



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"

July-August 2008

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

2008 Officers

President ----- Mike Calvert
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2nd V.P. ----- Art Kelley
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Steve Olson Carol Olson
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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.
Old Blake Museum - 106 E. Walnut
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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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 1007 days away, as of the date of our next Round Table meeting on July 9, 2008.

On bivouac in Martinsburg

I have now done what every American should do if at all possible. I went to Washington, D.C. and yes I did all of the tourist things exactly as you should do on your first visit. It was a Sunday so the Capitol Building wasn't open and I missed out on tickets to the top of the Washington Monument. Just a note to those of you who wish to go to the top of the Washington Monument you will have to stand in line starting at 7:00 a.m. in order to get your ticket. The Park Service only lets a certain number of visitors a day inside the monument. Sadly our nation's capitol is much different than it was prior to that day in September. You can't take a tour of the White House unless you contact your congressman at least six months in advance. You can't just walk into the Capitol Building. You have to go to the visitor's center in order to get a ticket for a guided tour. You can't get closer than two blocks to the White House.

There are three monuments I want to tell you about: The Viet Nam, Korean and WWII memorials. Each one is entirely different from the other and each one demands a different response from its visitor.

I'll start with the Viet Nam Memorial the oldest of the three. We all know what it looks like but, if it is your first visit like mine you may not be prepared for how it will affect you. To me the physical structure is impressive and evokes many emotions. The sheer size and all the names etched on black stone are not to be forgotten. However, it is the interaction between people to the monument and people to each other I found most moving. Passing down the walkway you overhear veterans recounting the past and families remembering lost loved ones. Believe it or not the area tends to be full of conversation and not a silent reverent area one might expect. This memorial entices one to remember what we as a people have often tried to forget.

The Korean Memorial is 19 slightly larger than life statues of soldiers arrayed as if on patrol. Next to the statues is a wall of black granite with actual pictures of soldiers etched into it. You stand next to these silent vigilant figures and the area is hushed and quiet as if one doesn't want to alert the enemy that the figures are searching for. The scene puts you in the middle of the conflict. In some ways it isn't a heroic monument as we have seen other monuments but it is. It tells us that war is not always fought on grand vistas but, in tiny 19 man patrols. It tells us that ordinary men fight battles, that war is personal and those closest to you are your protectors and you are theirs.

The WWII Memorial is large, grand and spectacular just as the event it memorializes. It reflects the global reality of this war. For all of its size it still reminds us of the people and the sacrifices made by the people to defeat tyranny. To me the most impressive and moving part is the wall with 4048 golden stars. Each star represents 100 Americans who died in this war. Second, would be the relief sculptures at the entrance way. Each panel depicts a different aspect of the war and recognizes the sacrifice made by both soldiers and civilians. This memorial reminds us that WWII was all encompassing and if you lived in that time it affected every aspect of your life. When I get back I'll show you my pictures. In the meantime use the internet and visit the websites dedicated to these three memorials and plan your visit. Being in the midst of these memorials to human sacrifice and heroism is an experience you will not soon forget. That's all for now. See you soon.

Mike Calvert, President
The Civil War Roundtable of Western Missouri

CWRTWMO Calendar

July Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, July 9, 2008 – 6:00 p.m.

Picnic at the Lawson Moore House at
20309 E. Blue Mills Road, Independence, MO
Tour of the Lewis-Gregg Cemetery.

No Board Meeting in July and August

Missouri/Kansas Border War Network

Saturday, July 19, 2008 – 10:00 a.m.

Harrisonville, MO. Instruction on using iRiver
sound reproduction for Podcasts. Let Beverly Shaw
know if you would like to attend (816) 225-7944.

August Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, August 13, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.

Old Blake Museum, 106 E. Walnut, Independence,
MO in the patio area (weather permitting) to show
the movie “Bad Blood.” Popcorn & soft drinks too!

Other Events

Bingham-Waggoner Estate July Display

313 W. Pacific, Independence, MO.

“From Baden Powell to Now,” an international
collection of Boy Scout memorabilia.

3 Trails Historical Search Team

Tuesday, July 8, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.

Mill Creek Park Shelter House #2, 1717 N. River
Blvd., Independence, MO.

Westerners July Meeting

Tuesday, July 8, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.

Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road,
Prairie Village, KS. Dinner is \$20. Call David
Huckett at (913) 217-7768 for reservations.
Program: Roy Slavin – “The Pottawatomie Trail
of Death.” Mr. Slavin is a Pottawatomie descendant.

Blue Springs Historical Society Quilt Show

Saturday, July 12, 2008 from 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 13, 2008 from 1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

Dillingham-Lewis Museum, 101 S. 15th Street,
Blue Springs, MO. Park on Main Street and enter at
the north door. Donations suggested.

Archival Databases and Research Catalog

Saturday, July 12, 2008 – 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Harrisonville, MO Library Computer Lab.

Limited seating. Call (816) 884-6285 for
reservations. Presented by Kimberlee N. Ried,
Archives and Education Specialist with the
National Archives Central Plains Region. Free.

Nathan Boone Homestead July Showcase Saturday

Saturday, July 12, 2008 – 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

7850 N. Hwy. V, Ash Grove, MO

Tim Field: “Frontier Medicine.” Medicines,
Treatments, and Cures available to the Boones.
See article below.

Ladies Sentiments and Victorian Tea

Saturday, July 12, 2008 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Battle of Lexington State Historic Site.

Displays and crafts such as friendship albums,
journals, quilts, silhouettes, and fancy-work.

Tea will be served at the Anderson House from
1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Learn the language of fans. Free.

CWRT of Kansas City July Meeting

Tuesday, July 22, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.

Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission

Road, Prairie Village, KS. No dinner during the
summer months. Col (Ret) Ed Kennedy, Life

Member of the U.S. Horse Cavalry Assn. –

“Cavalry War Horses 1861-1865.” See article.

Fresh From The Farm

Saturday, July 26, 2008 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Battle of Lexington State Historic Site. Seasonal
produce to taste and purchase. Butter making and
period games. Free.

Nathan Boone Homestead

Saturday, July 26, 2008 – 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Jean Warren of James Country Mercantile:

Seminar on “Textiles From the 1820’s-1900.”

Sunshine Center at Ash Grove, MO. Donations
accepted. Hands-on and interactive. See article.

Meet the Author - Stephen Kirk

Monday, July 28, 2008 – 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Harrisonville Genealogy Library.

Discussion of 350 page book on the 6th Texas
Cavalry. Call (816) 884-6285 for information.

Bingham-Waggoner Estate August Display
“The King is Here – Elvis Memories”

Bates County Historical Society
Saturday, August 2, 2008 – 10:00 a.m.
802 Elks Drive, Butler, MO.
Jim Beckner – “Irish-German Immigrants in the Civil War.”

Battle of Athens Reenactment
August 2-3, 2008 – 2:00 p.m. Sat. / 1:00 p.m. Sun.
Battle of Athens State Historic Site in extreme Northeast Missouri near Revere, MO. See www.mostateparks.com/athens.htm or article below.

Two Day Trip to Lincoln Presidential Library
August 5-6, 2008. Springfield, Illinois.
Sponsored by St. Joseph Museums, Inc.
Begins at 7:00 a.m. on Tuesday and returns at 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday. \$218 per person/double occupancy. Single occupancy is an additional \$41.66. Trip begins in St. Joseph, MO. Deadline is July 4, 2008. For info or reservations call (816) 232-8471.

Battle of Lexington State Historic Site
Saturday, August 9, 2008 – 7:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Stargazing with the K.C. Astronomical Society.
Program in the theater followed by observing stars through telescopes set up on the battlefield. Free.

3 Trails Historical Search Team
Tuesday, August 12, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.
Mill Creek Park Shelter House #2, 1717 N. River Blvd., Independence, MO

Lone Jack Commemoration – 146th Anniversary
Saturday, August 16, 2008.
Lone Jack Battlefield Park. Memorial Service and a fun-packed day.

Civil War Round Table of K.C. August Meeting
Tuesday, August 26, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.
Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road.
Prairie Village, KS. No dinner during summer.
Jackie Roberts’ first person presentation of Margaret Drake Griffith who lived in Dayton, Cass County, MO in January 1862 when her life was changed forever.

Lamoni, Iowa 6th Annual Civil War Days
August 29-30-31, 2008. Maximum Effort Event on 38 acres near the town square. See www.civilwardays.org. Admission is free.

Shiloh, A Field Tour of the Great Battle
September 19-21, 2008. Sponsored by the Civil War Round Table of the Ozarks. More information to follow.

