



The Border Star



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

THIS MONTH IN THE WAR: February 17, 1864. The USS Housatonic, one of the largest blockade ships in Charleston Harbor, is hit by a spar torpedo from the H.L. Hunley, a Confederate semi-submersible ship and both vessels sink with a loss of 5 men on the sloop and 7 on the submarine. The tiny Hunley was a long, slim, cigar-shaped vessel and was hand-propelled by its crew.

February 2014

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

2014 Officers

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

Board Members

Terry Chronister Chris Cooper
Barbara Hughes Perry Johnson
Melanie Johnson Terry McConnell
Don Moorehead Kathy Moorehead
Liz Murphy Denis Wormington
Barb 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
Patricia Gradwohl ---- (816) 781-8871

Mailing Address

CWRTWM
P.O. Box 3019
Independence, MO 64055

**** Website ****

www.CWRTWM.org

President's Letter

I read four Civil War magazines on a regular basis. I just finished reading the last months editions of each and I noticed something interesting. Each one carried numerous advertisements for Civil War 150 year commemorative events.

Tennessee, Georgia, Mississippi, Virginia, Kentucky, Arkansas and Maryland all had advertisements in these editions. Do you notice something? Missouri is conspicuously absent. The last time I checked it out I pretty sure Missouri's Civil War did not stop in 1864. In fact, as we all know, 1865 was a very important year here in our home state. So it begs the question, why? Why don't we see advertisements for Missouri?

I have lots of questions and few or no answers. Who pays for the ads? Is it private or public funding or a combination of each? Are there no events to be held in Missouri? Well, that's not true. Do we not have enough time in our busy lives to take on one more project? Are we not sure that Missouri's Civil War history is as good as the rest of those states? Are we afraid of the influx of tourist dollars? Are the state and local tourism departments unaware of the Civil War history in Missouri? Are we somehow ashamed of our state's participation in the war? Are we still so divided that we are afraid to commemorate the events because it might start the fighting again? Is it a lack of money?

As I said in the beginning, more questions than answers. Please, if you know any answers to my question, get in touch. I would like to have a discussion. In the meantime, remember to attend the events we know about and support our Civil War history. One more thing the Civil War Round Table of Western MO is planning three events the year. The first is the rededication of the 2nd Colorado Monument in Woodlawn Cemetery in Independence. The second is a tour of the Battle of Little Blue. The third is a multimedia presentation on the Second Battle of Independence. If there is some way or any way you would like to be involved please get in touch. Thank you!

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.

CWRTWM Calendar

February 2014 Membership Meeting

Wednesday, February 12, 2014 – 7:00 p.m. Villages of Jackson Creek, 3980-A S. Jackson Drive (lower level), Independence, MO. Movie Night: Showing of Episode 7 of the Ken Burns Civil War series (Most Hallowed Ground).

No Board Meeting in February

Other Civil War Events and Exhibits

Arrow Rock Lecture Series 2014

Saturday, February 1, 2014, 10:00 a.m. State Historic Site Auditorium. Arrow Rock, MO. Joe Mattox: “Black and Blue: African-American Soldiers in the Civil War.” Free.

From Slave Ship to Harvard

Saturday, February 1, 2014 – 2:00 p.m. The Black Archives of Mid-America, 1722 E. 17th Terr., Kansas City, MO. James H. Johnston: *From Slave Ship to Harvard – Yarrow Mamout and the History of an African American Family*. Johnston grew up in Independence and graduated from William Chrisman High School. RSVP to (816) 221-1600.

Bleeding Kansas 2014

Sunday, February 2, 2014 – 2:00 p.m. Constitution Hall State Historic Site, Lecompton, KS. Ralph A. Monaco II, Esq., author of *Scattered to the Four Winds: General Order No. 11 and Martial Law in Jackson County, Missouri 1863*. \$3 donation.

