



# *The Border Star*

Official Monthly Publication of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

• Founded 12-9-1992

• Incorporated 5-12-1993

*"Studying the Border War and Beyond"*

February 2010

## The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

### 2010 Officers

President ----- Mike Calvert  
1<sup>st</sup> V.P. ----- Pat Gradwohl  
2<sup>nd</sup> V.P. ----- Art Kelley  
Secretary ----- Karen Wells  
Treasurer ----- Beverly Shaw  
Historian ----- Paul Tate

### Board Members

Delbert Coin Karen Coin  
Terry Chronister Barbara Hughes  
Don Moorehead Kathy Moorehead  
Steve Olson Carol Olson  
Terry McConnell

### 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.

Villages of Jackson Creek  
3980-A S. Jackson Drive  
(lower level)

Independence, Missouri

**Visitors Always Welcome!**

### Annual Dues

Individual ----- 15.00  
Family ----- 25.00  
Student (under 21) ----- 5.00  
Newsletter Only (no meetings) 10.00

### For Information

Mike Calvert ----- 836-1013  
Beverly Shaw ----- 225-7944  
Art Kelley ----- 373-4101

### Mailing Address

C.W.R.T. of Western Missouri  
P. O. Box 3019  
Independence, MO 64055

### Website

[www.orgsites.com/mo/cwrt](http://www.orgsites.com/mo/cwrt)



The bombardment of Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861 was the opening engagement of the American Civil War. The countdown to the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on April 12, 2011 is just 426 days away, as of the date of our next Round Table meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup>.

## Sesquicentennial (noun) a 150th anniversary or its celebration

As I read my monthly subscriptions to Civil War magazines the word sesquicentennial is plastered throughout them. I read about the plans for the Sesquicentennial Celebration for the Civil War that is taking shape throughout the United States.

During my reading there was one thing that kept coming back to me. I was struck by how well the other states seem to be organized both at the state and local levels. All of them appear to be light years ahead of any effort, at least the advertised ones, that is currently being put forth in our state. So far, and I could be wrong but, the only thing I've seen published is the list of State appointed experts that form the celebration committee. By the way the list seems to be heavily weighted to the eastern side of our state. I admit I could be totally wrong about the planning being undertaken. It's just that I'm not aware of the plans. There seems to be no publicity.

As far as our area is concerned there is planning starting to take place. At the last Board meeting we discussed what part the Roundtable will take in any celebrations to be held here. To that end I will be meeting with the City of Independence and other local history organizations to start the planning process. I don't know yet what the plans are or who will participate, more to come on that. We have so many possibilities.

I know that we must get started now and we can't let those people east of the Mississippi River continue to believe that no Civil War history happened here!

Mike Calvert, President

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

### Inclement Weather Hotline

If it looks like the weather or roads make it unsafe for people to be out, Beverly Shaw will record a message on her home number for you to call. The number will ring about four times before the answering machine picks up so please be patient. We will probably make our decision on Tuesday, January 12, 2010.

**The phone number is (816) 478-7648**

## **CWRTWMO Calendar**

### February 2010 Meeting

Wednesday, February 10, 2010 – 7:00 p.m.  
Villages of Jackson Creek (lower level),  
3980-A S. Jackson Drive, Independence, MO  
Bob Grover: “15 Colonial Flags”  
James Scott: “Colonial Muskets”

### No Board Meeting in February

## **Other Events**

### Explore Liberty’s Heritage

Saturday, February 6, 2010 – 10:00 a.m. Free!  
Corbin Theatre, 15 N. Water Street, Liberty, MO.  
Civil War Seminar: Jay Jackson presents the story  
of the Civil War battles fought in & around Liberty.

### First Saturday Lecture Series - Arrow Rock, MO

Saturday, February 6, 2010 – 10:00 a.m.  
Arrow Rock State Historic Site Visitor Center,  
Arrow Rock, MO. Dr. Debra Miles: “Legal  
Representation for Missouri Slaves: Zealous or  
Passive.” See article.