Quantrill Society Annual Reunion
October 11, 2008. Oak Grove, MO.
More details to follow.

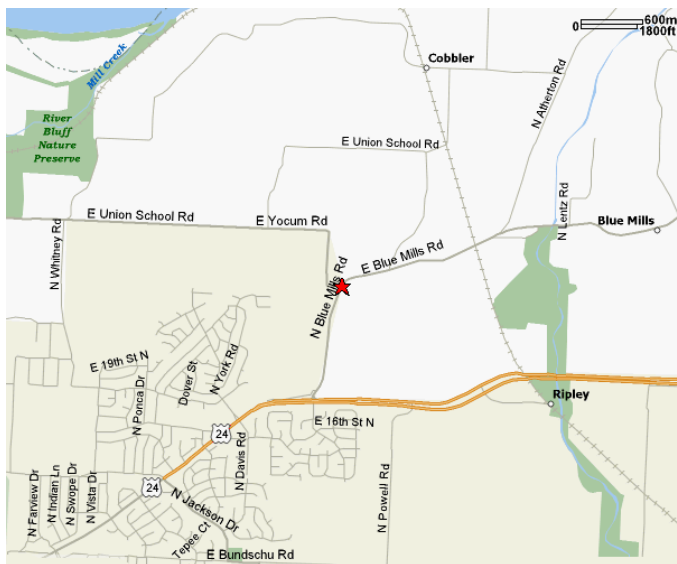
July 9th Picnic At The Lawson Moore House

Our July meeting will be a potluck picnic at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 9th at the antebellum Lawson Moore House at 20309 E. Blue Mills Road (north of 24 Highway). Parking will be in the open area between the Lawson Moore House and Fran Mason’s home at 20405 E. Blue Mills Road. There is a separate entrance between the two properties for parking. In case there is wet weather which would make the area too muddy for parking and enjoying an outdoor picnic, we will postpone the picnic until Wednesday, July 16, 2008.

The Round Table will provide fried chicken and beverages, and everyone else is asked to bring a dish to share and their own plates and service. Please also bring lawn chairs and TV trays or card tables for an outdoor picnic on the lovely grounds of the Lawson Moore House which was used as a hospital during the Battle of the Little Blue.

Our hosts are Sara and Daniel Kaleikau who are Mike and Cindy Calvert’s daughter and son-in-law and soon to be grandchild. We will not have a tour of the interior of the home, but Fran Mason will be sharing her research on the history of the house which she and the late Lucky Mason lovingly restored. We will then take people to the Lewis-Gregg Cemetery by van to see the Revolutionary War burial site of Nathaniel Lewis and hear the story of this historic cemetery by descendant Mark Wealand.

(See map on next page)



Lawson Moore Home, 20309 E. Blue Mills Road

Lincoln Appears At The Truman Library

On June 19, 2008, Lincoln presenter Bud Green traveled from Versailles, Missouri with his escort David Kesinger of Warrensburg to share with us stories of Abraham Lincoln and the link between the Border Wars and Order No. 11 with the Harry Truman family.

Bud pointed out that Harry was told by his Grandmother Young not to wear his federal World War I uniform into the house or speak of Abraham Lincoln in her presence. The reason is that the family had to leave their home during Order No. 11.

In addition to presenting our program, Bud also gave us five copies of reproductions of *Harper's Weekly* during the Civil War and one copy of *The Southern Illustrated News* from June 20, 1863. He also brought a display of Civil War books and Lincoln mementos to share. Lee Ward also braved the rain to bring Lincoln memorabilia from his private collection which he displayed in the lobby near the musical concert of Civil War era music given by John and Dianne Lehman.

Bill Worley was not able to be with us in person because of a change in his Chautauqua schedule, but he very kindly provided a working paper which Beverly Shaw presented about Abraham Lincoln's attitude toward slavery and the ultimate Emancipation.

Weekend Trip To Wilson's Creek

The Round Table welcomed 21 new and old members to enjoy the trip to Wilson's Creek National Battlefield at Republic, Missouri south of Springfield on June 21-22. Those traveling were Karen and Delbert Coin, Harriett Lionberger and Charlotte Tindall, Beverly Shaw and Bonnie Thompson, Sharon and Art Kelley, Terry McConnell, Pat Gradwohl and Karen Wells, Carol and Steve Olson, Mike and Linda Garrison, Mary and Kurt Black, Ronald Taylor and Kim Adams, Ruth Walton, and Van Wiskur. If you have pictures from the trip, please bring them to share at the picnic on July 9th.

