



The Border Star

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

• Founded 1992

• Incorporated 1994

"Studying the Border War and Beyond"

September 2010

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

2010 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 ----- 15.00
Family ----- 25.00
Student (under 21) ----- 5.00
Newsletter Only (no meetings) 10.00

For Information

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Independence, MO 64055

Website

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 150th Anniversary on April 12, 2011 is just 216 days away, as of the date of our next Round Table meeting on Sept. 8, 2010.

President's Letter

I have been reading a new book called *General Jo Shelby's March* by Anthony Arthur, a fairly good account of Shelby's story after the surrender (not Shelby's) of the Trans-Mississippi area. The book tells the story of not only Shelby and his men but also the intertwining stories of other figures such as Thomas Reynolds, Sterling Price, Kirby Smith and Prince John Magruder. These stories starting me thinking why didn't Shelby and the others not just surrender.

While we don't know for certain what was in their minds the one motive we can all agree on as a possibility is that they felt they weren't defeated. Shelby's unit had command structure and discipline two essential elements of an effective fighting force. What else might have been a motivation not to surrender to the Federal authorities?

A look at history will tell us how a defeated enemy was treated by the victor in a civil war. History is rife with examples of the victor obliterating his opponent. The phrase "to the victor goes the spoils," often meant your head. Whereas, Shelby didn't have to worry about actually losing his head he did have to worry about execution or at least a long jail sentence. Shelby had good reason to suspect these fates. Charles Brownlee, an aide to Shelby, captured near Boonville in 1863 was tried, convicted as a spy and sentenced to death. He escaped and rejoined his command. At the end of the war he returned home to surrender thinking his sentence would no longer be enforced. On May 10, 1865 Brownlee was executed. After the war other men were incarcerated and died while in prison.

A couple of examples of what could happen, but by and large the majority of the Confederate soldiers signed a loyalty oath and went home to lead lives as respected citizens,

Why is it that the United States could fight a bitter internecine war one side being defeated, not without incidents of retribution, but by and large reconcile with each other and become brothers once again? Was it our ability to compromise? Was it one soldier's respect for his brother in arms? Was it the example of Grant and Lee? Was it just that people were just tired of all the killing and dying?

More questions than answers. Maybe you have another reason. It's complicated. I'm just glad that we found "...the better angels of our nature."

"The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battle-field, and patriot grave, to every living heart and hearth-stone, all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature." **Abraham Lincoln**, First Inaugural Address.

~Mike Calvert, President, Civil War Roundtable of Western Missouri

CWRTWMO Calendar

September 2010 Meeting

Wednesday, September 8, 2010 – 7:00 p.m.
Villages of Jackson Creek (lower level),
3980-A S. Jackson Drive, Independence, MO
Mike Calvert: The Civil War in St. Louis, MO

September Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 15, 2010 – 7:00 p.m.
Home of Beverly Shaw, 17313 E. 51st Terr. Court,
Independence, MO

Trip to Jefferson Barracks Cancelled

Because we did not have enough reservations to warrant taking a bus, we are cancelling the trip for September 18-19, 2010. Maybe we can try this trip again in the future.

Other Event

Abraham Lincoln Exhibits at National Archives

Friday, Aug. 28, 2010 - Friday, Sept. 24, 2010.
“Abraham Lincoln: Self-Made in America.” Free traveling exhibit from the Lincoln Museum.

Friday, Aug. 28, 2010 - Saturday, Oct. 30, 2010.
“Lincoln Lives On.” Free exhibit created by the National Archives using original letters, signed documents, photographs, etc. from local sources.

Location: 400 W. Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO.
Exhibits open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday. Closed Sundays, Mondays and Federal Holidays.

Lee and Grant Exhibit - Carthage, Missouri

Wednesday, Sept. 1, 2010 – Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2010. Powers Museum, 1617 W. Oak, Carthage, MO. Open Tuesday – Saturday – 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Open Sunday – Noon – 5:00 p.m. Special hours for the Maple Leaf Festival Oct. 12-16 – open until 6:00 p.m. Free with special events throughout Carthage. See article or visit their website at www.powersmuseum.com.

Archaeology Month Events – September, 2010

Boonville: Exhibits at Boone’s Lick State Historic Site, 12 miles NW of Boonville, off Highway 87 on Highway 187. Open-air exhibit panels which interpret 19th Century salt works started by sons of Daniel Boone.

Carthage: Tuesday, September 14, 7:00 p.m.
“Civil War Battlefield Archaeology at Pea Ridge” by Lyle Sparkman. Carthage Library, 612 S. Garrison Ave.

