



# *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"*

**April 2005**

## **The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri**

### **2005 Officers**

*President* ----- Tim Cox  
*1<sup>st</sup> V.P.* ----- John Martin  
*2<sup>nd</sup> V.P.* ----- Art Kelley  
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 Don Moorehead Pat Dye

### **The Border Star Editor**

Dennis Myers  
 410 N. Cogan Lane  
 Independence, MO 64050-2006  
 (816) 769-6490

### **Meetings**

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month - 7:00 pm  
 Old Blake Museum - 106 E. Walnut  
 Independence, Missouri  
**Visitors Always Welcome!**

### **Annual Dues**

*Individual* -----  
 15.00  
*Family* ----- 22.50  
*Student (under 21)* ----- 5.00  
*Newsletter Only (no meetings)--*  
 9.00

### **For information:**

Tim Cox ----- 478-8833  
 Beverly Shaw ----- 478-



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 2190 days as of the date of our next Round Table meeting, Wednesday, April 13, 2005.

### **I'VE SEEN THE ELEPHANT, AND. . .**(Thoughts from Tim Cox, President)

I've seen the elephant...and so will everyone who participates in our upcoming "Mid-MO German Civil War History Tour." Research has been done, telephone calls made, and email messages have been sent. I believe we are now ready; wagons ho on Saturday, April 30, at 7:15 am from the Price Chopper Combo parking lot!

For your convenience, we do have a flyer accompanying this publication stating the scheduled chronology of events. Therefore, I'll not repeat this information but do want to share a few words with you regarding some thank yous, planning details, etc.:

\* Many thanks to Robert Frizzell. Mr. Frizzell is the current Library Director at Northwest Missouri State University. He wrote an article sometime back about the Confederate raids on the German communities at Concordia and Emma. Robert very kindly shared information about these conflicts and referred me to Donald Dittmer of Concordia, for help in telling the story there. Mr. Frizzell may participate in the tour.

\* Many thanks to Donald Dittmer. Donald, along with Robert Frizzell, is a descendent of the German Americans who were attacked by Dave Poole (my ancestor), and guerrilla friends. Mr. Dittmer has agreed to provide color commentary to our tour in Emma and Concordia by showing us points of interest, including the "killed by rebels" tombstones.

\* Many thanks to Bob Owens. Bob, will be our tour guide in Cole Camp. As you will recall, Bob provided the great Cole Camp Round Table presentation we had a few months back. He has graciously made our reservations at the Der Essen Platz restaurant, arranged our entrance onto the grounds of the Heisterberg and Harms farms (Battle of Cole Camp site), and will help us retrace the steps of the Confederate route into Cole Camp from Warsaw.

\* Many thanks to Jean Warren, of James Country Mercantile, Inc. Jean, a long-time reenactor and sutler of Civil War goods and supplies, has a great interest in early German settlement in Missouri. While she will be unable to attend the tour, she will be there in spirit. Last year, she purchased a CDV of Herman and Meta Heimsoth of Benton County (Cole Camp's county), as well as obtaining a good deal of that family's history. Mr. Heimsoth was in the Benton County Home Guard, may have fought at The Battle of Cole Camp, and is buried in town.

The great part of this news is that Jean will share a copy of the picture, and the information. This means we'll get to do some original, primary source research, on the fly, in Cole Camp, hopefully with the help of Bob Owens. It is just great when people share unselfishly and give of themselves. Thanks again Jean.

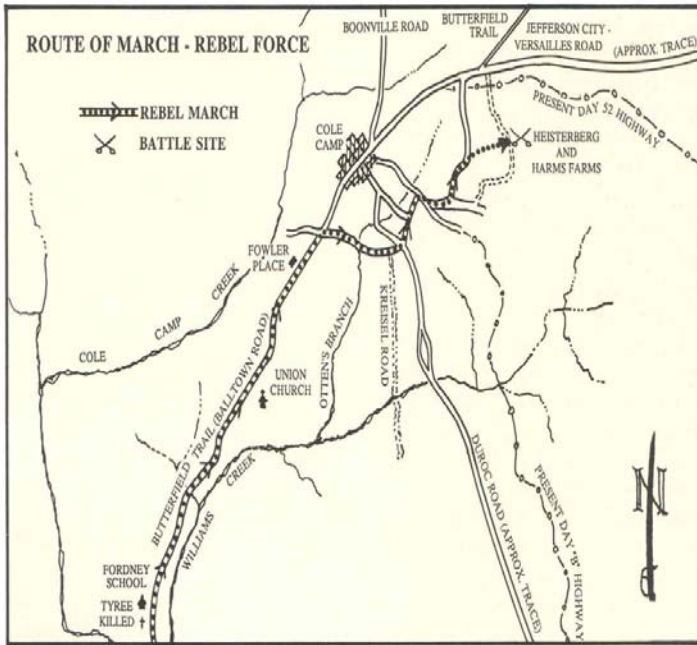
\* You are not obligated to dine at Der Essen Platz. We'll have pricing and meal info next week at the Round Table meeting for this eatery. However, there is nothing wrong in bringing a sack lunch if you so choose. In fact, everyone should probably bring snacks, coolers with drinks, and elephant trunks for the day's activities.

