



# ★ *The Border Star* ★

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

November 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. 48<sup>th</sup> Street S.  
Independence, MO 64055  
(816) 769-6490

### **Meetings**

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month  
7:00 p.m. ~ Fellowship Hall  
Village Heights Community of Christ  
Church  
1009 Farview Drive  
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)

### ***President's Letter***

"Almighty God: Our sons, pride of our Nation, this day have set upon a mighty endeavor, a struggle to preserve our Republic, our religion, and our civilization, and to set free a suffering humanity.

Lead them straight and true; give strength to their arms, stoutness to their hearts, steadfastness in their faith.

They will need Thy blessings. Their road will be long and hard. For the enemy is strong. He may hurl back our forces. Success may not come with rushing speed, but we shall return again and again; and we know that by Thy grace, and by the righteousness of our cause, our sons will triumph.

They will be sore tried, by night and by day, without rest-until the victory is won. The darkness will be rent by noise and flame. Men's souls will be shaken with the violences of war.

For these men are lately drawn from the ways of peace. They fight not for the lust of conquest. They fight to end conquest. They fight to liberate. They fight to let justice arise, and tolerance and good will among all Thy people. They yearn but for the end of battle, for their return to the haven of home.

Some will never return. Embrace these, Father, and receive them, Thy heroic servants, into Thy kingdom.

And for us at home -- fathers, mothers, children, wives, sisters, and brothers of brave men overseas -- whose thoughts and prayers are ever with them--help us, Almighty God, to rededicate ourselves in renewed faith in Thee in this hour of great sacrifice.

Many people have urged that I call the Nation into a single day of special prayer. But because the road is long and the desire is great, I ask that our people devote themselves in a continuance of prayer. As we rise to each new day, and again when each day is spent, let words of prayer be on our lips, invoking Thy help to our efforts.

Give us strength, too -- strength in our daily tasks, to redouble the contributions we make in the physical and the material support of our armed forces.

And let our hearts be stout, to wait out the long travail, to bear sorrows that may come, to impart our courage unto our sons where so ever they may be.

And, O Lord, give us Faith. Give us Faith in Thee; Faith in our sons; Faith in each other; Faith in our united crusade. Let not the keenness of our spirit ever be dulled. Let not the impacts of temporary events, of temporal matters of but fleeting moment let not these deter us in our unconquerable purpose.

With Thy blessing, we shall prevail over the unholy forces of our enemy. Help us to conquer the apostles of greed and racial arrogances. Lead us to the saving of our country, and with our sister Nations into a world unity that will spell a sure peace a peace invulnerable to the schemings of unworthy men. And a peace that will let all of men live in freedom, reaping the just rewards of their honest toil.

Thy will be done, Almighty God. Amen. "

I can't say it any better. These are the words that should be on every American's heart. On this Veterans Day please remember not only those who have served but, also those who continue to sacrifice for you and for me. Please remember these words for those we owe so much and have repaid so little.

\* Franklin D. Roosevelt's prayer for the nation when he announced the D-Day invasion, June 6, 1944

***-Mike Calvert, President, CWRTWM***

## CWRTWM Calendar

### November 2015 Membership Meeting

Wednesday, November 11, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. Village Heights Community of Christ church, 1009 Farview Drive, Independence, MO. One block north of 24 Highway and .8 mile east of Highway 291. Plenty of parking and handicapped access. Randal Durbin will give a program on Ulysses S. Grant. Randal portrayed Grant in the play “Road to Appomattox.”

November is our Annual Business Meeting when we elect Officers and Board Members and hear reports on our finances, the Lewis-Gregg Cemetery Commission, and the Sonny Wells Little Blue Battlefield Commission. The present officers and board members are standing for election and we have two nominees for new board members: Charles Childs and John Moloski. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor but we request that you obtain permission from the nominee.

**No Board Meeting in November. We plan to meet in January 2016 to plan activities for the year.**

### December 2015 Holiday Luncheon

**Saturday**, December 5, 2015. Noon. Loose Park Garden Center, 5200 Pennsylvania, Kansas City, MO (park in front of the pavilion off Wornall Road in Loose Park and walk through the pavilion to the Garden Center building. The Round Table provides deli trays, drinks, and plates. The Members are asked to bring a potluck dish to share. Kevin Fewell, president of the Union Cemetery Historical Society, will present a program based on his portrayal of Abraham Lincoln.

**There will be NO evening meeting in December.**

## Other Civil War Events

### Custer's Trials: A Life on the Frontier

Monday, November 9, 2015 – 6:30 p.m. Plaza Branch Library, 4801 Main Street, Kansas City, MO. T. J. Stiles will talk about his new biography of Gen. George Armstrong Custer who worked as a politician, businessman, writer and Army officer to lead the U.S. into a more modern age. RSVP to (816) 701-3407.

### Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, November 10, 2015 – 6:00 p.m. Buffet menu (about \$12), Golden Corral, 8800 NW Skyview Ave., Kansas City, MO (near Home Depot). Mark Armato will present a program on Jesse James.

### Civil War Round Table of Cass County

Tuesday, November 10, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. Pierson Hall,

Cass County Library, 400 E. Mechanic, Harrisonville, MO. Tom Rafiner and Hank Roberts present a history of the Border Wars in word and song.

### Trade and Trepidation: The Osage and the Spanish

Thursday, November 12, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center, 600 W. Main Street, Jefferson City, MO. Michael Dickey, administrator of the Arrow Rock State Historic Site, will explore the sometimes uneasy détente that existed between the Spanish government in St. Louis and the most powerful Native nation south of the Missouri River - the Osage.