### “Negroes to Hire,” A Documentary on Slavery

Sunday, February 7, 2010 – 2:00 p.m.  
Peter’s Theatre, William Jewell campus, Liberty,  
MO. “Negroes to Hire,” a documentary on slavery  
in Missouri by Gary Jenkins. Sponsored by the  
Friends of the James Farm and the Clay County  
Historical Society. See article.

### Lecompton Bleeding Kansas Program Series

Sunday, February 7, 2010 – 2:00 p.m.  
Constitution Hall State Historic Site, 319  
Elmore, Lecompton, KS. “Asa Reynard: An  
Original Jayhawk”-Timothy Graham. Free.

### “Mapping Missouri” at the National Archives

February 9-May 15, 2010 – 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.,  
Tuesday – Saturday, National Archives, 400 W.  
Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO. Parking in front  
of the building. Organized by the Missouri State  
Archives. See article.

### Blue or Gray? Civil War Military Records

Thursday, February 11, 2010 – 7:00 p.m.  
Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee’s Summit  
Road, Independence, MO. Registration required at  
(816) 252-7228.

### African-Americans in the Civil War

Saturday, February 13, 2010 – 10:30 a.m.  
Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Center, 3700 Blue  
Parkway, Kansas City, MO. First of a 3-part series  
given by Joe Mattox through Communiversity. \$15  
fee for series on February 13, 20, and 27. Will  
include African-American troops at Island Mound  
near Butler, MO and the Battle of Westport, the  
Legacy of Lincoln University and the Buffalo  
Soldiers. For a registration form, call Beverly Shaw  
at (816) 225-7944 (cell).

### The Bonfire: The Siege and Burning of Atlanta

Wednesday, February 17, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.  
Central Library, 14 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City,  
MO. Mark Wortman: *The Bonfire: The Siege and  
Burning of Atlanta*. See article.

### Civil War Round Table of Kansas City Meeting

Tuesday, February 23, 2010 – Dinner at 6:30 p.m.  
Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road,  
Prairie Village, KS. \$22. For Reservations, call  
Paul Gault at (816) 741-2962. Arnold Schofield:  
“Military Justice.”

### Jefferson Barracks Militaria Swap Meet and Sale

Saturday, February 27, 2010 – 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Cost is \$3.00. U. S. Grant Shelter at Jefferson  
Barracks County Park, St. Louis, MO. All military  
periods.

### Sixth Annual Military Collectors Fair

Saturday, March 6, 2010 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial, J.C.  
Nichols Auditorium Lobby, Kansas City, MO.  
Dozens of displays from Civil War to present. Free  
for the displays; regular admittance for the WWI  
Museum. No buying, selling or trading of artifacts.

## **Dues Now Payable**

Dues for 2010 should be paid by the end of  
February. You can pay at the February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting  
or send a check payable to CWRTWMO, 17313 E.  
51 Terr. Ct. S., Independence, MO 64055. Dues are  
\$25 for a family or \$15 for an individual. If you  
can’t attend meetings but just want to receive the  
Border Star by subscription, the fee is \$10.

## **Mapping History at the National Archives**

From February 9, 2010 through May 15, 2010 the National Archives is showing "Mapping History" in the Regional History Gallery at 400 W. Pershing Road, Kansas City, Missouri. The hours are 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Tuesday - Saturday.

"Mapping History: Maps from the Collection of the Missouri State Archives" features more than 100 examples of cartography from the Archives' collection, many of which have never been displayed before. This exhibit explores the history of cartographic images of Missouri and the role they play in our everyday world. It draws from the land survey maps made by Antoine Soulard from 1796-1806 and computer generated census maps made in the year 2000. The historical maps from the 19<sup>th</sup> century show how surveying and cartography were key to European American settlement of present-day Missouri. Other maps in the exhibit examine the ways in which geography helps to form a sense of identity and help inventory natural resources. Still others provide valuable information for historians attempting to recreate places and events from the past.

### ***The Bonfire* by Marc Wortman**

On February 17, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at the Central Library in downtown Kansas City, Marc Wortman of New Haven, CT will be speaking about his recently published book about the rise and fall of Atlanta during the Civil War and will be showing slides. You can read some review snippets about *The Bonfire: The Siege and Burning of Atlanta* at his website [www.markwortmanbooks.com](http://www.markwortmanbooks.com).

