



November/December 2013

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

2013 Officers

President ----- Mike Calvert
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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

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P.O. Box 3019
Independence, MO 64055

**** NEW Website ****

www.CWRTWM.org

★ 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:** The Chattanooga Campaign was a series of maneuvers and battles in October and November, 1863. The Confederate Army of Tennessee under General Braxton Bragg besieged Rosencrans by occupying key high terrain around Chattanooga. General Grant opened a supply line (the "Cracker Line") to feed his starving men and animals. On November 23, 1863, General William T. Sherman made a surprise attack on Missionary Ridge. On November 24th, Major General Joseph Hooker defeated the Confederates in the Battle of Lookout Mountain. On November 25th, Thomas' army surged to the top of Missionary Ridge and routed the Army of Tennessee which eliminated the last Confederate control of Tennessee and opened the door to an invasion of the Deep South leading to Sherman's Atlanta Campaign of 1864.*

President's Letter

"Of the 16,112,566 Americans in uniform during the Second World War, the number still living was expected to decline to one million by late 2014, and, a decade later, in 2024, to dip below a hundred thousand. By the year 2036, U.S government demographers estimated, fewer than four hundred veterans would remain alive, less than half the strength of a infantry battalion. Yet the war and all that the war contained—nobility, villainy, immeasurable sorrow—is certain to live on even after the last old soldier has gone to his grave. May the earth lie lightly on his bones."
"The Guns at Last Light" by Rick Atkinson

After reading that paragraph I began to realize how important it is that our World War II veterans should, no, must be offered every opportunity to visit the memorial built to honor them. Though for a time the memorial seemed to be part of a political agenda. The men and women who served our country during that war deserve our eternal honor and gratitude. A very good friend of mine's mother was on the last Honor Flight to go to the memorial. It was amazing to see the media frenzy that surrounded her upon her return to KC. We have forgotten that almost 400,000 women served in the Army and Navy Nurses Corps, Women's Army Corps (WACS), Navy (WAVES), Coast Guard (SPARS) and Marine Corps Reserves during WWII. Women served in many ways. From taking over a typewriter to serving in front line hospital units each served their country with honor and valor. It's time to remember their war, to remember their sacrifice and to remember to thank all veterans.

Since this will be the last letter before the end of the year I want thank everyone for their support and help throughout the year. I wish all of you and your families the best of holidays and a wonderful and prosperous new year.

~Mike Calvert, President

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

November 2013 Membership Meeting

Wednesday, November 13, 2013 – 7:00 p.m. Villages of Jackson Creek, 3980-A S. Jackson Drive (lower level), Independence, MO. Carol Dark Ayres: *Lincoln in Kansas (2001)*. Carol is a retired educator who taught music and was an academic librarian, grant writer, and director of the Leavenworth Schools Education Foundation.

November, 2013 Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 20, 2013 – 7:00 p.m. Home of Beverly Shaw, 17313 E. 51st Terr. Court, Indep., MO.

December Christmas Luncheon

Saturday, December 7, 2013 – Noon. Loose Park Garden Center, 51st and Wornall, Kansas City, MO. Park near the main pavilion on Wornall Road and walk through to the Garden Center. Aaron Barnhart and Diane Eichoff will talk about their new book *The Big Divide*. This annual event is in cooperation with the Union Cemetery Historical Society. Deli trays and drinks will be provided, and you are asked to bring a dish to share. This event replaces our usual Wednesday membership meeting in December.

January, 2014 Membership Meeting

Wednesday, January 8, 2014 – 7:00 p.m. Villages of Jackson Creek. Open Round Table when members share an artifact, a photograph, a book, or a story with the rest of the group.

Other Civil War Events and Exhibits

Exhibit: Arrow Rock's African-American History

Now through November 23, 2013. Harris-Kearney House, 4000 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO. Wednesday through Saturday from 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. On loan from Arrow Rock State Historic Site "Giving Voice to an Unheard Past." Through the use of census records, documents, and oral histories, the lives of descendants from slavery are traced as they purchased their own homes, built churches, lodges, and schools.