### Westport Historical Society Speaker Series

Saturday, November 14, 2015 – 2:00 p.m. Westport Library, 118 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO. Steve Noll, Executive Director of the Jackson County Historical Society, will share a program about “Cowtown KC” based on Ed Matheny’s new book *Cowtown*. Topics will include the West Bottoms, the American Royal, Kemper Arena, Golden Ox, floods and stockyards.

### Mid-Missouri Civil War Round Table

Monday, November 16, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. Boone County Historical Society Museum, 3801 Ponderosa Drive, Columbia, MO. Harold Miederhoff: Fort Davidson.

### Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, November 17, 2015 – 6:30 p.m. – Dinner. \$27. Holiday Inn and Suites, 8787 Reeder Road, Overland Park, KS (Kansas Ballroom – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor). Eric Wittenberg, an attorney from Ohio, will speak about his book on the Battle of Brandy Station. Deadline for dinner reservations is Noon on Friday, November 13, 2015 to Susan Keipp at skeipp@kc.rr.com or call (816) 333-0025.

### Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, November 18, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. Perkins Restaurant, 3939 S. Bolger Drive, Independence, MO (across from Walmart). Dennis Garstang: Johnny Ringo and his relationship to the James, Youngers and Daltons.

### Clay County Historical Society

Thursday, November 19, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. Clay County Museum, 14 N. Main St., Liberty, MO. Keith Nelson: The Chouteaus of St. Louis and K.C.

### The Boy Who Became Buffalo Bill

Friday Night Family Fun on November 20, 2015 – 6:30 p.m., Plaza Branch Library, 4801 Main Street, Kansas City, MO. Andrea Warren discusses her latest nonfiction

book for young readers: *The Boy Who Became Buffalo Bill: Growing Up Billy Cody in Bleeding Kansas*.

#### Candlelight Tour of the Harris-Kearney House

Friday and Saturday nights, Nov. 27-28, 2015 – 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Tours begin every 15 minutes. The family from *Little Women* will guide visitors through the 1855 Harris-Kearney House, 4000 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO. Festive decorations, Christmas Eve scenarios, and tasty refreshments. Adults-\$10, Seniors and Active Military-\$8, Students-\$6, Children 6 and under-Free. Reservations are not required.

#### Centennial Commemoration – Bates County Museum

Saturday, December 5, 2015 – 10:00 a.m. Robertson Hall, Bates County Museum, 802 Elks Drive, Butler, MO. On December 6, 1915 the cornerstone of the Bates County Poor Farm was laid. Come celebrate 100 years of service to the citizens of the county with a special program, exhibit, and reception.

### **News About Members and Friends**

We were so sorry to learn that our friend **Vicki Beck** passed away on October 2, 2015. She had given us a program back in May on her new book about Kate Quantrill. She was a great researcher of local history and helped in the efforts to mark the Smith Cemetery in Raytown. We extend our condolences to her husband Steve and their children and grandchildren.

The October 10, 2015 issue of the *Examiner* had an article about the DAR activities to celebrate Constitution Week. There was a picture of **Bob and Carolyn Grover** with the committee chair. Bob had given a program on September 25<sup>th</sup> to the fourth grade students of Raymore Elementary School when he shared information about his period uniform and the soldiers' experiences during the war. Bob volunteers at many functions as a member of the Missouri Society Sons of the American Revolution. Carolyn gave us a program on her research about the orphan trains.

The **Missouri Historical Society** in St. Louis announced in October that the Emerson Company has awarded a \$5 million grant over seven years to help with an African-American History Endowment fund to increase its collections, exhibitions, and programs on African-American history.

The **National Archives in Kanas City** has announced new hours beginning November 1, 2015. They will be open Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The decision was made on the national level following a close examination of usage trends.

The October 8<sup>th</sup> Kansas City *Star* featured the Owens-McCoy House in Independence which is owned by **Brian and Sharon Snyder**. They are using high-tech, 3-D laser scanning equipment to examine shifting exterior brick walls. They would like to reduce the amount of traffic going by the house as they try to stabilize the house. Or they may opt to demolish part of the west wall and build a historically accurate reproduction of a long-demolished wing.

The Arts and Culture section of the October 11<sup>th</sup> issue of the Kansas City *Star* had an article about a local branch of the **Sons of Confederate Veterans**, the Major Thomas J. Key Camp No. 1920. **Lane Smith** who presented our program on Robert E. Lee and portrayed Lee in the play "Road to Appomattox" is pictured with other members.

About 100 years ago the *Examiner* printed a serial version of a story of the Civil War called "**The Red Mist**" by **Randall Parrish**. It is the adventures of a Confederate in the Federal Lines and promised rapid action, disguises, incessant danger, capture, escape, pursuit, and ultimate safety. Apparently the story was eventually printed as a book before 1923. A reproduction is available on Amazon, but there are warnings of imperfections in the copy.

### **Increase in Dues**

The Board has determined that the Round Table needs to increase dues because of higher expenses than in the past. The dues will now be \$25 for single memberships, \$35 for family, and \$12 for newsletter only. Dues are now payable for 2016 and can be paid at a membership meeting or by mail to "CWRTWM, P. O. Box 3019, Independence, MO 64055."

### **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](http://www.wcqsociety.com) or send an E-mail to [wcqsociety@aol.com](mailto:wcqsociety@aol.com).