High Ridge: Thursday, Sept. 2, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
“The Endeavors of Captain William J. Buxton” by Eric Smith. Events of the Civil War in Jefferson County, MO. Northwest Branch Library, 5680 State Road.

Lexington: History and Archaeology Exhibits at the Battle of Lexington State Historic Site, 1300 N. John Shea Drive, Lexington, MO.

Liberty, Mo. Walking Tour

Saturday, September 4, 2010 – 10:00 a.m. Meet at the Clay County Archives, 210 E. Franklin, Liberty, MO to walk to the Jewell-Lightburne National Register District. Free.

Lamoni’s 8th Annual Civil War Days

Saturday and Sunday, September 4 - 5, 2010.
Central Park and Period Town Square at Lamoni, Iowa. Saturday Period Battle at 3:00 p.m. Sunday Battle at 1:00 p.m. For complete schedule go to www.civilwardays.org. Of special interest on Saturday at 7:00 p.m. is the 40th wedding anniversary of Jean and Del Warren, “Greedy War Profiteers” who own James Country Mercantile, 111 N. Main Street, Liberty, MO 64068 (if you want to send a card). Jean recently presented the “Undercover Story” at our Round Table meeting.

Weapons of the Border War - St. Joseph, MO

Wednesday, September 8, 2010 – 1:30 p.m. Joyce Raye Patterson Senior Center, 100 S. 10th Street, St. Joseph, MO. Local historians and re-enactors Steve Gingery and Don Wright will bring examples of weapons, some unique to this area. Free with light refreshments.

Jackson County History: Slavery and Border Wars

Thursday, September 9, 2010 – 7:00 p.m. South Independence Branch of the Mid-Continent Library, 13700 E. 35th Street, Independence, MO. Barbara Hughes presents the vignette of Ann Everett using music, Power Point and historical replicas. Register at (816) 461-2050.

Lincoln in the National Archives

Thursday, September 9, 2010 – 6:30 p.m. National Archives, 400 W. Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO. Military archivist and author Trevor Plante of the National Archives in Washington, DC will discuss records created during Lincoln's presidency, his assassination, and its aftermath. Reception at 6:00 p.m. Please register at (816) 268-8010 or at www.kansascity.educate@nara.gov. You can view the two Lincoln exhibits prior to the talk.

The Men of Westport

Saturday, September 11, 2010 – 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. 1855 Harris-Kearney House, 4000 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO. A.G. Boone, John Sutter, Jim Bridger, John Calvin McCoy and Alexander Majors tell their stories. Watch a gunfight and listen to a debate. Meet the wives and get a feminine perspective. Free.

Lawrence: Survivors of Quantrill's Raid

Tuesday, September 14, 2010 – 7:00 p.m. Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont Street, Lawrence, KS. Local historian and author Katie Armitage shares her research on the lives of those who survived Quantrill's 1863 massacre.

Whistler's Link to Civil War History

Tuesday, September 14, 2010 – 7:00 p.m. Cass County Civil War Round Table. Cass County Public Library, 400 E. Mechanic, Harrisonville, MO. Jim Beckner and Linda Lawrence share the stories of the renowned artist, James Abbott Whistler, and the Civil War exploits of his Brother, William Gibbs Whistler. Free.

Frontier Revolver Shoot Out – 8:00 a.m. until High Noon. Saturday, September 18, 2010 – 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. registration. James Farm, 21216 James Farm Road, Kearney, MO. Cap and Ball Revolver or Frontier Cartridge Revolver. Replicas OK. \$15 entry fee. Fixed sights and dueling stance only. Prizes will be Jesse James medallions.

Thunder on the Border - Missouri Town 1855

Saturday, September 18, 2010 – 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Missouri Town 1855 in Fleming Park. The antebellum architecture provides the perfect backdrop for pre-Civil War hostilities of farmer against farmer and family against family. Located at 8010 East Park Road at Lake Jacomo. From

Highway 291 take Colbern Road east to Cyclone School Road. Then north to East Park Road, past the Native Hoofed Animal Enclosure to Missouri Town. If coming from Highway 7 in Blue Springs, go south to Cowherd Road. Then west to East Park Road. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for Youth and Seniors and Free for children under 5.

Fort Riley's Open House – Apple Days

Saturday, September 18, 2010 – 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Fort Riley Scofield Circle Artillery Parade Field, Fort Riley, Kansas. Historic re-enactments of the first Territorial legislature. Period music by the Territorial Troubadours. Generals' Mounted Color Guard performs Cavalry maneuvers. Over 1,000 apples pies for sale.