Exhibit: Guerrillas in Our Midst

Now through December 29, 2013. Central Library, 14 W. 10th Street, Kansas City, MO. Drawings and Photographs from the Missouri Valley Special Collections.

Order No. 11 and Missouri's Burnt District

Saturday, November 2, 2013 – 10:00 a.m. Truman Depot, 1111 W. Pacific Ave., Independence, MO. The Jackson County Genealogical Society presents

Tom Rafiner to tell the true story of individual families expelled by Order No. 11.

Kansas Women, Work, and the Civil War

Saturday, November 2, 2013 – 10:00 a.m. First Christian Church of Olathe, 200 E. Loula Street, Olathe, KS. Diane Eichoff tells how employment opportunities opened up for women in nursing, clerical positions, cottage factories, etc. She uses historical photos and current research with an emphasis on notable Kansas women.

The Civil War in Missouri Exhibit and Special Events

Saturday, November 2, 2013 – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Battle of Westport Museum, 6601 Swope Parkway, Kansas City, MO. Grand opening of exhibit which will be open on Saturdays through Dec. 14, 2013, with some special events:

Nov. 9: Prince Hall & the Underground Railroad – 2 pm

Nov. 16: Encampment – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Nov. 23: Blacks in Blue – 2:00 p.m.

Dec. 12: Civil War Stories – 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Dec. 14: Jackson County in Wartime – 2:00 p.m.

1850's Town Hall Political Meeting

First Sunday of the month from Nov. 3, 2013 – May 4, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. The Lecompton Reenactors acting troupe will portray the famous Kansans of the period as they express their feelings on the issue of slavery in Kansas. Constitution Hall State Historic Site, 319 Elmore, Lecompton KS.

Mourning Matters

Sunday, November 3, 2013 – 3:00 p.m.

Historic Mt. Gilead Church, 15918 Plattsburg Road, Kearney, MO. Mock Victorian funeral and presentation about Victorian death and mourning customs followed by a cemetery scavenger hunt with costumed guides. \$2.

American Civil War Genealogy

Saturday, November 9, 2013 – 10:00 a.m.

Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee's Summit Road, Independence, MO. Discover research tools among the soldiers' records to give rich meaning to family history. RSVP to (816) 252-7228.

Forgotten Tales of Kansas City

Saturday, November 9, 2013 – 2:00 p.m.

Westport Library, 118 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO. Paul Kirkman will present his collection of lesser known K.C. history such as "Did Jesse James rob a bank with John F. Kennedy?" Please RSVP to (816) 701-3488.

Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, November 12, 2013 – 6:00 p.m. – Dinner.
\$25. Golden Ox, 1600 Genessee Street, Kansas City,
MO. Erin Blackshere-Pouppirt: Native American
Heritage Month. For dinner reservations call Ann
Schultis at (816) 456-0669.

Ladies Winter Tea

Saturday, November 16, 2013 – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Historic Mt. Gilead Church, 15918 Plattsburg Road,
Kearney, MO. An afternoon of fun, crafts (decorating a
sandalwood fan and creating paper angels), tea and
cookies. Cost is \$10. Seating is limited and reservations
are required. Call the Jesse James Farm at (816) 736-
8500.

Gettysburg: The Most Important Event of 1863?

Tuesday, November 19, 2013 – 6:30 p.m.
Central Library, 14 W. 10th Street, Kansas City, MO.
Four historians from the U.S. Army Command and
General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth will talk
about the impact of Gettysburg on the Civil War.
RSVP to (816) 701-3400.

Priscilla Mullins: A Pilgrim

Tuesday, November 19, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.
Antioch Library, 6060 N. Chestnut Ave., Gladstone,
MO. Dressed in costume, Barbara Hughes shares her
story of Priscilla Mullins who traveled on the Mayflower
to Plymouth colony. To RSVP call (816) 454-1306.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, November 19, 2013 – 6:30 p.m. - Dinner
(\$27). Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road,
Prairie Village, KS. Kevin Knapp: Civil War Balloon
Corps. Dinner reservations to Paul Gault at (816) 741-
2962.