\* Please call me, any Board member, or any Regular member, about car pooling if you are having difficulty arranging a ride. I'm sure we can accommodate everyone.

\* If avoidable, please do not bring low riding sedans. While we can easily access the battleground, Bob Owens tells us we may need to go slow in some places, therefore taller vehicles may be more desirable.

\* We will stop in Marshall and other places on the way back home, as time allows.

## Cole Camp



The approach march of the rebel forces. After crossing Cole Camp Creek, near Balltown, they traveled along the Butterfield Trail, which generally follows the trace of present-day "F" Highway. Circumventing Cole Camp posed little problem because of the network of trails south of town, which were probably all considered part of the Duroc Road net.

## Calendar

### CWRTWMO – April Regular Meeting

Wednesday, April 13, 7:00 p.m.

Program: "American Battlefield Protection Program" and Wilson's Creek by Connie Langum (Midwest Coordinator, ABPP, with NPS)

Old Blake Museum – 106 E. Walnut Street  
Independence, MO

### CWRTWMO – April Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 20, 7:00 p.m.

17313 E. 51<sup>st</sup> Terr. Court, Independence, MO

### History Expo 2005

Thursday, April 21 – Saturday, April 23

Central Plains Conference on History  
Doubletree Hotel, 10100 College Blvd.  
Overland Park, KS

### Guardians of the Little Blue Battlefield

Monday, April 25, 7:00 p.m.

Blue Hills Elementary School  
1911 N. Blue Mills Road  
(Just north of Blue Mills Road and 24 Highway)

### Field Trip - Concordia and Cole Camp

Saturday, April 30, 7:30 a.m.

Meet at Noland Road & I-70 Price Chopper

### CWRTWMO – May Regular Meeting

Wednesday, May 11, 7:00 p.m.

Program: "Guerrillas in Elmwood Cemetery"  
by Richard Stewart

Old Blake Museum – 106 E. Walnut Street  
Independence, MO

### Lunch and Learn, City of Independence

#### *Historic Preservation Month Event*

Tuesday, May 17, 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Program: "Civil War Independence"

by Tim Cox and Round Table – Location:  
Sermon Center, Truman and Noland Roads,  
Independence, MO, North Meeting Room

### Little Blue Battlefield Tour

#### *Historic Preservation Month Event*

Saturday, May 21, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Meet at Old 1859 Jail, Truman Road and Main Street

### CWRTWMO – May Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 25, 7:00 p.m.

17313 E. 51<sup>st</sup> Terr. Court, Independence, MO

### CWRTWMO – June Regular Meeting

Wednesday, June 8, 7:00 p.m.

Program: "Mine Creek Battlefield State Historic Site: The Untold Story" by Orvis Fitts, Kansas City Round Table.

Old Blake Museum – 106 E. Walnut Street  
Independence, MO

### CWRTWMO – June Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 15, 7:00 p.m.

17313 E. 51<sup>st</sup> Terr. Court, Independence, MO

### CWRTWMO – July Regular Meeting/Picnic

Wednesday, July 13, 7:00 p.m.

PICNIC! - Ripley Junction Park – Little Blue  
Independence, MO

### CWRTWMO – August Regular Meeting

Wednesday, August 10, 7:00 p.m.

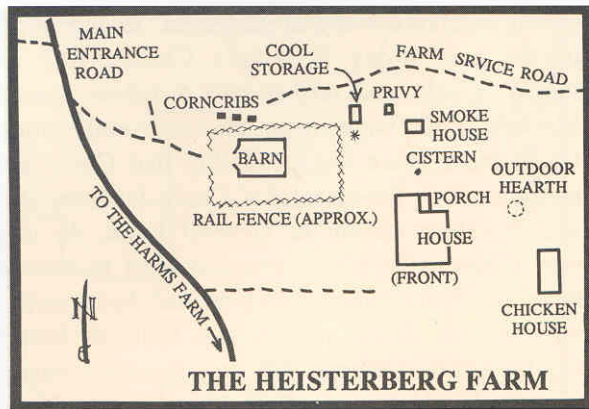
CEMETERY TOUR! – Fairview Cemetery  
Liberty, MO

### CWRTWMO – October Regular Meeting

Wednesday, October 12, 7:00 p.m.

