



April 2012

★ *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: March 1862. The horrifying Battle of Shiloh changed Americans' understanding of the Civil War. In April 1862, almost exactly a year after Fort Sumter and the secession of Virginia, the battle near the Tennessee-Mississippi border not only redefined the boundaries of the military conflict but also the boundaries of the imaginable. The battle of Shiloh shattered any fantasies people had that the war would be won easily by either side. ~*Making Sense of the Civil War* by Edward L. Ayers, President of the University of Richmond.

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

2012 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
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Mailing Address

CWRTWM
P.O. Box 3019
Independence, MO 64055

**** NEW Website ****

www.CWRTWM.org

President's Letter

I find cemeteries fascinating. I have spent enough time in them to maybe be called a cemetery junkie. I have been in cemeteries in downtown Boston and look upon the final resting place of Sam Adams, John Hancock, Paul Revere and victims of the Boston Massacre. I stood in the Antietam National Cemetery on Memorial Day. I have walked the hills of Arlington. I have stood in a hedge row and look at tombstones in disarray and half buried by weeds. I have stood in cemeteries and saw humor. There's a tombstone in Elmwood Cemetery that says "See I told you I was sick." I have been moved by the beauty and solitude of these places. I have been moved by the sorrow and sadness that can be found in cemeteries. I have been uplifted by cemeteries. I just can't pass them up.

Many of you know that the Round Table owns the Louis-Gregg Cemetery. The cemetery is 185 years old which would make it one of the oldest in Jackson County. This weekend we will be gathering at this cemetery to clean head stones. We will do this not only to extend the life of the stone, but more importantly to honor the person buried beneath it. Whether we know the deceased or not we owe them our respect. So come out this weekend, spend some time in a cemetery, and take time to stop, slow down and enjoy the surroundings.

~Mike Calvert, President, Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

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

April 2012 Membership Meeting

Wednesday, April 11, 2012 – 7:00 p.m.

Villages of Jackson Creek (lower level), 3980-A S. Jackson Drive, Independence, MO. David Wells of Omaha, NE (brother of our late founder Sonny Wells): “Nebraska Territory during the War and Fighting Men from Nebraska.”

NO BOARD MEETING IN APRIL 2012

Volunteers at the Symphony Designers’ Showhouse

Thursday, April 26, 2012 – 3:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at 47 W. 53rd St., Kansas City, MO. Those people who would like to volunteer as docents with Beverly Shaw should call her at (816) 225-7944 (cell).

Other Civil War Events

“Freedom Seekers” Documentary Film

Sunday, April 1, 2012 – 1:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. showings. Ritchie House, 1118 SE Madison, Topeka, KS. Gary Jenkins will be showing his new documentary film “Freedom Seekers: Stories from the Western Underground Railroad.” Free.

“Caught between Three Fires”

Sunday, April 1, 2012 – 2:00 p.m. Jesse James Farm, 21216 James Farm Road, Kearney, MO. Tom Rafiner: Research on Order No. 11 and history of Cass County.

1940 Census Release

Monday, April 2, 2012 – 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. National Archives, 400 W. Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO. Release of the 1940 Census to researchers. Tutorials will be given at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Please visit www.1940census.archives.gov on your own computer at home or use the free WiFi at the Archives or one of their computers.

Making Sense of the Civil War – K.C. Library Series

Monday, April 2, 2012 – 6:30 p.m. Plaza Library, 4801 Main Street, Kansas City, MO. Led by Diane Mutti Burke, this session called “Choosing Sides” will draw from Edward L. Ayers anthology called America’s War: Talking about the Civil War and Emancipation on Their 150th Anniversaries.

Grandview Historical Society

Monday, April 2, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. Society Headquarters, 1205 Jones, Grandview, MO. “Show and Tell.” Bring a family heirloom or other historical item.

“The Cavalry in the Civil War”

Tuesday, April 3, 2012 – 6:30 p.m. Garden City, MO Library, 201 W. Date Street, Garden City, MO. “The Cavalry in the Civil War.”

“The Cavalry in the Civil War”

Thursday, April 5, 2012 – 6:00 p.m. Archie, MO Library, 317 S. Main, Archie, MO. “The Cavalry in the Civil War.”