Discoveries at Woodneath

Tuesday, November 19, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.
Woodneath Library, 8900 NE Flintlock Road, Kansas
City, MO. Learn about the archaeological research
conducted at Woodneath, a site on the National Register
of Historic Places, while it was converted to a part of the
newest old library in the Mid-Continent system. Slides
and artifacts will be presented by Jim Feagins. RSVP to
(816) 883-4900.

Smithville, Missouri and the Civil War (Civil War Study
Group) - Wednesday, November 20, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.
Southview Manor Apartments, 2600 A Hub Drive,
Independence, MO. Frank Justus, curator of the
Smithville Museum, will talk about Smithville and the
Civil War.

Priscilla Mullins: A Pilgrim

Thursday, November 21, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.
Smithville Library, 120 Richardson Street, Smithville,
MO. Barbara Hughes presents Priscilla Mullins and life
in the New England colonies. RSVP to (816) 532-0116.

The Withers Family of Clay County

Thursday, November 21, 2013 – 7:00 p.m. Free.
Clay County Museum, 14 N. Main Street, Liberty, MO.

Civil War Santa

Saturday, November 30, 2013 – 2:00 p.m.
Red Bridge Library, 11140 Locust Street, Kansas City,
MO. Jim Two Crows, dressed as the Thomas Nast Santa,
explains how the Civil War changed Christmas from
being an adult holiday to a children's holiday. RSVP to
(816) 942-1780.

1850's Town Hall Political Meeting

Sunday, December 1, 2013 – 2:00 p.m. Constitution Hall
State Historic Site, 319 Elmore, Lecompton, KS. The
Lecompton Reenactors will portray famous Kansans and
their feelings on slavery in Kansas.

Candlelight Tours of Fort Scott, Kansas

Friday and Saturday, December 6-7, 2013 – Friday night
begins at 6:30 p.m. and runs every 15 minutes until 9:00
p.m. Saturday begins at 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. with a
break at 7:15 p.m. Advance reservations required by
calling (620) 223-0310. Fort Scott National Historic
Site. \$8 tickets for those age 6 and above.

Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, December 10, 2013 – 6:00 p.m. – Dinner. \$25.
Golden Ox, 1600 Genessee Street, Kansas City, MO.
Bill Hicks: Octave Chanute, the builder of the Hannibal
Bridge, mentor to the Wright Brothers, namesake of
Chanute, Kansas. For dinner reservations call Ann
Schultis at (816) 456-0669.

Freedom's Frontier Partners Meeting

Thursday, December 12, 2013 – 10:00 a.m.
Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee's Summit
Road, Independence, MO. Workshop on how to attract
and keep volunteers.

Kansas Emigrant Battle over Slavery

Saturday, December 14, 2013 – 10:00 a.m.
Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee's Summit
Road, Independence, MO. Use of local histories,
territorial records, slave records, vital records, and
census records to tell the story of the conflict over
slavery in Kansas and Missouri. Please RSVP to (816)
252-7228.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, December 17, 2013 – 6:30 p.m. – Dinner (\$27). Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS. Dr. Michael E. Monaco: Civil War Medicine Dinner reservations to Paul Gault at (816) 741-2962.

Annual Election and Dues Payment

At the annual election on Wednesday, November 13, 2013, we will present a slate and open the floor to nominations. If you wish to nominate someone for an office, please talk with that person in advance to be sure they are willing to serve.

The present officers are willing to serve: President-Mike Calvert, 1st Vice President-Pat Gradwohl, 2nd Vice President-Art Kelley, Secretary-Karen Wells, Treasurer-Beverly Shaw, Historian-Barbara Hughes, and Border Star Editor-Dennis Myers.