Kansas City Archaeological Society

Tuesday, February 4, 2014 – 7:30 p.m. Burns and McDonnell, 9400 Ward Parkway, Kansas City, MO. Douglas Shaver: “The John Wornall House Foundation Construction Archaeological Monitoring and Gradiometer Survey Results.” For further directions please E-Mail deshaver@yahoo.com.

Triumph of Spirit

Thursday, February 6, 2014 – 7:00 p.m. Raytown Library, 6131 Raytown Road, Raytown, MO. Shirley Johnson portrays Harriett Tubman in a two-act play based on her life. RSVP to (816) 353-2052.

Westport Library Lecture Series

Saturday, February 8, 2014 – 2:00 p.m. Westport Library, 118 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO. Michael Dickey: “Specie, Sweat and Survival: The Impact of the Santa Fe Trade on Missouri’s Economy.” RSVP to

(816) 701-3488. A reception will follow at the Harris-Kearney House, 4000 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO.

“One Woman’s Right in Kansas”

Sunday, February 9, 2014 – 2:00 p.m. Constitution Hall State Historic Site, Lecompton, KS. Lawton R. Nuss, Chief Justice, Kansas Supreme Court, and remarks by Matt Veatch, State Archivist, Kansas Historical Society. \$3 Donation.

Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, February 11, 2014 – 6:00 p.m. – Dinner. \$25. Golden Ox, 1600 Genessee Street, Kansas City, MO. Jim Howk: “The Oregon Trail from Independence to Oregon City.” Jim is an educator at the National Frontier Trails Museum and a member of the Round Table. For dinner reservations call Ann Schultis at (816) 456-0669.

Clay County Museum Study Group

Tuesday, February 11, 2014 – 7:00 p.m. Clay County Museum, 14 N. Main Street, Liberty, MO. Topic: Clay County Quilts. Free.

The Lincoln Deception

Wednesday, February 12, 2014 – 6:30 p.m. Central Library, 14 W. 10th Street, Kansas City, MO. Lawyer, turned author, David O. Stewart, discusses his new work of historical fiction about the assassination of Lincoln. To RSVP call (816) 701-3407.

“Freedom Seekers”

Wednesday, February 12, 2014 – 6:00 p.m. Rolling Hills Consolidated Library Annex (upper level), 1904 North Belt, Highway, St. Joseph, Missouri. Gary Jenkins: Screening of “Freedom Seekers,” the story of the Underground Railroad along the western frontier. He will also share insights into the making of this film and “Negroes to Hire” as well as locally-associated historical events.

Sons of Confederate Veterans-Hughes Camp

Thursday, February 13, 2014 – 7:00 p.m. Kross Lounge and Ernie’s Restaurant, 605 N. Sterling Ave., Sugar Creek, MO. The Sons of Confederate Veterans is the oldest organization for male descendants of Confederate soldiers.

Bleeding Kansas 2014

Sunday, February 16, 2014 – 2:00 p.m. Constitution Hall State Historic Site, Lecompton, KS. Timothy Westcott: “Bellicosity Endorsed: The 1855 Lexington Pro-Slavery Convention. Cost is \$3.

Remember the Sultana

Tuesday, February 18, 2014 – 7:00 p.m. North Oak Library, 8700 North Oak Trafficway, Kansas City, MO. Just days after the assassination of President Lincoln, Union soldiers who had been captured were to be sent home. This tragic story tells of the last days of the steamship *Sultana* and the hundreds of soldiers who lost their lives due to one man's greed. The presenter is a descendant of one of the lucky men who survived. To RSVP call (816) 436-4385.

An Evening with Frederick Douglass

Wednesday, February 19, 2014 – 6:30 p.m. Central Library, 14 W. 10th Street, Kansas City, MO. Re-enactor Charles Everett Pace brings his one-man show to Kansas City to portray prominent abolitionist and social reformer Frederick Douglass. To RSVP call (816) 701-3407.

Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, February 19, 2014 – 7:00 p.m. Southview Manor Apartments, 2600A Hub Drive, Independence, MO. Jennifer Kerr, a lawyer, historian and college professor from Lexington, MO: "The Bad Girls of Lexington and Lafayette County during the Civil War."

Civil War at Sea: The First Modern Naval War

Thursday, February 20, 2014 – 6:30 p.m. Central Library, 14 W. 10th Street, Kansas City, MO. On the 150th anniversary of the Confederates' loss of the CSS *Hunley* John T. Kuehn of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College examines the largely under-appreciated role that naval warfare played in the Civil War.

Underground Railroad: The Who, What, and Where Did It Go?

Saturday, February 22, 2014 – 2:00 p.m. Blue Ridge Library, 9253 Blue Ridge Blvd., Kansas City, MO. Cultural historian Brother John shares secret codes, secret symbols, secret agents and songs. To RSVP call (816) 761-3382.

The Abolitionists

Saturday, February 22, 2014 – 1:00 p.m. Fort Scott National Historic Site, Old Fort Boulevard, Fort Scott, KS. Through innovative use of reenactments, this three-episode series puts a face on the anti-slavery movement by exploring the roles of William Lloyd Garrison, Frederick Douglass, Angelina Grimke and Harriet Beecher Stowe. Free.

Bleeding Kansas 2014

Sunday, February 23, 2014 – 2:00 p.m. Constitution Hall State Historic Site, Lecompton, KS. Ed Shutts,

Wyandotte County Historian and Lecturer: "Free State Kansas: The Wyandotte Constitutional Convention." \$3.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, February 25, 2014 – 6:30 p.m. – Dinner. (\$27). Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS. Dan Smith: James Montgomery and the Battle of Olustee, Florida. Dinner reservations to Paul Gault at (816) 741-2962.

Triumph of the Spirit

Thursday, February 27, 2014 – 7:00 p.m. South Independence Library, 13700 E. 35th Street, Independence, MO. Shirley Johnson portrays Harriet Tubman in a two-act play which shares her trials and tribulations. RSVP to (816) 461-2050.

Arrow Rock 2014 Lecture Series

Saturday, March 1, 2014 – 10:00 a.m. State Historic Site Auditorium, Arrow Rock, MO. Diane Eickhoff and Aaron Barnhart: *The Big Divide, The Civil War in Missouri and Kansas*.

Guided Discussion of "The Abolitionists"

Saturday, March 1, 2014 – 1:00 p.m. Fort Scott National Historic Site, Old Fort Boulevard, Fort Scott, KS. Professor Kristen Oertel, Mary Frances Barnard Associate Professor in 19th Century American History at the University of Tulsa, will lead a guided discussion of the three-episode film series called "The Abolitionists." Free.

1850's Town Hall Political Meeting

Sunday, March 2, 2014 – 2:00 p.m. Constitution Hall State Historic Site, Lecompton, KS. Members of the Lecompton Reenactors portray some of the famous Kansans from "Bleeding Kansas" such as James Lane, John Brown, Clarina Nichols and David Atchison. \$3.

News About Members and Friends

We are sad to relate that our board member, Kathy Moorehead, died on January 26, 2014 at Research Hospital following a heart attack. Kathy has undergone dialysis for several years and continued to maintain as normal a life as possible. She was always a supporter of our Round Table activities and went along with her husband Don and daughter Vonda Clark when they visited and photographed Civil War monuments this fall for Vol. 2 of our Monuments book. She will be missed by the Round Table and her family. A memorial service was held January 30, 2014 at Tri-City Baptist Church. Don has also been hospitalized recently for gall bladder surgery and hopes to be coming home soon. You may

direct condolence cards to Don Moorehead and Family, 202 S. Central, Box 134, Buckner, MO 64016.

Pat Gradwohl, our first vice president and program chairman, lost her older sister, Kate Lambert, on January 13, 2014 in Liberty, Missouri. Pat had looked after her "sis" in the nursing home and recently moved into her house. Condolence notes to Pat may be mailed to Pat Gradwohl, 207 Adkins, Liberty, MO 64068.