A major figure in Wortman's book is Charles F. Morse, the Union Provost Marshal who occupied Atlanta and one of the men most active in destroying the city prior to the March to the Sea. Originally from Massachusetts, he later became a leading citizen of Kansas City and one of the chief architects and president of the stockyards.

### **Abraham Lincoln, Vampire Hunter?**

Since visiting the Lincoln Presidential Museum and Archives in Springfield, IL, Beverly Shaw has been on the E-Mail list for events there. As you can imagine, there are many events in February because of Lincoln's birthday. What she found interesting

was an event on March 6<sup>th</sup> which brings author Seth Grahame-Smith to talk about *Abraham Lincoln, Vampire Hunter*. This young author is taking advantage of the present interest in vampires from the movies and television to put his spin on books such as *Pride and Prejudice* and adding Zombies. The Lincoln book is said to be a presidential biography in the vein of Doris Kearns Goodwin or David McCullough but repositioning the President as the greatest vampire hunter to walk the earth. Seth did a lot of research to see where vampires could properly fit into actual events in Lincoln's life – from childhood on. It's a good thing President Lincoln is firmly buried in his tomb or else he would certainly be spinning around.

### **Plans for the Round Table in 2010**

At its first board meeting the Round Table talked about plans for the year. Pat Gradwohl, First Vice President and Program Chairman, said that the February 10<sup>th</sup> program would be given by Bob Grover, one of our own members, and his friend, James Scott, about Colonial flags and muskets. For the March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting we will be hearing from Judy Billings about "Freedom's Frontier," the umbrella organization for 41 counties in Missouri and Kansas which helps coordinate activities and projects relating to the Civil War in our part of the country. On April 14<sup>th</sup> one of our own members, Kathy Pickering, will be talking about the Alexander Majors Home in Kansas City. On May 12<sup>th</sup> we welcome back our friend Jean Warren who will be giving us the "Undercover Story" of female apparel.

The board also discussed projects that we would like to accomplish this year. One is the implementation of a searchable website using our web domain names of "Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri" and "Little Blue Battlefield." Dennis Myers has done a great job of maintaining our presence on "orgsites," but it does not become readily available by using one of the search engines such as Google. We would like to form a committee to study what would be good to have on the website and interview webmasters who could help us achieve our goals. If you would like to work in this area, please let Mike Calvert know by calling him at (816) 898-2603 or by E-mail at [mwcal53@aol.com](mailto:mwcal53@aol.com).

We would also like to explore the idea of virtual tours by cell phone which is a new technology for guiding visitors to historical sites.

More “old school” but just as important in the outreach of the Round Table is the publication of a new membership brochure with an eye and ear-catching mission statement and samples of what we do along with a tear-off form to become a member. If you would like to work on this project, please contact Mike Calvert.

We want to continue our popular tours in 2010, both those we offer to the public and those we ourselves take to explore some phase of the Civil War. We will soon set the date in May for our annual Battle of the Little Blue tour in conjunction with Historic Preservation Month for the City of Independence. This year we would like to follow the retreat of General Sterling Price to the battle of Mine Creek near Pleasonton, Kansas. We have not yet decided on a destination for our own enjoyment, but it has been suggested that we visit Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis. Karen Coin regretfully says that she will not be able to chair the travel committee this year because of the laundry business she and her husband Del have bought in Independence which is keeping them quite busy. Therefore we are looking for a chairman or co-chairs for the enjoyable task of planning trips. Again, call Mike to volunteer.