Program: Quantrill of Missouri: The Making of a  
Guerrilla Warrior by Paul Petersen  
Old Blake Museum – 106 E. Walnut Street, Indep., MO

## Cole Camp



The Heisterberg farmstead as it was in 1861. Here the initial attack at Cole Camp was launched. The second phase of the battle took place just south of the barn. All locations have been firmly established except the exact trace of the rail fence and one corncrib.

## Dues and Subscriptions

by Beverly Shaw

If you have not already paid dues or a subscription rate for *The Border Star* for 2005, please do so at the April meeting or send a check to CWRTWMO, 17313 E. 51<sup>st</sup> Terr. Court, Independence, MO 64055. Dues rates are \$15.00 for an individual or \$22.50 for a family. The subscription rate for those who cannot attend meetings is \$9.00 per year. We will not be able to send the May 2005 newsletter to those who have not responded by April 30, 2005.

## Symphony Designers' Showhouse

Thank you to all the members who have told Beverly they will be docents at the Symphony Designers' Showhouse on April 28<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at 5300 Belleview (just west and south of the Plaza in Kansas City, MO). Those who arrive early will be able to tour the house before their shift begins and their location will be rotated during the event so they can see all aspects of the house. If you need a ride from Independence, please call Beverly at (816) 478-7648.

## Cole Camp

The three photos in this newsletter identified as "Cole Camp" were taken from the book, *Here We Speak Low German*, published by the City of Cole Camp, Missouri

in Commemoration of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Community. Editors are Leonard Brauer and Evelyn Goosen. Copyright 1989.

## Missouri's Ten Most Endangered Historic Places

by Tim Cox

On March 15<sup>th</sup>, application was made through the Missouri Alliance for Historic Preservation to get the Little Blue Battlefield accepted as one of Missouri's Ten Most Endangered Historic Places. Keep your finger crossed on this, but if we get accepted, hopefully we can bring state-wide attention to the threatened status of this battlefield. The results should be announced by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you to Vicki Nave, Dennis Myers and Wendy Shay for helping get the application in on time.

## History Expo 2005

The Central Plains Conference on History is being held at the Doubletree Hotel in Overland Park, Kansas, 10100 College Blvd. Our group will be sharing a table with the Westport Historical Society in the Hospitality Suite on;

Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> -- 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> -- 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> -- 8:30 a.m. to Noon

We will be able to sell our "Monuments" book and visit with history teachers from Kansas and other interested people. We need a few volunteers to help staff our table for the following shifts:

Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> -- 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

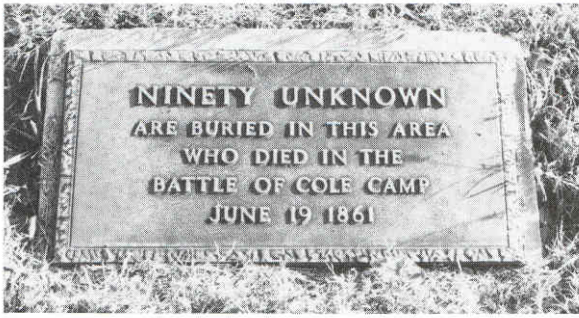
Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> -- 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> -- 8:30 a.m. to Noon

You will be able to visit the tables of other historical groups and exchange information. Please call Beverly at (816) 478-7648 to reserve a time to work. Directions; From I-435, take Exit 81 (69 Highway South). Go south on 69 Highway to College Blvd. Turn left (east) on College Blvd. and the hotel is on the left.

For additional information about this event, please visit; [http://www.kshs.org/involved/technical/KHTA\\_2005.htm](http://www.kshs.org/involved/technical/KHTA_2005.htm). (Be sure to put an underline character (shift dash) between KHTA and 2005).

## Cole Camp



One of two “mass graves” in the area, reportedly containing the bodies of about one hundred and seven Union Home Guards. At Union Cemetery, ninety are reportedly buried and seventeen are reported buried at Immanuel (Monsees) Lutheran Cemetery. Documentation to verify these graves or the number of bodies in them has not been found as of this time, nor do these numbers coincide with other reports, leaving open the questions of just who and how many are buried in these graves. The answer to these questions must await future research.