The present board members are willing to serve: Terry Chronister, Chris Cooper, Terry McConnell, Don Moorehead, Kathy Moorehead, and Liz Murphy. We would invite anyone who would like to help us plan our activities for 2014 to allow his/her name to be nominated from the floor. Call Beverly Shaw at (816) 225-7944 if you are interested in serving. The board meets every other month on the 3rd Wednesday night of the month so the next board meeting will be November 20, 2013 at the home of Beverly Shaw, 17313 E. 51st Terr. Court S., Independence, Missouri.

We would like to recognize the past services of Del and Karen Coin and Steve and Carol Olson as board members. The Coins organized many trips for the group such as the weekend tour to the Lincoln Museum in Springfield, Illinois. The Olsons taught us how to safely clean tombstones at the Lewis-Gregg Cemetery, and Carol has verified the list of burials there through new research. We look forward to seeing them at membership meetings and thank them for their excellent ideas for the Round Table.

As we near the end of our fiscal year, we would like to invite you to pay dues for 2014. 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.

News About Members and Friends

We are sorry to hear that **Don and Kathy Moorehead** are experiencing health problems. Don is in St. Mary's Hospital in Blue Springs with a bout of pancreatitis

possibly aggravated by a stone. He may have surgery in the near future which may involve also removing his gall bladder. Kathy also is facing surgery to help repair a heart valve and continues to receive dialysis. If you want to send them a note of cheer, you can mail it to 202 S. Central, Box 134, Buckner, MO 64016. If you want to visit Don, he is in Room 114 which is in the section of the hospital beyond the Emergency Room where there is a green awning. The rooms are accessible through the double doors immediately to the left after entering the building. Since people can be released by the time you receive this newsletter, you might want to check with St. Mary's before going. The patient information number is (816) 655-5502 and the telephone number in Don's room is (816) 655-5814.

In honor of Veterans Day on November 11, 2013, we would like to bring to your attention an effort to establish **AMVETS Post 181** in downtown Kansas City, Missouri in the old Bob Jones Shoe Store at 1519 Main Street. It would serve veterans and active military complete with a restaurant and game room. Bob Grover brought to our attention a fundraiser that was held October 26th, but they still need money and volunteer labor to tear out the old and modernize the facility. The post commander is Spencer Hardin who can be reached at (816) 372-0392 or Spencer.Hardin@gmail.com.

The Round Table now has a review copy of *Appomattox: Victory, Defeat and Freedom at the End of the Civil War* by Elizabeth Varon. If you have the time to read this book and write a little review for the *Border Star*, please contact Beverly Shaw at (816) 225-7944. This is a new look at the events at Appomattox and the aftermath. Both fictional and accurate accounts pervade the surrender; for instance that the Union Army shared rations with the Confederates (true) and Grant's return of Lee's sword (false).

David Bartlett has let us know that there are some plots left in the old historic section of Forest Hill Cemetery at 6901 Troost Ave. in Kansas City, MO. There are a total of five plots all adjoining. You can contact David at hotgatorbug@hotmail.com.

Congratulations to **Mike Calvert** and **Barbara Hughes** for the wonderful article called "Ghosts of the Civil War invite you to visit" by Frank Haight in the October 18, 2013 issue of the *Examiner*. There was also a picture of Mike who researched the people affected by Order No. 11 and Barbara who portrayed Laura Flannery, the woman who walked to Texas.

Congratulations to **Mike** and **Cindi Calvert** on the birth of their granddaughter, Maggie Kaleikau, born on

October 30, 2013. She joins Noe and Sam at the Lawson Moore House.

We want to welcome **Carole Garrison** from Grain Valley as a new subscriber to the *Border Star*.

The October 12-14, 2013 issue of the *Examiner* had a great picture of **Steve Noll** and **David Jackson** in their newly renovated headquarters of the Jackson County Historical Society in the Historic Truman Courthouse on the Square in Independence. Not only are they getting adjusted to their expanded space, but they are doing yeoman duty as the guides for the hour long tours of the Truman Chambers, the Brady Court Room, and the Jackson County Gallery of George Caleb Bingham paintings. The tours are available Monday-Friday at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Beverly Shaw recently enjoyed the tour with the Round Table's long distance members from Los Angeles, Lisa and Uncle.