Fran Mason-Nixon, former owner of the antebellum Lawson Moore House on Blue Mills Road, lost her husband, Douglas Nixon, on January 20, 2014 following a concussion caused by a fall at home. Fran and Doug were able to enjoy some travel and mutual activities before his death. Condolences may be sent to Fran Mason-Nixon, 17712 E. 29 Street S., Independence, MO 64057-2668.

Carol Olson is now recuperating at home following a fall she suffered on Christmas Eve and subsequent lower shoulder replacement. Notes of good cheer can be mailed to Carol Olson, 3540 N. Kenwood, Kansas City, MO 64116.

Randall Todd underwent surgery on January 21, 2014 to amputate his left leg because of bone infection. His son Charles, who some of you may remember as a little boy at our annual Christmas party, called to say that the surgery went well. Randall was a longtime friend and helper to Dr. Gerald Anderson, one of the founders of the Round Table. Notes to Randall may be sent to 2605 SE 3rd Street, Blue Springs, MO 64014. You might also call his cell phone: (816) 726-5803.

The year 2013 saw the culmination of Richard Stewart's dream to assemble a "Quantrill Collection" for researchers and students alike. On June 9, 2013 the Benton County Arkansas Historical Society had the Grand Opening of the collection. For those who can't visit the collection in person, Richard has also set up three websites: www.josieqscr.blogspot.com, www.qscrfarm.blogspot.com, and www.qscrclass.blogspot.com. During the time of the portrayal of the Lawrence Raid, Richard acted as a special reporter in real time to cover Tom Warren's participation. He has also added the stories of many Quantrill partisans with ties to Arkansas such as John Atchison (one of Quantrill's "original" guerrillas), Francis Marion Christison who served in the Kansas State Legislature in 1860 and '61, and John Baker Comer who participated in the Haun's Mill Massacre of Mormons in 1838. Richard's research was recognized by Quantrill historian and author Duncan Hansen who added several of Richard's "reveals" to his revision of

Reunion in Death: Gravesites of the Men Who Rode with William Clarke Quantrill, Vol. III.

The winter issue of the Historic Arrow Rock newsletter reveals many activities for 2014. During the summer they will be a part of the Summer Teacher's Institute sponsored by the National Frontier Trails Museum. The three-day institute will include one day in Independence, one day in Arrow Rock on July 15th, and one day in the Boonville area. Additional information is available at office@FriendsofArrowRock.org. They will also be participating again with the Missouri Archaeological Society to provide training for amateur archaeologists July 14-18 and August 4-8, 2014. Drs. Mark and Ann Raab, Adjunct Professors, University of Missouri-Kansas City, are directors of the training programs. Ann Raab has recently authored a dissertation called "Warfare as an Agent of Culture Change: The Archaeology of Guerrilla Warfare on the 19th Century Missouri/Kansas Border" at the University of Kansas.

We were happy to read that Carol Dark Ayres, our speaker on Lincoln and Kansas, has again been chosen by the Kansas City *Star* to be one of their 2014 Midwest Voices. Look for her column periodically in the Saturday newspaper.

The Bates County Museum in Butler, Missouri has a new campaign to raise funds to have a rare 1877 Steinway Grand Piano restored. It will then bear the prestigious designation "Steinway Heirloom Piano."

The Battle of Westport Committee has recently announced that plans for the 150th anniversary on October 24-25, 2014 have been scaled back because of fundraising problems. However they still plan to have smaller reenactments in Swope Park with an encampment at Byram's Ford. Tents with various activities will be set up near the Battle of Westport Museum for speakers, musicians, and medical displays. There will also be food truck vendors and sutlers.

Congratulations to local author and researcher Deb Bisel for the article called "Quantrill's Raid on Lawrence, 1863" in the May 2014 issue of *Armchair General*.