The Orphan Trains

Thursday, April 5, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee’s Summit Road, Independence, MO. Carolyn Grover: “The Orphan Trains.” Carolyn has been giving this program for 9 years. She is a member of the Pioneer Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the wife of our member, Bob Grover, who presented the program on American flags.

“Border War Reflections”

Friday, April 6, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. Alexander Majors House, 8201 State Line Road, Kansas City, MO. Stephanie Goodman: “Border War Reflections: Tension on the Missouri/Kansas Border,” a play with musicians, a gospel ensemble, and a full cast of actors. Hear this heartbreaking true story of firsthand accounts from secessionist Margaret Hays of Jackson County and abolitionist Julia Lovejoy from Kansas Territory. Adults are \$10, students age 12 and under or senior citizens-\$5.

Jesse James Frontier Revolver Shoot Out

Saturday, April 7, 2012 – Registration: 8:00 a.m. Shoot: 9:00 a.m. James Farm, 21216 Jesse James Farm Road, Kearney, MO. Test your skill on the favorite targets of Buck and Dingus (aka Frank and Jesse). Cap and Ball Revolver, Frontier Cartridge Revolver, Replicas OK. Fixed sights and dueling stance only. \$15 entry fee (includes a year’s membership in the Friends of the James Farm). Jesse James Medallion prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place.

“The Battle of Glasgow”

Saturday, April 7, 2012 – 10:00 a.m. Arrow Rock State Historic Site (14 miles north of I-70 at exit 98 on U. S. Highway 41), Arrow Rock, MO. Jim Denny: “The Battle of Glasgow.” Author of The Civil War’s First Blood: Missouri 1854 - 1861.

Simple Strings Dulcimer Performance

Saturday, April 7, 2012 – 10:00 a.m. Liberty Library, 1000 Kent Street, Liberty, MO. The Prairie Dulcimer Club headed by our member Jerry Tjelle will perform and give historic info about the songs they play.

“Jesse James: More Dead Than Alive”

Saturday, April 7, 2012 – 4:00 p.m. Jesse James Farm, 21216 James Farm Road, Kearney, MO. Lee Ward: The Death of Jesse James and what happened to the body from the embalming at Seidenfaden’s Funeral Parlor in St. Joseph, MO to the photography of Jesse’s body in the coffin by James W. Graham. Lee will cover all aspects of 19th century funerary practice and how it related to the preservation of Jesse’s body.

“The Battles of Boonville and Wilson’s Creek”

Tuesday, April 10, 2012 – 6:30 p.m. National Archives, 400 W. Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO. Dr. Terry Beckenbaugh of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College will discuss these battles as a part of the Divided Loyalties Lecture Series.

“The Fighting Men from Nebraska”

Tuesday, April 10, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. Cass County Library, 400 E. Mechanic, Harrisonville, MO. David Wells: “Nebraska Territory during the War and Fighting Men from Nebraska.”

“Legacies of the Civil War”

Tuesday, April 10, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. Johnson County Central Resource Library, 9875 W. 87th Street, Overland Park, KS. Pulitzer prize-winning author, Jane Smiley, is the author of *The All-True Travels and Adventures of Lidie Newton* (set in Territorial Kansas). Her novel, *A Thousand Acres*, was made into a movie. RSVP to (913) 826-4600.

Jackson County in the Civil War—1862

Wednesday, April 11, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. Courthouse Exchange Restaurant, 113 W. Lexington (south side of the Square), Independence, MO. Dan Smith will speak to the Independence Civil War Study Group.

Freedom’s Frontier Partners Meeting

Thursday, April 12, 2012 – 10:00 a.m. Baxter Springs Heritage Center and Museum, Baxter Springs, KS. Bill Fischer from the Fort Scott National Historic Site will talk about the Bourbon County Civil War census project which allows a look at settlement and dislocation patterns during the Civil War.

Sons of Confederate Veterans Monthly Meeting

Thursday, April 12, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. Courthouse Exchange, 113 W. Lexington, Independence, MO. David Wells: “Nebraska Territory during the War and Fighting Men from Nebraska.” Visitors welcome.

Ladies Spring Tea

Saturday, April 14, 2012 – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Mt. Gilead Church, 15918 Plattsburg Road, Kearney, MO.

An afternoon of fun, crafts, tea and cookies to create cute hat cards and a vintage hanky project. Cost is \$10 for all supplies. Call (816) 736-8500 for reservations.