Our Round Table has the opportunity to partner with other historical groups to recognize the importance of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War starting in 2011. Art and Sharon Kelley very ably represent us at the Missouri/Kansas Border War Network meetings and activities and keep us informed of what is coming up. Our Round Table will be the host for the monthly meeting of this elite group of museum and historic site managers on Wednesday, July 21, 2010. Pat Gradwohl represents us at the Freedom’s Frontier meetings and has made arrangements to have Judy Billings come to our March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting to explain their plans for the future. Mike Calvert has been contacted by John Mark Lambertson at the Frontier Trails Museum to help plan activities to highlight the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Battles of Independence during the Civil War. This is an outreach of the Tourism Department of the City of Independence. Jim

Beckner has long thought about a reenactment of the Battle of the Little Blue. Wendy Shay, Historic Preservation Officer for the City of Independence, has also asked our help in researching and documenting antebellum homes in Independence. Maybe this could result in a booklet for visitors and historians alike. Many of you remember how much fun we had with Sonny Wells when we visited Civil War sites in our four-county area and took pictures in preparation for publishing our “Monuments” book. If you enjoy “house hunting” either at the library or in person, call Mike Calvert to volunteer to help with this project.

As you can see, the Round Table has many opportunities for growth in 2010. We would like to invite members to participate in the areas you most enjoy. You don’t have to be on the Board of Directors to take a leadership role in specific committees.

### **Symphony Designers’ Showhouse**

A tradition for some Round Table members is to staff the annual Symphony Designers’ Showhouse on a Thursday night for its “after work” showing. The Round Table is recognized as a participating organization in the program book. The date for this year has been set for Thursday, April 29, 2010 from 4:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Some members may not be able to arrive as early as 4:00, but you can come after work to help show the house. The location for the 41<sup>st</sup> Showhouse is 5833 Ward Parkway, Kansas City, MO. It was built in 1922 by Elizabeth Smith, the widow of William J. Smith, an early investor and officer of the Kansas City Cable Railway, the first of its kind in Kansas City and one of the most extensive in the U.S. at that time.

A pre-decorated showing of the house will take place February 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010 for an admission of \$5. The hours on Saturday are 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and on Sunday from Noon – 5:00 p.m. The finished Showhouse will be open April 24 - May 16, 2010. Beverly Shaw is “house historian” for the Kansas City Symphony Alliance and researches the families who have lived in the house. If you would like to help on April 29<sup>th</sup>, please give her a call at (816) 225-7944 (cell).

## **The Ladies Who Lunch**

As we come out of our winter hibernation, the ladies of the Round Table might be interested in some early spring activities. On March 20, 2010 the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ladies Spring Bruch will be held at Robertson Hall in the Bates County Museum at 802 Elks Drive, Butler, MO. A delicious meal, lovely table settings, and a tribute to one of the most intriguing women from Bates County will be held at 10:30 a.m. The tickets are \$10 and can be reserved by calling Peggy Buhr at (660) 679-0134.

Using the format of the popular “Meet the Past” at the Central Library and KCPT, Ms. Eleanor Lynch will share her remarkable life story. She will also share personal possessions and photographs depicting her extraordinary life and world travels such as a picture of her on a camel at the Great Pyramid of Giza circa 1925.

If you want to get a preview of the latest fashions from Dillards, you can join the ladies of the Bingham-Waggoner Estate for “Sugar and Spice and Everything Nice” on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at Noon. Tickets are \$25 for a good meal, good fashions, and good company at 313 W. Pacific Ave., Independence, Missouri. Call Shireen at (816) 461-3491.

If you don't mind getting up a little early on Tuesday, April 27, 2010, you can join the Northland folks in Gladstone for a daytrip to Lecompton, Kansas, to tour Constitution Hall, a national landmark, which was the site of the writing of the Lecompton Constitution which would have admitted Kansas as a Southern state. The rejection of this document split the Democratic Party and led to the election of President Lincoln. The name “Lecompton” was used 51 times during the Lincoln-Douglas Debates. After lunch at the Lecompton United Methodist Church, you will visit the Territorial Capital Museum which contains three floors of Civil War and Victorian artifacts. The cost is \$24 which includes bus transportation, tours, and lunch. The bus departs at 8:30 a.m. and will return at approximately 3:30 p.m. The bus departs from the west side of Happy Rock Park located at 76<sup>th</sup> and Old Antioch Road about one mile north of White Chapel Funeral Home. The reservation deadline is April 13<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested, please

call Pat Gradwohl at (816) 781-8607 to see if we can put together a group to go.

