



★ *The Border Star* ★

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

September 2015

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

2015 Officers

President ----- Mike Calvert
1st V.P. ----- Pat Gradwohl
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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.

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

President's Letter

It seems that most groups, of the history vein anyway, all seem to have the same problem; how to attract younger members. I don't mean those who are fortyish. I mean, down and dirty, those who are younger than that and dare I say teenage or even pre-teen. How do we get them to a meeting and once they do, do we have what it takes to retain them? What can we do that would make this demographic group so excited about history that they will want to hang around with, again let's face it, at the very least their parents? I don't have any readymade answers. Just look around on our meeting night for the truth in that statement.

However, there is one observation I made recently. When I was at the National Trails Museum's event in August I could not help but observe the excitement that the reenactors caused among the group that we have been discussing. The firing of the guns, the charging of the horses and the men in mock combat seem to create, if only for a moment, what seemed to be an intense interest on their part. I know we can't re-create battles at every meeting. (Who would volunteer to clean up after the horses?), but couldn't we create some excitement that would capture these young people's imagination. Do not in any way interpret this to mean that I think our programs are anything but fantastic. The programming we enjoy is varied, interesting and appeals to a cross section of members.

I write this like I have some answer. I don't. I just know the need. Maybe we don't enjoy history until we have a certain amount of our own. Maybe we have to be able to say "Remember when..." and be able to. Or sometimes it's just an attempt to hang on to our past. I do wish we could begin to appreciate the past just a little sooner. Maybe if young people had a well-rounded sense of place they wouldn't seem so lost. Why waste that last sentence on someone younger. It seems to me if we remember more of our past we would or could be more certain about our future.

Let's continue to work to attract youth to our meetings, but not forget to serve ourselves.

-Mike Calvert, President, CWRTWM

CWRTWM Calendar

September 2015 Membership Meeting

Wednesday, September 9, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. Silver Heart Inn, 1114 S. Noland Road, Independence, MO. Park in the Immanuel Baptist Church lot at 112 W. 23rd Street (just west of Noland Road). Walk around the corner to the Bed and Breakfast and home of our Board members, Melanie and Perry Johnson. We thank them very much for their hospitality in August and September. Keith Nelson: “The Chouteaus In Missouri.”

Daytrip to Osceola, Missouri

Saturday, September 12, 2015. We offer carpooling by meeting at 9:00 a.m. at the Blue & Grey Book Shoppe, 106 E. Walnut, Independence, MO. Street parking is available. You can also drive yourself and arrange to meet us at the Osceola Cheese Company at 11:00 a.m. Lunch will be catered at a local church for \$16 each. We must have reservations by Noon, September 9th even if you have not yet paid. Call Beverly at (816) 225-7944. If you want to carpool, the cost for transportation will be \$9 a person (a total of \$25 for the day). If you want just the meal, the cost is \$16. Please mail your check to “CWRTWM, P.O. Box 3019, Independence, MO 64055.” This will be a special look at this piece of Border War history guided by Richard Sunderwirth who wrote two books on “The Burning of Osceola.”

September Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 16, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. at the home of Beverly Shaw, 17313 E. 51st Terr. Court, Independence, MO. Main piece of business is finalizing a permanent meeting place.

Other Civil War Events

First Thursday Program at Battle of Westport Museum

Thursday, September 3, 2015 – 1:00 p.m. Battle of Westport Museum, 6601 Swope Parkway, Kansas City, MO. Private Joe Mattox, United States Colored Troops/USCT: “Lincoln, Jayhawkers, and John Brown.” Cold water and handouts.

First Saturday at Shoal Creek Living History Village

Saturday, September 5, 2015 – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Located at Hodge Park near the golf course. Reenactors bring the village to life with food, crafts and demonstrations. Some activities charge a nominal fee (cash only, please). Take I-435 north to Highway 152 east. Go ½ mile and turn north (left) on to Shoal Creek Parkway. Make an immediate left on Barry Road. Go west to the entrance of Hodge Park. Turn right and follow the road past the driving range and up the hill to the iron gate entrance.

Civil War Reenactment at Lamoni, Iowa

Saturday and Sunday, September 5–6, 2015. Skirmish in downtown Lamoni on Saturday will begin at 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Just off I-35 barely past the state line from Missouri. At the encampment there will be a large Saturday battle at 2:00 p.m. Dramatic night artillery firing at 9:00 p.m. Sunday’s large battle begins at 1:00 p.m.

Highlights in History at Fort Scott National Historic Site

Saturday, Sunday and Monday, September 5 – 7, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 1 Old Fort Blvd., Fort Scott, KS. Talks, tours, demonstrations. Explore the time of “Bleeding Kansas.” Free.

Civil War Round Table of Cass County

Tuesday, September 8, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. Pierson Hall, Cass County Library, 400 E. Mechanic, Harrisonville, MO. Ralph Monaco, former state representative and well-known attorney: *Blood in the Streets*, Ralph’s new book which correlates the First Battle of Independence with the Battle of Lone Jack.

Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, September 8, 2015 – 6:00 p.m. Buffet Menu (about \$12) at the Golden Corral, 8800 N. W. Skyview Ave., Kansas City, MO (near Home Depot). Doug Cubbison: Historic Photography with an emphasis on Civil War/ Indian wars period.

Freedom’s Frontier Partners Meeting

Thursday, September 10, 2015 – 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Historic Mt. Gilead Church, Kearney, MO.

Black Powder Shoot – James Farm

Saturday, September 12, 2015 – 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. James Farm, 21216 James Farm Road, Kearney, MO. Cap & Ball Revolver or Cartridge Revolver (replicas OK). Fixed sights and dueling stance only. For more information, please call (816) 736-8500. \$25.

Big Shoal Country Fair

Saturday, September 12, 2015 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Atkins-Johnson Farm & Museum, 6607 NE Antioch Road, Gladstone, MO. Missouri Town Dancers, Stable T Petting Zoo, contests, games, crafts and a history discovery area. Take a stroll up to the historic Big Shoal Cemetery or tour the museum. Fair and museum are free for the day, but some activities have a nominal fee.

Battle of Westport Museum Program

Saturday, September 12, 2015 – 10:00 a.m. 6601 Swope Parkway, Kansas City, MO. Dennis Garstang: The Mormon War in Missouri as a precursor of the Border War.

Walking Tour in Liberty, MO

Saturday, September 12, 2015 – 10:00 a.m. Jewell College and Lightburne District. Meet at the parking lot at the corner of Franklin and Lightburne.

Westport Historical Society Speaker Series

Saturday, September 12, 2015 – 2:00 p.m. Westport Library, 118 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO. Raymond Starzmann will portray Harry Truman.

Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, September 16, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. Perkins Restaurant, 3939 S. Bolger Drive, Independence, MO (across from Walmart). Ralph Monaco: Life and Times of Jesse James, Jr. who was an interesting fellow outside of his father's shadow.

Bates County Families on the Border

Saturday, September 19, 2015 – 10:00 a.m. Bates County Museum, Robertson Hall, 802 Elks Drive, Butler, MO. Hank Roberts will sing "Border Ballads" and Tom Rafiner will share research into the Bates County families on the Missouri/Kansas Border. Free will luncheon to follow.

Clay County Historical Society Picnic

Sunday, September 20, 2015 – 12:30 p.m. – Gather. Historic Pharis Farm, 20611 EE Highway, Liberty, MO. Barbecue lunch is \$15 payable at the picnic by cash or check only. Reservations required by September 15th. E-Mail to Info@claycountymuseum.org or call (816) 792-2854. 2:00 p.m. – History of the Pharis Farm with a guided tour.

Civil War Round Table of Mid-Missouri

Monday, September 21, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. Boone County Historical Society Museum, 3801 Ponderosa Drive, Columbia, MO. Von Pittman: Secret Yankees: The Union Circle in Confederate Atlanta based on a prize winning book by his friend from graduate school, Thomas G. Dyer.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, September 22, 2015 – 6:30 p.m. – Dinner (\$27). Holiday Inn and Suites, 8787 Reeder Road, Overland Park, KS (Sunset Ballroom – 8th Floor). Park on the south side of the hotel and use the elevators in the lobby. Chip Buckner: His grandfather, Confederate General Simon Bolivar Buckner. Reservations required by Noon, Friday, September 18th. E-Mail Susan Keipp at skeipp@kc.rr.com or call (816) 333-0025.

Civil War Round Table of Eastern Kansas

Thursday, September 24, 2015 – 6:30 p.m. Hale Ritchie House, 1118 Madison, Topeka, KS. Jim Bird: "Jim Lane."

Grand Festival of Chez les Canses

Saturday, September 26, 2015 – 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Fort Osage National Historic Landmark, 107 Osage Street, Sibley, MO. Explore how early French settlers lived at the confluence of the Missouri and Kansas rivers in the late 1700's. Reenactors will interpret skills common to the frontier. Artisans will display custom made wares, both decorative and utilitarian. Cost is: \$3 – \$7.

Living History Day at the Battle of Westport Museum

Saturday, September 26, 2015 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. 6601 Swope Parkway, Kansas City, MO (just inside the east entrance to Swope Park. Small encampment on the museum grounds. Women will portray daily life with domestic crafts such as bobbin lace and crochet. Living history by Lane Smith portraying General Robert E. Lee, John Anderson as Lieutenant Patrick Minor, African American stories by Joe Mattox and Willadine Johnson. A battlefield tour of Byram's Ford (second day of the Battle of Westport at the Little Blue River) will be given once in the morning and once in the afternoon. A food truck by Jazzy B's BBQ will provide a variety of food.

Austin Bean Eatin' Day, Cass County, MO

Saturday, September 26, 2015 – Starts at 10:30 a.m. with a lunch of beans and the fixings at Noon for a donation. Civil War reenactors and musical entertainment along with local history presentations. Grounds of the Austin Baptist Church, Austin, MO.

Wilson's Creek National Battlefield

Saturday, September 26, 2015 – No entrance fee today. 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. New museum exhibits at the Wilson's Creek Visitor Center. www.nps.gov/wicr.