Civil War Reenactment and Battle – Majors House

Saturday and Sunday, April 14 and 15, 2012 – throughout the day. Alexander Majors House, 8201 State Line Road, Kansas City, MO. Saturday: 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. – Station Work; 11:00 a.m. – Company level drill and again at 1:00 p.m.; 3:00 p.m. – Rounders Game. Sunday: 9:00 a.m. – Formal Inspection; 10:00 a.m. – Church services; 11:30 a.m. – Company level drill; 2:00 p.m. – Skirmish.

Making Sense of the Civil War

Sunday, April 15, 2012 – 2:00 p.m. Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee’s Summit Road, Independence, MO. Looking at the Shape of War through the Battle of Antietam. Reference work is *Crossroads of Freedom* by James McPherson. Moderated by Randall Fuller with references to his book *From Battlefields Rising – How the Civil War Transformed American Literature*.

Blue Springs Historical Society Annual Dinner

Tuesday, April 17, 2012 – 6:00 p.m. (Dinner), 7:00 p.m. (Program). The Masonic Hall, 308 S.W. Main Street, Blue Springs, MO. Barbara Hughes: “The Real William Quantrill.” \$15 for beef brisket dinner. RSVP by Friday, April 13th, by calling (816) 797-4870 or E-Mail MPotterEducation@comcast.net.

The Battle of Shiloh

Tuesday, April 17, 2012 – 6:30 p.m. Central Library, 14 W. 10th Street, Kansas City, MO. Gregory S. Hospodor, Associate Professor of Military History at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, KS. He will discuss the bloodiest battle of the War up to that time and how it brought home to both sides the grim reality of the conflict.

Raytown Historical Society Quarterly Dinner

Wednesday, April 18, 2012 – 6:00 p.m. – Dinner. Yellow Rock Barn, 8307 Westridge, Kansas City, MO. \$15 for Chicken Cordon Bleu dinner. Author and photographer Bruce Mathews will talk about his book *Elmwood Cemetery*. Reservations by April 11th by calling (816) 356-0444.

Belvoir (former Odd Fellows Home) and Ghosts of

Liberty Tour, Thursday, April 19, 2012 – 8:30 a.m. – 2:15 p.m. Guided bus tour to Liberty arranged by Independence Parks and Recreation. \$52 for tour and late lunch. Bus departs from the parking lot on the SE corner of Maple and Pleasant Streets near the Palmer Center. Call (816) 325-6200 for reservations.

The History of the Liberty Tribune Newspaper

Thursday, April 19, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. Clay County Museum, west side of the Square in Liberty, MO. Angie Borgedalen, Editor of the *Liberty Tribune*, will tell about one of the oldest Missouri newspapers still in continuous publication. Donation of \$3.00 requested.

Civil War Tour of Osceola and St. Clair County

Saturday, April 21, 2012 – 9:00 a.m. Osceola, MO. \$10 includes lunch. Sponsored by the Col. John T. Coffee Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans. Reservations to Richard Sunderwirth, P.O. Box 543, Osceola, MO 64776 or call (417) 646-5538.

Historic Sibley Cemetery Tour

Saturday, April 21, 2012 – 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Fort Osage National Historic Landmark, 107 Osage Street, Sibley, MO. Curator will give a brief history of the oldest cemetery in Jackson County. Adults – \$7, Children – \$4, Seniors – \$3.

Civil War Railroads

Sunday, April 22, 2012 – 2:00 p.m. National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 W. Pacific, Independence, MO. Armin Schannuth will talk about the importance of railroads in the Civil War. He will include the massacre at Centralia and the building of the Jackson County railroads during guerrilla fighting. \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors, and \$3 ages 6-17.

Making Sense of the Civil War – Kansas City Series

Monday, April 23, 2012 – 6:30 p.m. Plaza Library, 4801 Main Street, Kansas City, MO. Diane Mutti Burke leads a discussion of “Making Sense of Shiloh” from Part 3 of America’s War anthology.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, April 24, 2012 – Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS. Kendall Gott: “Shiloh.” \$25 for dinner. For reservations call Paul Gault at (816) 741-2962.