## **The Lady in Black**

Our member Bonnie Sommerville from Higginsville, Missouri sent a picture of herself representing the “Lady in Black” for the National Laying of the Wreath which was held at the Confederate cemetery on the grounds of the Confederate Home at Higginsville on December 12, 2009. She says it was a very stirring ceremony and she was especially grateful that the wind was not blowing 40 mph as it had the week before, or else she and her hoop skirt might have wound up in Saline County.

The impressive lion sculpture at the cemetery is called the Lion of Lucerne and is modeled after the Lion Monument designed by Bertel Thorvaldsen in Lucerne, Switzerland. It commemorates the Swiss Guards who were massacred in 1792 during the French Revolution. Mark Twain praised the sculpture of a mortally-wounded lion as “the most mournful and moving piece of stone in the world.”



National Laying of the Wreath, Confederate Cemetery, Confederate Home, Higginsville, Missouri, Dec. 12, 2009

## **The Word Goes Round and Round**

Len Eagleburger of the Civil War Round Table of the Ozarks has a very active E-Mail audience to whom he sends items of Civil War interest both for the Round Table and other interested history buffs. A recent posting was from a man in Springfield, MO who noticed that there was a Union marker from the Civil War in the front yard of a residence which seemed to be abandoned. Through various

responses to the E-Mail he was able to find out that the soldier was Henry Fatem of Pennsylvania. Someone else traced the number engraved on the tombstone and verified that it belonged to Henry Fatum who died in 1888 and was interred in the Springfield National Cemetery. How the marker wound up in a residential neighborhood and what will happen to it are still in question.

### **Legal Representation for Missouri Slaves**

Dr. Debra Miles will be speaking at 10:00 a.m. on February 6, 2010 at the Arrow Rock State Historic Visitor Center. She is the Assistant General Counsel for the Missouri Department of Mental Health. Miles is an authority on the practice of court-appointed counsel for slaves in Missouri as defined by the 1820 state constitution, the long and complex history of desegregation in public schools, and the realities of mob violence against individuals as seen in lynchings of African-Americans during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Slaves accused of crimes in Missouri were represented by white lawyers. The focus of Miles' presentation is determining the adequacy of that representation, with an analysis of Missouri court cases involving slaves charged with capital crimes.

### **"Negroes to Hire"**

The title of the documentary on slavery in Missouri which will be shown February 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. on the William Jewell campus is taken from a 19<sup>th</sup> century advertisement in the *Liberty Tribune*. Kansas City filmmaker Gary Jenkins based his documentary on the American Slave Narratives that were gathered by writers and journalists from 1936 to 1938 across Missouri. It also features commentaries by several educators who have published extensively on slavery: Dr. Jimmy Johnson (retired, K.U.), Dr. Diane Mutti-Burke (UMKC), Dr. Antonio Holland (Lincoln University) and Dr. Harriet Frazier (retired, CMSU).

Jenkins grew up on a large farm in Clinton County, Missouri. "Our family had farmhands who always lived in houses on the land and worked for us," he said. "I realized it must have been somewhat similar to how slaves worked closely with owners during the nineteenth century on small Missouri farms. I realized I had all these myths about what

that life was like. There were no large plantations here. I wanted to know more about slavery as it was practiced in Missouri." To see a trailer of the film, go to [www.lifedocumentaries.com](http://www.lifedocumentaries.com).

Following the film Dr. Jimmy Johnson will discuss his great grandfather's experience as a slave on the Miller Farm in Platte County and as a volunteer in the First Kansas Colored Regiment under Jim Lane. Our member Judy Tharp is a descendant of the Miller family and has attended reunions of the white and black families at the Miller Cemetery in Platte County.

The screening of the documentary is co-sponsored by the Clay County Museum and the Friends of the James Farm. After the screening Jay Thorn would be willing to open the Clay County Museum in Liberty for a tour if anyone is interested. Christie Kennard, President of the Friends of the James Farm, has written an article "Regarding Perry Samuel" concerning the slaves on the James Farm which appears in this issue.