Freedom Festival – Osawatomie, Kansas

Saturday, September 18 and Sunday, September 19, 2010. John Brown Memorial Park, 10th and Main, Osawatomie, KS. Re-enactment of the Battle of Osawatomie when John Brown and 30 Free State guerillas fought John Reid and 250 pro-slavery militia on August 30, 1856. Civil War weapons and drill demonstrations, first person narratives of Territorial Kansas. Frontier artisans. Free.

Outlaw Tales of Kansas

Monday, September 20, 2010 – 7:00 p.m. Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont Street, Lawrence, KS. Author Sarah Smarsh reads from *Outlaw Tales of Kansas: True Stories of the Sunflower State's Most Infamous Crooks, Culprits, and Cutthroats*. Free.

Lincoln and Kansas

Thursday, September 23, 2010 – 6:00 p.m. National Archives, 400 W. Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO. Author Carol Dark Ayres covers the visit of Lincoln to Kansas in December, 1859 to give his first campaign speech for the presidency. Free.

Living History Festival – Ray County Museum

Saturday, September 25, 2010 – 9:00 a.m. Ray County Museum and Fairgrounds, 901 West Royle, Richmond, Missouri. \$5 for adults. Children 14 and under are free. See flyer.

Pilot Knob Living History Re-enactment

Saturday and Sunday, September 25 and 26 – 8:00 a.m. Fort Davidson State Historic Site, Pilot Knob,

MO. Battle Re-enactment at 1:30 p.m. both days.
Visit www.arcadiavalley.biz.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, September 28, 2010 – Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road,
Prairie Village, KS. Tom Rafiner: "The Civil War
in Cass County." Dinner - \$25. For reservations
call Paul Gault at (816) 741-2962.

Clay County Historic Homes Tour-Liberty, MO

Saturday and Sunday, October 2 - 3, 2010 – 1:00 –
5:00 p.m. 25th Annual Historic Homes Tour. \$10
tickets may be purchased at the Clay County
Museum or James Country Mercantile in Liberty.
Homes and buildings are all antebellum: Pharis
Farm, Colonel Routt House, Stone-Corbin Home,
Jesse James Bank Building and Woodneath. Co-
chairs are Karen Wells and Carolyn Hatcher.

Elmwood Cemetery Picnic

Saturday, October 2, 2010 – 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Elmwood Cemetery, 4900 E. Truman Road, Kansas
City, MO. Picnic lunch provided by Lon Lane's
Inspired Occasions. Activities for children and
guided tours available. Preview of *Elmwood
Cemetery: Stories of Kansas City* by Bruce
Mathews. RSVP Requested. See Beverly Shaw for
reply card: (816) 225-7944 cell.

Nominating Committee

It's that time of year again when we consider the
officers and board members to lead the Civil War
Round Table of Western Missouri. The year of
2011 is especially important because it's the official
start of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War even
though people living on the border of Kansas and
Missouri know that the conflict actually began
much earlier than that.

Terry McConnell has agreed to chair the
nominating committee and would be glad to hear
from you if you wish to offer yourself or another
member as an officer or board member. Attached to
this newsletter is a list of those currently serving.

The board does not meet again until September 15th,
and he would like to present a slate at that time so
that it can be published in the *Border Star* prior to
our November 10th election meeting. Terry can be

reached at (816) 461-0640 or by E-mail at the
following address: t.mcconnell9261@att.net

Commemoration of the Union Prison Collapse

On Saturday, August 14, 2010 a group of people
from various Civil War study groups met at the
Native Sons (now Native Sons and Daughters of
Greater Kansas City) marker on the southeast
corner of 15th and Grand, Kansas City, Missouri to
commemorate the collapse of the Union Prison and
resulting deaths of several Confederate women
prisoners on August 13, 1863.

From the commemoration program:

"On this day in history, a tragedy took place in
Kansas City, Missouri. That Friday at 2:00 p.m., the
Union jail collapsed killing four women outright:
Josephine Anderson, Charity McCorkle Kerr,
Armenia Crawford Selvey and Susan Crawford
Vandever. A fifth woman, Caroline Younger, died
in 1865 from her injuries. Many other prisoners
were injured and crippled. These southern women
were being held for allegedly aiding Missouri
guerillas. A young boy, Jephtha Selvey, son of
Armenia Selvey, was also being held at the prison at
the time of the collapse."