Civil War in Jackson County

Wednesday, April 25, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. Raytown Library, 6131 Raytown Road, Raytown, MO. Gregg Higginbotham discusses how the Civil War affected people in Jackson County. RSVP at (816) 353-2052.

Blue Bellies and Bushwhackers

Thursday, April 26, 2012 – 6:30 p.m. Grandview Library, 12930 Booth Lane, Grandview, MO. Arnold Schofield discusses the barbaric guerrilla warfare that occurred in Kansas and Missouri during the Civil War. RSVP by calling (816) 763-0550. Arnold is the retired Site Manager at the Mine Creek Battlefield.

Mary Lobb and the Lobb Cemetery

Friday, April 27, 2012 – 9:30 a.m. Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee’s Summit Road, Independence, MO. Barbara Hughes portrays Mary Lobb, a resident of Eastern Jackson County during the trying times of the Border Wars. RSVP to (816) 252-7228.

“Caught Between Three Fires”

Saturday, April 28, 2012 – 10:00 a.m. Bates County Museum, 802 Elks Drive, Butler, MO. Tom Rafiner will be talking about what the Border War did to Cass County. He is working on a new book about the effect of the Civil War on Bates County. After the program there will be a salad and sandwich lunch for a free will donation. Tom will sign copies of his book.

25th Annual Civil War Reenactment – Keokuk, IA

April 27-29, 2012. Every year Keokuk chooses a battle to portray and this year it’s Shiloh. There are activities at various museums and venues but the Saturday reenactment of the Hornet’s Nest will be at 2:30 p.m. at the Rand Park Battlefield, N. 17th and Park Lane, Keokuk, IA. On Sunday the interpretation at 2:30 p.m. will be Fallen Timbers.

Making Sense of the Civil War – Independence Series

Sunday, April 29, 2012 – 2:00 p.m. Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee’s Summit Road, Independence, MO. Randall Fuller finishes the series with “War and Freedom” by using Ayres’ America’s War anthology-Part 5 and his own book *From Battlefields Rising*.

Dedication of Mary Whitney Phelps Marker

Sunday, April 29, 2012 – 1:00 p.m. Phelps Grove Park, corner of Brookside and Virginia, Springfield, MO. This very active Daughters of Union Veterans Tent will dedicate a new historical marker to their namesake to celebrate the 200th anniversary of her birth. In case of rain go to Trinity Lutheran Church gymnasium, one block west of the park.

Women in Missouri during the Civil War

Monday, April 30, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. South Independence Library, 13700 E. 35th Street, Independence, MO. Barbara Hughes portrays Laura Flanery, a Jackson County woman who was forced out of her home and walked to Texas. RSVP to (816) 461-2050.

600,000 Silent Voices: Stories from the Civil War

Camden Point Library, 401 Hardesty Street, Camden Point, MO. Jim Two Crows Wallen had 16 ancestors who served in the conflict and he tells stories about the people involved in first person as Chaplain William Maple of the 49th Indiana Infantry USA, his great grandfather. RSVP to (816) 280-3384.

News about Members and Friends

Our president **Mike Calvert** is gearing up for spring speaking engagements. **Chris Cooper** has arranged for him to speak to the Kansas City Archaeological Society on Tuesday, April 3, 2012 at 7:30 pm (social time at 7:00 p.m.). The group meets at the "Inergy" building at Main Street and Cleaver II Boulevard in Kansas City, Missouri. He will also be speaking at the Lunch and Learn Series in May as a part of Historic Preservation Month in Independence. On March 12th Mike gave a report to the Independence City Council on the efforts of the Heritage Commission which included the expansion of the Harry S Truman National Historic Landmark District which just celebrated its 40th anniversary. The purpose of the Heritage Commission is to preserve, conserve and maintain the aesthetic and historical resources of Independence. It is also charged with the promotion of the economic benefits of preservation, as well as highlighting the city's cultural heritage according to Adrienne DeWeese's article in the *Examiner* of March 13, 2012. The Round Table plans to provide a driving tour of antebellum houses in Independence on May 19-20, 2012 as a part of Preservation Month. **Pat Gradwohl**, Chairperson, is finalizing the houses which we will be visiting and will need help from members to act as docents in the homes. If you are interested in this activity, please volunteer by calling her: (816) 781-8871.