The film will also be shown at the Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Center on February 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m., located at 3700 Blue Parkway, Kansas City, Missouri. The film will also be shown on February 25<sup>th</sup> at Community Christian Church at 7:00 p.m. preceded by a potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m. Community Christian is located at 4601 Main Street, Kansas City, Missouri.

### **Regarding Perry Samuel**

At 2:00 p.m., February 7, 2010 Gary Jenkins will show his film, "Negroes to Hire: Slavery in Missouri," at the Peter's Theatre at William Jewell. The documentary film features excerpts from the WPA narratives that were collected in 1936 – 1938 throughout America from people who had survived slavery. The genealogy branch of the Mid-Continent Public Library in Independence contains three volumes of slave narratives that relate only to Missouri.

As incomprehensible as the life of slavery is to us in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, through primary sources like the slave narratives we can still get glimpses of how it was practiced – from the big cotton plantations in the Deep South or on smaller farms in Missouri that harvested hemp, tobacco, wheat and corn.



The James Farm was typical of most Clay County farms in 1842 which produced hemp. Robert and Zerelda James moved onto the homestead that year and in 1846 they purchased 180 acres. They farmed 100 acres and rented out 80 acres. Besides hemp, which yielded approximately \$70 a year, they also grew corn, raised hogs and sold wool from their sheep. They did this with the help of six slaves, one of whom, Charlotte, age 30 in 1850, accompanied Zerelda from Kentucky.

By 1845 Reverend Robert James had raised enough money to build a new brick church for the New Hope congregation. To do this, he donated the labor of two of his slaves.

According to the 1850 census, Robert James had acquired five slaves, all of them children; Nancy, age 11 and Alexander, age 9, who were sold in 1851; Maria, age 8, Mason, age 6 & Hannah, age 2.

The 1860 census shows Charlotte, age 40, Maria, now 18, a 16 year-old girl, a 13 year-old boy, an 8 year-old girl, a 3 year-old boy (Ambrose) and a boy just 1 year of age.

In 1868, when Perry was born, Charlotte was 48 years old. Maria was now 26 and the 16 year-old slave girl was 24. One of the younger women fled the farm, leaving the child in Charlotte's care. It has been surmised that Reuben Samuel was Perry Samuel's father, but Perry could also have been fathered by Frank, age 25 or Jesse, age 21.

Although Emancipation had been declared in 1863, it was not that uncommon for former slaves to remain working on the farms on which they had grown up. Perry was trained to serve the Samuel family, alongside Ambrose, a former slave, eleven years older than Perry. In the 1880 census Ambrose was listed as a worker on the farm and the 11 year-old Perry was given the occupation of "servant," race, "mulatto."

During the Pinkerton raid on the farm on January 25, 1874, the "servants" who slept that night in the kitchen and witnessed the devastation of the bomb, were Charlotte, 54, Ambrose, 18 and Perry, 6.

Perry married twice, first to Little Harris of Holt, Missouri on June 14, 1893. Presumably they lived

at another location. Little died in the late 1890s and Perry returned to the farm. He served as Zerelda's housekeeper for a while. Stella James recalled that he "managed her home very smoothly for her. He was farm-hand, cook, houseboy and maid for her, and drove for her whenever she needed to leave the farm." Everything changed when he married Susie Willis of Liberty on August 2, 1900. According to the 1900 census, Perry listed his mother's place of birth as Kentucky and his father's place of birth as Missouri. Dr. Reuben Samuel, like Zerelda, had been born in Kentucky. Both Frank and Jesse James were born in Missouri.

Shortly after his marriage, Perry and Susie moved to Omaha. In 1920 they were living in the Wilmott Addition of Liberty with their two daughters, Dora and Allie.

Zerelda died in 1911 but Perry's ties to the farm and the James family remained strong. Robert Hall recalled he had "many meals at the same table with Perry." He continued to visit the James farm to hunt groundhogs with Jesse Hall, his half nephew. Perry worked as a teamster for a flourmill in Liberty. He also made his movie debut in 1920, playing himself in "Under the Black Flag" an unforgettably bad movie made by Jesse Edwards James for Mescro Pictures. Perry died in 1936 and is buried at Fairview Cemetery in Liberty.