Harold Dellinger

Lee and Grant Exhibit at Powers Museum

The Powers Museum at 1617 W. Oak, Carthage, Missouri, is proud to be the host of the traveling exhibit "Lee and Grant" from September 1st through October 20, 2010. In addition to this nationally known exhibit, they are also sponsoring various speakers and events throughout the showing. There will even be a special Monday, Labor Day, opening from Noon to 5:00 p.m. on September 6, 2010.

The Boylan Foundation has given a grant to the Powers Museum to allow the Civil War Chautauqua to be presented free to the public but tickets will still be needed for each performance due to limited seating at the Stone's Throw Theatre at 796 S. Stone Lane just west of the Powers Museum/Municipal Park on old Route 66. Call the museum at (417) 237-0456 for reservations. If you have the time, this would be a wonderful opportunity to spend several days in Carthage and take in the cultural offerings like our 19th century ancestors used to do at the retreat at Chautauqua, New York.

Sept. 17, 2010 - 7:30 p.m. - General Robert E. Lee's New Hat (Lee portrayed by Norman Joy)

Sept. 18, 2010 - 7:30 p.m. - General Ulysses S. Grant (Grant portrayed by Dave Dickerson)

Sept. 19, 2010 - 7:30 p.m. - Mary Boykin Chestnut (Chestnut portrayed by Dianne Moran)

For a complete schedule of events please go to www.powersmuseum.com.

News About Members and Friends

WE HAVE A WINNER! **Jim Beckner** has been selected for the Governor's Award by the Missouri Humanities Council out of the hundreds of nominations from all over Missouri. He will receive the award on October 13th at Stephens College in Columbia.

Frank Haight of the *Independence Examiner* wrote an interesting article on August 20, 2010 about **Jim Beckner** and **Linda Lawrence**, both members of our Round Table, who found that they had a common interest in the Whistler family. Linda is a distant relative of the American artist James Abbott Whistler (best known for his portrait of his mother),

and Jim was familiar with his brother, William Gibbs Whistler, who became a Confederate surgeon. Hear the whole story at the Cass County Civil War Round Table meeting on September 14, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the Cass County Library, Harrisonville, MO.

We are sorry to report that the Civil War community has lost two dedicated scholars.

Patrick Brophy of the Bushwhacker Historical Society in Nevada, MO died on July 9, 2010 and **Douglas D. Seneker**, an expert on the Battle of Lone Jack, died at Mt. Vernon, MO on August 10, 2010. **Beverly Shaw** would like to thank the Round Table and other individuals for the lovely cards expressing condolences on the death of her mother, Mary Wheeler, in Independence, MO on July 31, 2010.

The August 13, 2010 issue of the *Independence Examiner* gave the background for "A Tombstone for Boldridge" at Woodlawn Cemetery on August 14, 2010. Boldridge was a black man in a time of deep segregation but his skills as a horse trainer and the service he provided "went beyond race," says local historian and Round Table member **Annette Curtis**. He lived in the late 1800s and early 1900s, the age of horses. Curtis goes on to say that "trained horses were very important. Before cars, everyone depended on horses. You wanted a well-trained horse to ride or on your carriage or wagon. If they weren't, they can tip you over."

Dwight Frizzell was pictured playing his clarinet in the August 26, 2010 issue of the *Kansas City Star*. He gave us a program on the "Irish Wilderness" at our Christmas party at the Old Blake several years ago. Dwight is an associate professor of photography and digital filmmaking at the Kansas City Art Institute and grew up in Independence where his mother **Vesta Frizzell** still lives.

Bob Grover recently helped charter a new chapter of the Society of the War of 1812 named for Captain Daniel Morgan Boone. An article in the August 21-23, 2010 issue of the *Independence Examiner* gives the background of Captain Boone and shows a picture of the new officers. Bob is serving as Deputy President/Chaplain.

Lou Harms was so impressed by author **Cheryl Harness'** program at the Midwest Genealogy Library that he bought 21 of her children's books and donated them to the Lutheran School Association Library at Cole Camp, Missouri. A newspaper article about the donation says that "Harness has an uncanny knack for making history fun. She breathes life into the past via a strong narrative and child friendly illustrations." The books were autographed by the author and given in memory of Lou's wife, Mary.

At our "movie night" in August we were glad to welcome new member, **Gwen Mondulick**.

A year-long period of festivities began in June 2010 in Boonville, MO to commemorate the First Battle of Boonville. **Mary Ellen McVicker**, our guide and hostess several years ago when we took a daytrip to Boonville, is the Commission co-chair. She said in the June 17, 2010 issue of the *Boonville Daily News*, "One hundred forty-nine years ago today on this very ground, you would not be smiling. You might see people bleeding to death." A new marker on Main Street sits on what used to be the Vollrath Farm, where part of the battle took place.

