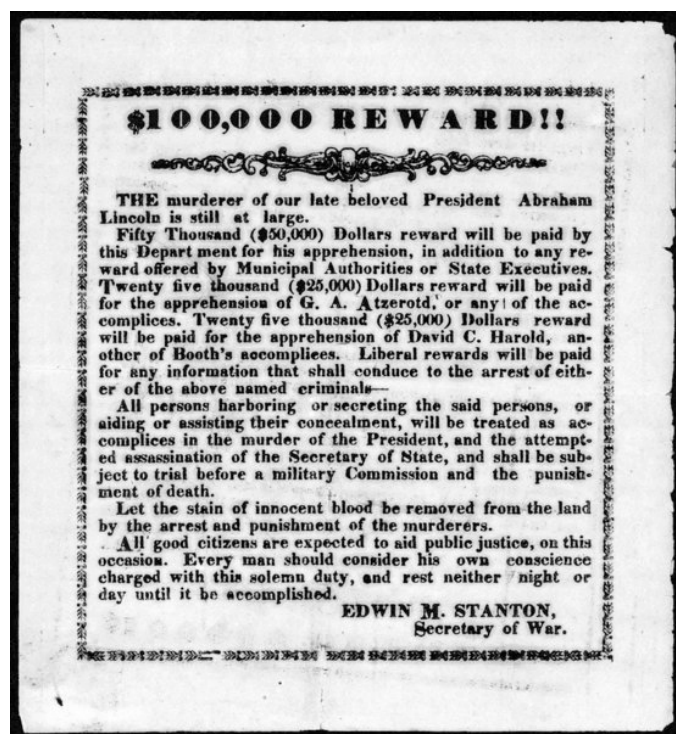
**Delbert and Goldie Lewis** so very much appreciate the efforts of the Round Table to keep the **Lewis-Gregg Cemetery** looking good even though it is not visited very often because of its remote location in the middle of

a field near the St. Joseph the Worker church in Eastern Jackson County. They have paid for a new gate to be installed and we hope to find a dry enough spell to go do a little maintenance.

Congratulations to Kansas City, Missouri Parks Director **Mark McHenry** for his 40 years of service. One of his projects was the development of the **Shoal Creek Heritage Village** north of the River.

## U.S. War Dept. \$100,000 Reward for the murderer of President Abraham Lincoln

Text of reward notices were commonly printed on a large poster. This small format is unusual and the decorative border suggests that it may not have been printed by the U.S. government but rather a private printer.



## The William Clarke Quantrill Society

The William Clark Quantrill Society is a non-profit corporation dedicated to the study of the Civil War on the Missouri-Kansas border with emphasis on the lives of Quantrill, his men, his supporters, his adversaries and the resulting historical record. For information visit; [www.wcq society.com](http://www.wcq society.com) or send an E-mail to [wcqsociety@aol.com](mailto:wcqsociety@aol.com).