Steve Jolly is looking for a reliable person to help him authenticate some Civil War solid shot ordnance, specifically three possible Civil War cannon balls. You can reach him at ribsey@sbcglobal.net.

We have word that the tombstones of **Alexander Majors' grandparents, Alexander and Catherine**, have been re-installed at the Farmer's Cemetery near the town of Franklin in what is now Simpson County, Kentucky. They join the ranks of Lincoln, Boone, Bowie and countless emigrants who went west across the Mississippi River in the 1800s.

The **National Frontier Trails Museum** in Independence announces in an article in the *Examiner* on October 8, 2013, that they plan to replace the stolen bronze statue of the Pioneer Woman. A new artist's rendering appeared with the article. They also hope to solicit help in moving the Pioneer Log Cabin now on the grounds of the Sermon Center to join the buildings at the Trails Museum.

The **Maj. Gen. Sterling Price Missouri Confederate Soldier Monument** in the Springfield (MO) National Cemetery will be restored at the Polich-Tallix Foundry in Rock Tavern, N.Y., a process that may take four to six months. Two other monuments will also be repaired as a part of the stimulus act. They are the Union Memorial with the lone infantryman gazing down on the cemetery entrance from Seminole Street and a smaller marble pillar honoring Gen. Nathaniel Lyon.

Ely S. Parker, a Tonawanda Seneca from western New York, has been called the "Indian at Appomattox" according to the Disunion article in the *New York Times*

series. In September, 1861 he requested a commission from Secretary of State William H. Steward and was refused because the war was "an affair between white men." However because of his friendship with Union general Ulysses S. Grant, he ended up as his aide and confidant at Appomattox and was the person who actually transcribed the final copy of the surrender, thus being the last person to put ink to paper before the two famous generals scrawled their names.

A former reporter with the *Kansas City Star*, **Richard A. Serrano**, has written a new book called *Last Days of the Blue and Gray* in which he debunks the claims of several old men who told stories of battles when the centennial of the Civil War was observed in the 1960's. He details their deceptions after turning to the pension records where he found that some of them had not even been born yet. Still several received notoriety and pensions too as well as the thanks of grateful nation. In spite of such incidents it is still important to preserve the memories and honor the actions of our true veterans. The City of Independence Veterans History Project tries to do this by interviewing local veterans of World War I, World War II, and the Korean, Vietnam, and Persian Gulf wars. These interviews are preserved at the Library of Congress, the Jackson County Historical Society, and the Truman Memorial Building Veterans' Hall. To participate you can call Peggy Sowders at (816) 325-7979 or E-Mail her at psowders@indepmo.org.

Jay Thorn has enjoyed talking with a lady at the Clay County Museum about a "mortuary box" she inherited from her grandfather who was a courier for generals at several battles and was captured at Vicksburg. They recently opened a memo-holder and found Confederate money along with receipts for construction of the monument at Fairview Cemetery in Liberty. Jay was also kind enough to pass along to the Round Table a copy of a transcribed diary of Judge Alonzo H. Shelton and his four years of service during the War between the States. The original hand-written copy is housed at William Jewell College, and the original typed copy is at the Clay County Museum.

The Round Table has acquired several books from recent speakers and has them available for members to read. We do ask that you write a little article about the book for the *Border Star* when you are finished. Please let Beverly Shaw know if you want to check out *Saddle the Pale Horse* by Darryl Levings or *Lost Voices on the Missouri: John Dougherty and the Indian Frontier* by Mark Kelly. Call Beverly at (816) 225-7944 or E-Mail her at bevjoshaw@hotmail.com.



**Photos taken at
Woodlawn Cemetery,
Independence, MO,
October 20, 2013
By Charles Chiles**

Jim Beckner and friend



Mike Calvert



Barbara Hughes as Laura Flannery
“The woman who walked to Texas”