Connie Langum certainly gave us the VIP treatment during our tour, and the weather was dry until just a little shower caught up with us on Bloody Hill but we were just about finished for the day. Thanks to Karen Coin for making the food and motel arrangements, to Beverly Shaw for accepting the reservations and paying the bills, and to Art and Sharon Kelley for our name badges. A special treat on our way home was a fried chicken dinner at the Baer House at Osceola, Missouri. We are already thinking about where we want to go next year.



(Additional Wilson's Creek photos on next page)



The Ray House Used as a Hospital



The Ray's Spring House Used as a Hiding Place



The Wire Road for the Telegraph Route and Overland Stage

Midwest Genealogy Center Opening

The Mid-Continent Library's new genealogy center at 3440 S. Lee's Summit Road, Independence, Missouri, was opened to the public on June 21st, and "we were there."

Historical groups were invited to host a table, and Dennis and Dorothy Myers report that we had a prime location on the main level near the refreshment table and the information counter. To the right was the sitting room and fireplace where there was musical entertainment by the likes of Millie Edwards, jazz singer who also was a classmate of Dennis'.

Jerry Tjelle from the Round Table also plays with a dulcimer ensemble who appeared later, and Bob Grover was in full uniform with the Sons of the American Revolution. We provided free copies of newsletters and membership applications, and Dennis says they were constantly busy telling people what the Round Table does in the way of education about the Civil War. We also trotted out the old warhorse "Trivia Board" which often elicits comments from people who think they know local Civil War history. Thanks also to Connie McQuain and Sue Valentine who finished out the day.



Our Table at the Midwest Genealogy Center Opening

The new genealogy branch has a series of programs that you might like to attend. Please register in advance by calling (816) 252-7228 because they will probably fill up fast.

A few upcoming programs at the genealogy center:

Tues., July 8th, 7:00 p.m. "Writer's Block." Group discussion of the writing and publishing of family history. One and one-half hours.

Sat., July 12th, 9:30 a.m. "Fix My Photos." Introduction to digital photo restoration. Diana Rickel will talk about what you can rescue and what you can do to preserve what you have now.

Tues., July 15th, 10:00 a.m. "Ten Year Count: Census Research." The census process, what information was gathered and common errors in reading and interpreting data.

Tues., July 22nd, 10:00 a.m. "Writer's Block." See above.

Sat., Aug. 9th, 9:30 a.m. "It's Not on the Internet: Using Library Sources." Learn about genealogy resources not yet in cyberspace.

Tues., Aug. 12th, 7:00 p.m. "Writer's Block." See above.

Tues., Aug. 19th, 10:00 a.m. "Where in the WWW are they? Beginning Internet Genealogical Research." Evaluating websites.

Thurs., Aug. 21st, 7:30 p.m. "Beginning Genealogy with Andrew McKinley." Procedures, skills, and techniques for beginning a search.

Tues., Aug. 26th, 10:00 a.m. "Writer's Block." See above.

Cavalry War Horses

On July 22nd the Kansas City Round Table presents Ed Kennedy, Life Member of the U. S. Horse Cavalry Association. He will talk about the phenomenal use of horses during the Civil War for not only the cavalry but also the field artillery and quartermaster corps. He will share the capabilities and shortcomings of cavalry horses which are essential to understanding how thousands of soldiers carried out their duties during the war.

Lewis-Gregg Cemetery

On Saturday, June 7, 2008, the Lewis-Gregg Cemetery received a new, wider gate. Special thanks Harry Rinacke who knew what to do and saw that it got done! The work may have been completed without Harry but it would have taken all day vs. two hours! In addition Pat Gradwohl, Mark Wealand, Dorothy Myers and Dennis Myers assisted with this project along with removing sticks and working on a sign for the cemetery.



Harry Rinacke installing the new gate at the Lewis-Gregg Cemetery

Nathan Boone Homestead Programs

The story of Nathan Boone and his family is being interpreted at a new Missouri state historic site near Ash Grove, Missouri. Nathan was a son of Daniel Boone and worked as a surveyor and explorer. A very active "Friends" group is sponsoring programs at the homestead this summer. On July 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Tim Field will be talking about what medicines, treatments and cures were available to the Boones. Sometimes the cure was as dangerous as the ailment.