*Article by Christie Kennard  
President of the Friends of the James Farm*

### **News from Members and Friends**

We have word that **Jim Beckner's wife Judi** had a complete knee replacement and the operation went well. Jim is renewing his lecture circuit with a PowerPoint presentation on the 16 remaining Confederate Veterans Homes in the United States which will be given Thursday, February 11, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the Trailside Center, 9901 Holmes Road, Kansas City, Missouri.

Our President **Mike Calvert** has asked us to use his home E-Mail address for Round Table business and other communication from now on. His E-mail address is mwcal53@aol.com.

We have received word that **Terry Chapman**, a longtime supporter of the Alexander Majors Home,

died on January 10, 2010. We send condolences to Victoria Chapman.

Another of our members, **Dennis Garstang**, spoke to the Westerners group in January on the "Dodge City War." The February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting will feature Erin Pouppirt who will present a program on "Female Espionage." The March 9<sup>th</sup> program is John Rotterman speaking about "Jesse James." The Westerners meet at the Homestead County Club in Prairie Village, KS at 7:00 p.m. for dinner at a cost of \$22. To make a reservation, call Ann Schultis at (816) 741-2897 or E-Mail her at this address [aschultis@hotmail.com](mailto:aschultis@hotmail.com).

We appreciate all the presentations made at the Open Round Table in January. **Richard Ham** was kind enough to share his extensive research on Carry Nation.

Our Kentucky correspondent, **Nancy Hitt**, is organizing an event on April 10<sup>th</sup> at the Springhill Cemetery at Harrodsburg, Kentucky, to honor six of Quantrill's men who were killed in Kentucky in 1865.

The Civil War Museum at Wilson's Creek, Republic, Missouri, is getting a makeover to digitize its holdings for researchers who want to access its wealth of information. Our friend and museum historian **Connie Langum** says, "It's much easier for researchers and for folks who want to publish if we can provide them with a digital image." In addition, the computer can digitally remove dirt and oils accumulated over time. "It's my job to preserve them in perpetuity," Langum says. This information appeared in *Ozarks First* on January 12, 2010.

Our newsletter editor **Dennis Myers** voiced his opinion in the January 20, 2010 issue of *The Examiner* in support of Independence mayor Don Reimal's stand on opening council meetings with prayer. He ends his letter with the exhortation, "Please do not give up or give in!"

Our member, **Garry Noland**, is said to be a "rebel who works off the grid" in a full page article in the Arts section of the *Kansas City Star* on January 24, 2010. Garry lives in Independence but works out of studio in the West Bottoms. He is shown with an

installation called "Stacked Sets," which he started in 2005 and continually changes. It is part of his selected retrospective, "Unorganized Territory," at the UMKC Gallery of Art.

Our member and friend **Don Ross** was speechless upon receiving the Lifetime Member Award from the Independence Chamber of Commerce at its 89<sup>th</sup> annual banquet. Don has been with the Independence School District for more than 40 years as a teacher, administrator, and most recently as Director of the District Foundation.

**Mike Stangel**, an E-Mail correspondent with the Round Table, was wondering what the feelings are today among Round Table members who had ancestors who fought in the Civil War. In reading some of the articles about the atrocities committed on both sides, especially among the civilian population, he wondered if you heard stories told by your grandparents which affected your view of "the enemy." You probably have heard about the story of a young Harry Truman who enlisted during World War I and visited his Confederate grandmother while wearing his blue uniform and was told not to appear in her house again in that uniform. If you would like to reply to Mike, you can reach him at [mrjastangel@att.net](mailto:mrjastangel@att.net).

### **The William Clarke Quantrill Society**

This non-profit corporation is 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 more information, please visit: [www.geocities.com/quantrillsoc](http://www.geocities.com/quantrillsoc) or send an E-mail to [wcqsociety@aol.com](mailto:wcqsociety@aol.com).

### **Save the Little BLUE Buttons**

Just \$1.00 each