We missed reporting that our board member Terry Chronister was honored on Veterans's Day, November 11, 2013 in the Independence *Examiner* with a picture and description of his military service as a U. S. Army Military Policeman in Korea in 1958-60. Upon returning home he served as an Independence police officer and later as a jail warden until retirement. Congratulations to Terry on 32 years of service.

The First Presbyterian Church in Independence celebrated the 125th anniversary of its present building in January 2014. Many of its historical highlights were shared with the *Examiner* by historian Nancy Ehrlich, a lifelong member. She thinks there were probably commissioning ceremonies for some of the first wagon trains headed west out of Independence in the 1820's. The current building would have been new when 6-year-old Harry Truman and 5-year-old Bess Wallace met for the first time in Sunday School. Nancy thinks the Truman connection is the reason the church is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Bob Grover and other Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution will be celebrating George Washington's birthday on February 22, 2014 at a gala banquet.

Congratulations to Dennis Garstang as he serves as President of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City for the second time.

Nancy Hitt, our long-distance member in Louisville, Kentucky, has been busy marking the grave of another Confederate who did not have a marker. Although the whereabouts of the remains of Col. George St. Leger Grenfell are not known, he now has a memorial stone in Spring Hill Cemetery in Harrodsburg, KY. He was a soldier and adventurer who became one of Dr. Samuel A. Mudd's closest friends at Fort Jefferson.

Another long-distance member, Judy Tharp of Farley, Missouri, is a member of the Miller family who had a plantation in Platte County, Missouri. Recently Channel 5 in Kansas City had an interview with people who are worried about the disposition of the Miller Cemetery which sits on land owned by Kansas City International Airport because of various propositions for altering the airport.

Congratulations to Missouri's Civil War Heritage Foundation and Greg Wolk for additional funding from both the Missouri Division of Tourism and the Friends of Fort Davidson to expand the U. S. Grant Trail south from St. Louis to Cape Girardeau, Missouri. You might want to check out the newly updated website at www.Mocivilwar.org.

We recently had correspondence with Richard Nixon of Independence, Missouri regarding a book we had for sale. He has ancestors who fought on either side. His great grandfather William Mander Willcockson fought in the Missouri 7th CSA Cavalry under Joe Shelby, and his other great grandfather, Thomas Nixon, fought in the Kansas 15th Cavalry under Jennison. Richard is

interested in researching antebellum homes in Jackson County, Missouri to provide a map and booklet. Perhaps we can work with him on this project since we have some knowledge based on our first annual homes tour.

We were happy to see that Kathy Pickering, Captain of the Hardy Bunch Neighborhood Watch in Independence, was shown accepting a Silver Level Award from the Independence Police Crime Prevention Unit in an article called "Neighborhood Watch groups recognized" in the *Examiner* on January 11, 2014.

The City of Independence, Missouri is facing a choice on power plants which bring electricity to its customers. It is presently running two of the oldest coal-burning plants in the State (the one at Missouri City being the oldest) and its customers pay more in residential rates than Kansas City Power & Light or the Board of Public Utilities in Kansas City, KS. Former City Council member Jason White is part of a group called Indy Energy which seeks to look at all aspects of energy issues in our community. The Whites were our hosts at the Noland House for our antebellum homes tour.

Board member Barb Wormington has a new E-Mail address; b.wormington@att.net. Barb is the Editor of Vol. 2 of our Monuments book. If you have any suggestions for sites, please let her know right away because we are in the final selection process.

The Kansas City, Missouri Public Library has a new website for Civil War activities and resources. You can sign up for weekly updates by going to the website; www.civilwaronthewesternborder.org.

2014 CWRTWM Dues

As we begin a new fiscal year of 2014 we invite you to pay dues. The annual dues for an individual is \$20 and for a couple it is \$30. If you can't attend meetings but just want to receive the *Border Star* newsletter, a subscription is \$10. You can mail your check to CWRTWM, P. O. Box 3019, Independence, MO 64055 or pay at a meeting.

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