Our long distance friend in Kentucky, **Nancy Hitt**, has reminded us that Civil War history is alive and well in Europe as well as the U.S. She recommends the Confederate Historical Association of Belgium as a source for publications and educational newsletters, celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. Dues are \$25 and you can find out more at www.chab-belgium.com.

Art Kelley wishes to thank everyone who has called and written to encourage him as he goes through chemo and transfusions for leukemia. He would love to be with us, but sometimes he just does not have the strength to get out again in the evening. You may contact him at, Art Kelley, 15110 E. 38th Street, Independence, MO 64055. Telephone (816) 373-4101

Carol Olson recently went to Houston to confirm a diagnosis of follicular lymphoma, level 1, low grade which means that she is going to be OK with chemo but her energy level is going to be low sometimes. She appreciates the thoughts and prayers of everyone and the assistance people have offered to fill in for her at certain events. That's the kind of assistance she needs rather than phone calls, cards, and food at this time (she's afraid Steve will get fat if they get casseroles and cakes!) Carol says, "What a wonderful bunch of people you are!"

Richard Stewart had a wonderful trip to Gentry, Arkansas to review the Quantrill Collection he has provided to the Gentry Library through all the donations of books, clippings, and cash for archival materials. The grand opening will be May 19, 2012. He announces the donation of a unique perspective on the making of the movie "Ride with the Devil" which was provided by **Don Gilmore**, a local consultant when the film was made here in the Kansas City area. Richard thinks this will be a hit for the project.

Steve Warren has updated us on his "Last Raid at Cabin Creek" documentary. The broadcast version which premiered last spring in the Tulsa, OK market is entered in this year's Heartland Emmy Awards to be announced later this spring. He recently made a presentation on the Second Battle of Cabin Creek, Indian Territory for the Midwest Artifact Society in Overland Park, KS and to the Eastern Trails Metal Detecting Club in Indep., MO. The video is available on www.Amazon.com.

Grave Plots for Sale

Our member Randall Todd has brought to our attention the sale of some grave plots at the historic Forest Hill Cemetery, 6901 Troost, Kansas City, Missouri. You will recall from Vol. 1 of our "Monuments" book that this was the site of the Confederate Army's last stand at the Battle of Westport. In fact the cover art of our book is a photo of the Gaston monument at Forest Hill Cemetery. The Knights of Pythias, a renowned fraternal organization instituted during the Civil War, is willing to sell some plots near the south wall in Block 17, All of Section 64 (Graves 1-12) in order to raise funds for their building fund. A single plot is \$2,000 with multiple purchases at \$1,800. Contact Sid Hoffman, treasurer, for more information by calling (913) 381-1888. This announcement is made as a courtesy and does not constitute a commercial announcement.

Round Table Merchandise

We need to have Vol. 1 of our "Monuments" book reprinted because we are out of copies. However we do have several copies of The Battle of Westport published by the Westport Historical Society in 1996 (\$10) and The Civil War in Missouri, Essays from the Missouri Historical Review, 1906-2006 (\$15). Copies will be available for purchase at monthly membership meetings. You can also order by mail by sending a check to CWRTWM, P. O. Box 3019, Independence, MO 64055. The Battle of Westport would be \$10 plus \$2 for shipping and handling (total of \$12). The Essays book would be \$15 plus \$3 for shipping and handling (total of \$18). We will also start bringing our t-shirts, ball caps, and embroidered logos to the meeting.

Tips for Photographers

Civil War Monuments book, Vol. 2

The publication committee for Vol. 2 of our "Monuments" book is composed of Barbara Wormington, Beverly Shaw, Karen Wells, Dennis Myers, and Steve Hatcher. They are currently reviewing around 100 sites that have identified as possibilities for Vol. 2, but they need the help of the membership to actually visit the locations, take pictures, write a description, and provide directions. Please save the attached tips on photography and a sample matrix for reporting. Barbara and Denis Wormington visited the Battle of Albany in Ray County and share the result of their reporting as a sample. If you need help preparing your digital camera for pictures, please bring the camera and any instructions to the next meeting and Denis will take a look at it. The Round Table also has a digital camera that can be checked out if you don't have your own. Call Beverly Shaw at (816) 225-7944 to reserve it. We hope to publish Vol. 2 in color so the quality of our pictures is important, and after the trees and grass have greened up is a good time to take photos.