Their very first seminar will be held July 16th at 10:00 a.m. at the Sunshine Center at Ash Grove. Jean Warren from James Country Mercantile will be sharing her knowledge of textiles, clothing and sewing techniques of the era. Gary Morris will also demonstrate the Boone Loom for an hour before and after the seminar. Donations are welcome.

Battle Of Athens

First of all, we understand that “Athens” in Missouri is pronounced with a long “a” so as not to confuse it with Athens, Greece. It is known as the northernmost Civil War battle fought west of the Mississippi River. Located on the Des Moines River, 19th century Athens boasted about 50 businesses including a large mill and a large brick hotel called the St. Louis on the waterfront. Col. David Moore occupied the town with his pro-Union forces from July 24th to October 31, 1861. On August 5th, Moore’s force of under 500 men repelled Col. Martin Green’s pro-South State Guard of about 2,000 men who were trying to rescue the town from Union occupation. Today this State Historic Site administers the remaining buildings in the town including the Thorne-Benning House which was pierced by a cannonball during the battle. The Holmes Brigade endeavors to make The Battle of Athens a very authentic experience with living history as well as battles and military camps. To get an idea of the detail of such reenacting you can go to www.mostateparks.com/athens.htm.

“Quindaro”

The June 26th issue of the *Kansas City Star* had a large picture of a new sign being installed at the overlook near the north end of 27th Street in Kansas City, Kansas. The caption was “Working on a better look at history.” This is the first step in making the Quindaro Ruins more tourist-friendly and will show a better view of the former abolitionist settlement on the steep hillside near the Missouri River which includes the stone remains of two hotels, a newspaper office, a brewery and residences. Abandoned for more than 100 years, the area thrived from 1855 to 1862 as an abolitionist community that helped slaves find their freedom. At its height, it may have been home to as many as 5,000 residents and 100 businesses. There is also a statue of John Brown nearby which is pictured in our *Monuments* book. By the way we have free inserts for your original *Monuments* book which shows the Routt House in Liberty or we have a revised copy of the book available for \$12.

Civil War Photography Contest

This summer the Civil War Preservation Trust is again teaming up with The History Channel and the Center for Civil War Photography to sponsor a

national photography competition to promote appreciation of America’s Civil War heritage. For the first time all entries will be submitted digitally via an on-line interface, allowing more people to participate than ever before. The deadline for entries is August 31, 2008. For all the rules and categories for entries, go to www.civilwar.org/photocontest.

News Of Members And Friends

Our President, **Mike Calvert**, hopes to return home about July 21st from his extended work project at Martinsburg, West Virginia. He already has some speaking engagements lined up with the Civil War Discussion Group on August 20th to talk about the last gunfight on the Independence Square and with the Carlyle Center in Lee’s Summit. On August 28th he will be speaking about the First Battle of Independence and on October 21st at 2:00 p.m. he will be talking about the Battle of the Little Blue.

Dennis Myers has been doing some reconnaissance work to locate the Union Prison Collapse marker. He found that it is now on the southeast corner of westbound Truman Road at Grand Boulevard. It sits in a small, park-like area with flowers and a border. There is not any close public parking, but the marker faces northeast so as you sit at the stop light it can easily be read.

Congratulations to **John Dillingham** for his success in getting a bust of Alexander Doniphan added to the Hall of Famous Missourians in the Capitol in Jefferson City. John spoke to the Round Table at the Truman Library in 2007 about his favorite northlander. The bust will be unveiled at 7:00 p.m. on July 9th at Gano Memorial Chapel at William Jewell College on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of Doniphan’s birth. John is chairman of the Clay County Millennium Historical Board.

During our bus trip to Wilson’s Creek on June 21st we were happy to share *The Examiner* article about **Betty Key** and the lovely photo of her with her award-winning hand-made dress called the Leopard Goddess. Betty’s artistic gifts with clothing dovetail with her interest in the Civil War. She and Ted Stillwell are our hosts at the Old Blake Museum for our monthly meetings and a pickup point for our tours. The Blue & Grey Book Shoppe is also a wonderful resource for publications about the Civil War.