## Interesting Websites

The City of Independence, Missouri offers Historic Preservation information at their new website: [www.independencemo.org](http://www.independencemo.org). Click on “Departments” (left side) and then “Historic Preservation” (below the listing for Community Development). The site assists in identifying historical architectural styles, contains information about walking tours, has historic preservation resources, many forms, information about local historic sites and related preservation links. To list a preservation related event, please call Wendy Shay, Historic Preservation Manager, (816) 325-7419 or you may E-mail Wendy at; [wshay@indepmo.org](mailto:wshay@indepmo.org).

Another public website is Missouri’s Military History database at [www.sos.mo.gov/archives/soldiers](http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/soldiers). This site allows you to find service cards for military members starting with the War of 1812 and going through World War I. You may also obtain a listing of all who served in a particular fighting unit or during a certain military conflict.

## Historic Preservation Month

The City of Independence’s Heritage Commission, The Jackson County Historical Society, Preservation Renaissance of Independence (PRI), and the City’s Historic Preservation Manager, Wendy Shay are all working to coordinate events to celebrate May as

Historic Preservation Month in Independence. Please help with your participation in the two events our group

will be assisting (see information/calendar in this newsletter) and watch for other May events to highlight Historic Preservation Month.

## Pisgah Cemetery

Brian Smarker, with occasional assistance from John Martin, presented our March Round Table program concerning the unmarked Union soldier graves at Pisgah cemetery, near Excelsior Springs.

Brian spoke of the 2nd Colorado soldiers buried at Pisgah, whose deaths were the result from action at The Battle of Fredericksburg, near the cemetery.

Efforts are underway by the Sons of Union Veterans to mark the location of the burials with a memorial. An installation event is tentatively scheduled for July.

The highlight of the presentation though, was the offer of a chunk of red granite, from Rex Stark. Mr. Stark had recently purchased the block of stone and offered it to the Sons of Union Veterans for the Pisgah Cemetery memorial.

We’ll be sure to keep in touch on this development. Thank you to Brian Smarker and John Martin, and thank you to Rex Stark.

## Meeting Site

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri meets at the Old Blake Museum, 106 E. Walnut Street, Independence, Missouri (northeast corner of Walnut and Main). Parking for the meeting is at any street parking near by and a few spaces across the street at the Plasterers’ Union building, 301 S. Main. Please do not use any other private parking.

## The Missouri Irish Brigade

For information about the Missouri Irish Brigade, please E-mail the MIB at; [jpbairkc@yahoo.com](mailto:jpbairkc@yahoo.com) or visit their website: <http://www.geocities.com/missouriirishbrigade/index.html>

## Little Blue Memorial Wall

by Tim Cox

We've got free land, and the promise of free excavating and masonry construction work. All we need now are materials!

Wow, so much has happened recently concerning the Little Blue Memorial Wall Project! I sense some real momentum starting to build but we still need you, the community, to help.

If you'll recall, this writer had observed a picture of a new Memorial Wall commemorating the Battle of Kinston, in North Carolina. Using this image as a starting point for discussion, we mulled over the idea of constructing a similar structure at The Little Blue Battlefield, both at Guardians meetings and Round Table meetings.

Below is an outline of the progress on this project, accompanied by three Memorial Wall sketches:

\* On March 25, Beverly Shaw, Don Moorehead and I met with Jackson County Park officials. They have contributed a portion of their land (namely the east bank of the Little Blue River, just south of the current 24 Highway bridges at Ripley Junction, in the Little Blue Trace Park) for construction of The Little Blue Memorial Wall! Many thanks to Ron Fuhrken and Bruce Wilke of Jackson County Parks for their contribution.

\* We'll need to make the structure as maintenance free as possible.

\* We'll need to build the wall on a larger scale than that of the Kinston model.

\* We've been given transportation access for trucks and vehicles during the construction phase.

\* We'll probably need to make the wall out of masonry material.

\* We'll probably use metal letters which will roughly contain the following info:

Civil War Battle Site  
Price's Raid  
Battle of The Little Blue  
October 21, 22, 1864

\* We'll need to sign a Memorandum of Agreement with the County detailing any future obligations.

\* Mark Christianson, local mason, has agreed to help with excavating and masonry work.

Now begins the real fun: the designing, acquisition of materials and construction. Right now, taking into account the guidelines above, the sky is the limit on creativity. Please contribute your thoughts! Let's make this a community project! We'll be talking about this at future Guardian and Round Table meetings.