We are assuming most of us will be using a digital "point and shoot" camera. Assuming that to be the case, here are a few suggestions that will help us greatly to maintain consistency in our photographs.

- First, remember to turn off your date stamp!
- Second, leave plenty of space around your subject. Avoid the tendency to "crop" with your camera. We have computer software that will let us edit images so the composition will be just as we need it to be for publishing.
- If possible, turn off the digital zoom feature on your camera and zoom in manually. Zooming in digitally causes loss of image quality. (Digital zoom is basically a digital crop within the camera. It is not a true magnification. When you use digital zoom you are effectively capturing only part of an image, with less detail and lower resolution.)
- Because using a flash creates a flat picture, try to use natural light whenever possible. But be wary of shadows. If you're shooting an outdoor monument, strive for full-on sun or full-on shadow. The best lighting will have the sun in front of the subject being photographed.
- Take "large" pictures for the best image quality - use the highest resolution setting on your camera. Images of 5 megapixels or larger are preferred.
- Take several shots of each subject and be sure to include one that is "square on."
- Feel free to submit as many pictures as you wish. Include all images you believe might add interest to the subject or location; the more we have to choose from the better!
- Once you've chosen your favorite shots, send each one as a separate attachment to us at bwormington@kc.rr.com.
- Please attach no more than a total of 10MB to each email (as larger files might not transfer.)

Thank you so much for your help with this important project!

REPORTING TEMPLATE

Civil War Monuments book, Vol. 2

TITLE & APPROXIMATE LOCATION

DESCRIPTION

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

LOCATION AND DRIVING DIRECTIONS

OF SPECIAL NOTE

REPORTING EXAMPLE

Civil War Monuments book, Vol. 2

TITLE & APPROXIMATE LOCATION

1. Battle of Albany Monument

Near the present town of Orrick, MO

DESCRIPTION

Battle of Albany Monument, located at the battlefield, honors eleven Missouri Partisan Rangers who died there.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

On October 26, 1864, a company of Missouri Partisan Rangers CSA led by Capt. William T. ("Bloody Bill") Anderson was camped near this spot. Three hundred men of the 51st and 33rd Missouri Militia Mounted Infantry U.S. led by Maj. Samuel P. Cox of Gallatin, Missouri were camped several miles away on the other side of Albany. A Union woman rode to Major Cox's camp and told him where Captain Anderson's company was camped. Major Cox led his men to a tree line next to the battlefield and they dismounted. Then Lieutenant Baker, with a squad of cavalry, was sent to attack Captain Anderson's company. Captain Anderson and about twenty of his men mounted their horses and chased their attackers across the field and through the federal line. Three hundred federal men hidden in the tree line opened fire. Captain Anderson and 10 of his men were killed.

LOCATION AND DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Located north of Orrick, MO, in Ray County. From Hwy 210, turn north onto Route O (slightly west of Route Z into Orrick) and then turn east onto the first gravel road, just before the railroad overpass. Go past three houses and then make a hard left and drive about halfway up the bluff. A private home is at the top of the hill. The isolated battlefield is a narrow strip of land located between a deep ditch and the road. You can see the monument from the road.

OF SPECIAL NOTE

This monument is in a tiny cemetery that includes four civilian headstones. It also (reportedly) includes the unmarked graves of all of the Partisan Rangers who died there except for "Bloody" Bill Anderson, who is buried in Pioneer Cemetery in Richmond, MO.

Thank you to Charles Childs, member of the Round Table and retired Union Pacific railroad man, for these extraordinary photographs of the "Shiloh Train" that came through our region on Monday and Tuesday, March 26th and 27th. It was pulled by vintage steam locomotive 844 and picked up Civil War reenactors at Union Station on Tuesday morning about 8:00 a.m. Charles also went to Kansas City, Kansas to take pictures on Monday as it rolled through the prairie. You will note that cannons are loaded on flatcars to accompany the soldiers. Charles says that they even got off a little earlier than expected from Union Station as they headed east through the northern part of Independence, passing through the heart of the Battle of the Little Blue at Ripley Junction, going on to Lake City and Buckner before settling in for a journey to Malta Bend where they made a stop before arriving in St. Louis to spend the night on the train. As participant Jim Beckner said, "This is a once in a lifetime experience."