The Journey of a People

Sunday, September 27, 2015 – 2:00 p.m. Central Library, 14 W. 10th Street, Kansas City, MO. Mark Scherer: The Journey of a People: History of the Community of Christ (RLDS). Two landmarks in Independence, MO accentuate the world headquarters of the Community of Christ – the stainless steel spired Temple and the domed Auditorium. The denomination emerged after the 1844 death of Mormon prophet and leader Joseph Smith Jr. A significant faction formed the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints with Joseph Smith III as their president. With their opposition to polygamy, they navigated a difficult course between Utah Mormonism and mainstream Christianity.

Coming Events

Civil War Battle at Shoal Creek

Saturday and Sunday, October 10 – 11, 2015.

Shoal Creek Living History Village, 7000 NE Barry Road inside Hodge Park.

Daytrip to Mine Creek and Fort Scott, KS.

Saturday, October 24, 2015 – 8:00 a.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Meet at the Johnson County Community College parking lot at 12345 College Blvd., Overland Park, KS. Cost is \$48 per person for motorcoach transportation, tour guide Arnold Schofield, lunch and snacks, maps, and handouts. Reservations to “Civil War Round Table of Kansas City, c/o Susan Keipp 436 W. 88th Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64114.”

Voices of the Past at Mount Mora Cemetery

Thursday and Friday, October 22 – 23, 2015. Tours start at 6:30 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and must be purchased in advance by calling (816) 232-8471. All tours start at the Wyeth-Tootle Home, 1100 Charles St., St. Joseph, MO.

Exhibits

Lives in Fabric

Now through October 18, 2015. Alexander Majors Home, 8301 State Line, Kansas City, MO. Open during normal tour hours and is included with the tour ticket. The exhibit will display rarely-seen items from the Wornall/Majors collection including quilts, coverlets, clothing samples and more.

Civil War Round Table Visits Events

We want to thank our volunteers at the Family Fun day at the National Frontier Trails Museum and the Battle of Lone Jack Commemoration. Mike and Molly Clay were kind enough to lend their tent for both events to give some relief from the sun. Molly also feeds the volunteers out of her non-historical cooler, and that makes the day go quicker. Barbara and Denis Wormington joined Mike and Molly during the morning at the NFTM followed by Karen Wells and Pat Gradwohl in the afternoon. Mike Calvert was the organizer of the whole event so he was seen sporadically (that is, when he was not felled by heat exhaustion). His wife Cindi laid down the law that he could not expose himself to further heat events at Lone Jack, and like the intelligent man that he is, he agreed.

Luckily it was cooler at Lone Jack with a nice breeze. In the morning Beverly Shaw and Barbara Hughes joined Mike and Molly to erect the tent and set up our wares. Barbara was splitting her time between our tent and the

Lone Jack Historical Society, but luckily Charles Childs stopped by and helped as well. He was also kind enough to take the pictures which are in this issue. John Moloski helped with the take-down of the tent after closing his own booth for the Burnt District Press.

Our initial goal was to sell copies of our second “Monuments” book, and in that we were not terribly successful – only one book at NFTM and one at Lone Jack, but Barbara Hughes was able to procure an order from the Lone Jack Museum for more copies to sell in their gift shop. Our secondary goal was to visit with potential members of the Round Table, and in this we were very gratified to be able to talk with people about their interest in Civil War history and how we can work together with authors and historic sites. I think both our volunteers and visitors learned from each other. Beverly Shaw was very glad she attended because she won the door prize of a very interesting book about researching family history.



Wreath Laying at the Lone Jack Cemetery



Gun Salute at the Wreath Laying



Barbara Hughes and the First National Flag



Mike and Molly Clay

38th Annual Austin Bean Eatin'

Saturday, September, 26th 2015, starting at 10:30 a.m. till?

Location:

GROUNDS OF THE AUSTIN BAPTIST CHURCH in AUSTIN, MISSOURI

Directions:

Take Archie exit, east on B blacktop 3 miles to T blacktop, 1 mile north, or 71 Highway, Clinton exit on 7 Highway 8 miles, turn south on T blacktop, 8 miles to Austin. **WATCH FOR THE SIGNS.**

Serving Ham & Beans, corn bread, coleslaw, homemade pie, tea or coffee.

Ham & Beans prepared by: Jadd Pence.

Entertainment: WILDWOOD BAND.

Blues Brother performing at 12:00 p.m.

New Family with dulcimer music.

TAKE A HISTORICAL TOUR OF AUSTIN ON LAVERNE WELCH'S TEAM AND WAGON!

1:00 p.m. – Horseshoe pitching tournament, cake walk, kiddie games.

Cass County Historical Society and Local History Authors will be present and selling history books.

SIGN UP FOR FREE BOOTH SPACE NOW!

DONATION:

\$7 FOR ADULT

\$3 FOR CHILDREN UNDER 12

ALL PROCEEDS GO FOR THE UPKEEP OF THE AUSTIN CEMETERY, AUSTIN, MO.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

DEBBIE MORGAN AT (816) 214-1098

or

JOHN MORGAN AT (816) 862-6549

Please bring your own lawn chairs!

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.wcqsociety.com or send an E-mail to wcqsociety@aol.com.