In the meantime, consider the accompanying drawings, submitted by Jay Bredwell, Dennis Myers, and Mark Swanson. Drafters, engineers, and others please submit your drawings for review. Lets piggyback off each other to come up with something real unique to honor the brave fighters at The Little Blue.

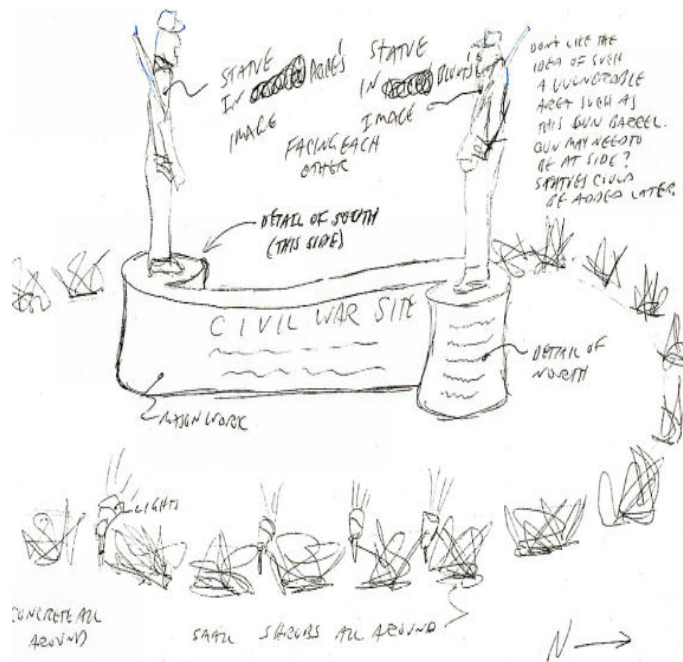
### Save the Little Blue Buttons

Just \$1.00 each

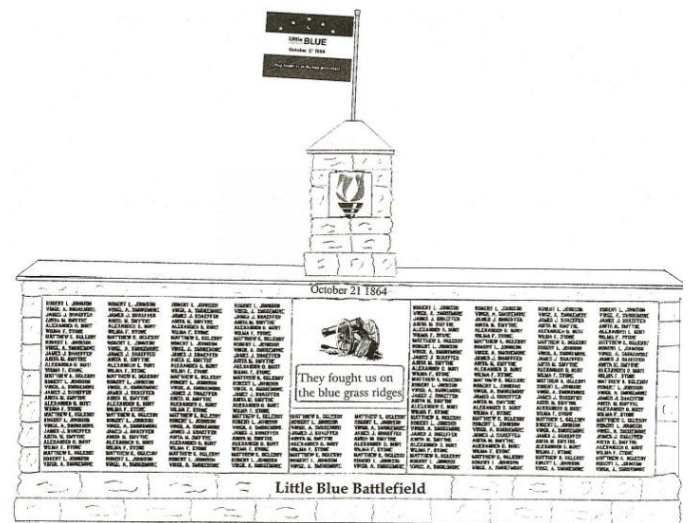


**The Battle of the Little Blue**

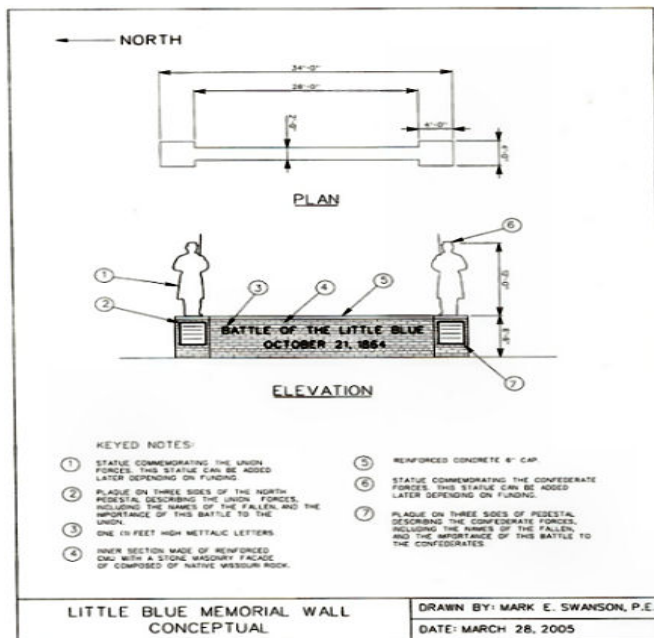
# Little Blue Memorial Wall



Jay Bredwell



Dennis Myers



Mark Swanson