The **Alexander Majors Home** at 8201 State Line Road, Kansas City, MO is now open for tours on weekends from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. You can call Interim Executive Director Kenny Howard at (816) 223-5008 to volunteer to serve as a guide to tell the story of the legacy of Alexander Majors.

Dennis Myers is being honored for his six year commitment to the City of Independence as a member of the Heritage Commission. We want to thank Dennis for his dedication to local preservation.

You just can't escape the Civil War even if you travel to Canada. **Steve and Carol Olson** found this out in June and brought us the clippings to prove it. The *Toronto Sun* told of the time "When the war came north." It's the story of the St. Albans raid of 1864 when Jim Fouts stopped in front of the City Hall of St. Albans, VT and announced, "In the name of the Confederate States of America I take possession of St. Albans and its citizens." Another clipping from the *Community Press* of Trenton,

Ontario, revealed the "shocking discovery" of a Confederate flag made out of metal at the end of a country road.

Kathy Pickering represented the Missouri Association of School Nurses on August 24, 2010, as a member of the panel on the Walt Bodine radio program to talk about the modern role of school nurses.

Richard Stewart was not able to move to Arkansas as he had planned in order to oversee the Quantrill Collection but will have further news soon.

Charles and Mary Lyn Childs brought us some clippings from Warrensburg back in June which reveal that "Wet warriors show dry humor" because of the excess rain at the Holden, MO re-enactment. There was a picture of Del Warren outside his James Country Mercantile tent. He said, "I do this 42 times a year and sometimes rain happens."

Steve Warren of Overland Park, KS was recently awarded the United Daughters of the Confederacy Jefferson Davis Historical Gold Medal for his TV documentary "Last Raid at Cabin Creek" and his book, *Brilliant Victory: The Second Civil War Battle of Cabin Creek, Indian Territory*.

Personal Guide to Chapel Hill and Berlin

Chris Cooper, Civil War researcher and archaeologist, is willing to offer free tours of lesser known communities in Lafayette, Pettis, Saline, Johnson, and Bates counties. He is available during the week or on weekends except September 11th and September 16-20. He is also always glad to receive information you might have such as genealogy or local history of pre-Civil War sites in Vernon, Barton, and Cooper counties as well. You may reach Chris at cooperhill1856@comcast.net or by phone, (816) 833-1214.

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 their NEW website at www.wcqsociety.com or E-mail wcqsociety@aol.com for more information.

Ray County Museum

Living History Festival and Reenactment

Saturday, September 25, 2010 – Gate opens at 9 a.m.
Admission: \$5 per person – 14 years old and under free



- ❖ Watch the Confederates, guerillas and Union reenactors recreate the local Battle of Fredericksburg and the Battle of Albany with units from the 6th Missouri Calvary, Landis Artillery, 2nd Colorado and the Irish Brigade. Experience the magnitude of these battles as cannons explode and the smoke from weapons fill the air!
- ❖ Be on hand and Jesse James and the Younger gang ride back into town to replay the robbery of the Richmond bank.
- ❖ See Native American lodges and view demonstrations by the Indian Council of Many Nations.
- ❖ Talk with participants in period costumes portraying characters from the past as they entertain and educate the whole family.
- ❖ See demonstrations of crafts from the 1800s including iron mongers and iron forgers.

It all happens Saturday, September 25, 2010 beginning at 9 a.m.

**Ray County Museum and Fairgrounds
901 West Royle, Richmond, Missouri**

Additional Information

www.raycountyhistoricalsociety.com * 816-776-2305 * raycountymuseum@yahoo.com

FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR THE RAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Historic Lexington, MO

Old Homes Tour

Saturday, September 18th and Sunday, September 19th

Open Saturday – 10:00 a.m.

Open Sunday – Noon

Homes Close at 4:00 p.m.

1836 Waddell-Burstert House-Oldest Wood Frame House on the Santa Fe Trail

Tour interiors of five distinctive homes dating from the 1830s to the 1920s in historic Lexington, MO

Includes the 1853 Anderson House and 1898 Immaculate Conception Church

Shuttle buses with guides run from the Lexington Tourism Bureau to all stops on the tour

\$12 in advance (\$11 in advance for groups of 10+) \$14 on day of tour

Purchase advance tickets by mail order or credit card online
(a convenience fee will apply to credit card purchases)

More information at www.VisitLexingtonMo.com or call (866) 837-4711