



March 2004

The Border Star

Monthly publication of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri, Inc.

Officers for 2004

President

Timothy A. Cox

1st Vice President

-Open-

2nd Vice President

Arthur R. Kelley

Treasurer

Beverly J. Shaw

Secretary

Karen K. Wells

Historian

Paul Tate

The Border Star

Editor

Board Members

Dr. Gerald Anderson

Mike Calvert

Harriett Lionberger

Terry McConnell

Charlotte Tindall

Randall Todd

Meetings

Second Wednesday
of the month at 7 pm

Visitors

**Always
Welcome**

for more information

Tim Cox 478-8833

Beverly Shaw 478-7648

Art Kelley 373-4101

Welcome New Members

James Bair

Kansas City, Mo.

Michael Grossi

Independence, Mo.

Craig Hunt

Independence, Mo.

Dennis Myers

Independence, Mo.

Update on Monuments book...Only 28 color books remain. Over 100 of the B&W books remain. I have sent Mary Ann (Hazzard) Yoder her book and also sent one to the Linn County Historical Society at Pleasanton, Kansas. They had called to ask about the book in early January. The Mine Creek Battlefield and Visitors Center is just a few miles from Pleasanton.

Latest one mailed out went to Plattsmouth, Nebraska.

Page 4 of this newsletter is the script outline I was requested to submit to the Clay County Archives and Historical Library for the video taping of a program on the History of Liberty. I have tried to mention some of the more important items of this difficult era but am sure I left out something. Give it a look see and let me know.

My apologies for getting this issue out late. It has been a tuff week.

On the Calendar

March 2004

Wednesday, March 10th, 7 pm

Regular Monthly Meeting

~~Country Meadows Antique Mall~~
Community Room at Blue Ridge Mall

Program by Lori Cox-Paul
on the Wornall House

Wednesday, March 17th

Important Board Meeting

Topic: 501 (c)(3) Tax Status
At Beverly's

Tuesday, March 30th, 7 pm

Battle of the Little Blue meeting

Blue Hills Elementary School

1911 North Blue Mills Road

(just north of 24 Hiway & Blue Mills Rd.)

Wednesday, April 14th, 7 pm

Regular Monthly Meeting,

Community Room at Blue Ridge Mall

Program on the Battle of Lone Jack

April 1st, 2nd & 3rd
Lincoln's in KC Schedule

Thursday, April 1,

1:30 pm, Mt. Gilead School Historic Site, Kearney

Program for Home School Students (SOLD OUT)

1900 Hours, Bell Hall at Fort Leavenworth

April 14, 1865 Drama

Friday, April 2, in Northland Area

9:30 am, OPEN,

1:30 pm, Liberty Jr. High 8th Graders

7:00 pm, First Christian Church, Kearney

April 14, 1865 Drama (Seating limited)

Reception to follow in Fellowship Hall.

Period Dress Invited

Saturday, April 3, in Kearney

9:30 am, Children's Program

At new Kearney Fire Station

Tour of station follows program

Each student receives a coin purse with a new penny

At the Board Meeting

The Board did not meet in February because the President was going to a basketball game in Columbia that night and no other night worked out for enough of the others to have a quorum.

Minutes of previous meeting will be passed out at the next meeting.

Correspondence received since the last Board will be passed around at the next meeting

REPORTS...based on what data is known

Newsletter Report--100 printed. All were sent out and more had to be printed. Special thanks to Beverly for getting it copied and mailed out. She even got it done for less money than before. Bill submitted and paid.

Historian's Report--Sonny has been passing on to Paul items he has found as he cleans out his files.

Treasurer--Report submitted.

Coffee Fund--Beginning Balance for 2004. \$ 4.12
Spent for Febr. meeting \$ 7.34
In Donation Jar \$ 32.60--New balance \$ 28.38

2nd V. P.--Reported 38 present including 3 new members

1st V. P.--No Report.

President--Tim brought the Board up to date on the Grant Application process and announced the date of the next Little Blue meeting.

Once the grant is approved, we will have to get to work on the 501 (c) (3) application.

Tim reported he is looking for a new meeting place for our group. Several sites were brought up.

OLD BUSINESS

Tim brought up the possibility of a tour of the Little Blue Battlefield in October, which will be the 140th anniversary of the battle. The new Historian for the Westport Historical Society is trying to put something together. There will be a living history in St. Louis.

Sonny brought up the possibility of a tour in May for the Little Blue area residents. Tim is against that idea and it will be dropped.

There is still a possibility there will be a tour in May but it will not be a round table function.

NEW BUSINESS

As no meeting was held, no new business was brought up.

Sold a Monuments Book to a lady in Plattsmouth, Nebraska, last month..

Bits & Pieces

Little Blue Meeting

The next meeting of the Guardians of the Little Blue will be on Tuesday, March 30th, at 7 pm, at the Blue Hills Elementary School, located one block north of the stoplight at 24 Hwy and Blue Mills Road.

Among the items on the agenda will be the 501 (c)(3) IRS application and the fall tour.

Some Dues are still out

Beverly has requested those who have put off sending in their dues for 2004, to please do so now. It is time to finalize the mailing lists and the Emergency Call list.

You Never Know

I helped a woman at our church locate the property her kinfolk settled on in Clay County in 1827.

The next week she brought to me some rolled up documents and family papers she had found in a box they brought home when their aging mother moved in with them.

Their great-grand-mother and grand-mother had kept all 18 of the original family Land Grants and all the Deeds of Trust relating to land transfers and inheritances.

In addition, a hand drawn map of Old Liberty Cemetery, drawn by the grand-mother about 1875, and pasted up copies of most of the family obits from the old papers.

Pictures, with names of many of the old family and their homes.

The papers have been taken to the Clay County Archives and Historical Library where they will be copied, flattened out and returned to the family.

Family names involved include Joel and Anna Estes, (owned 6,000 acres), the Neff's, the Petty's, P. T. Soper and Peter C. Pixlee.

Changes

Due to failing health, the newsletter editor has had to step down, effective immediately. Your support and encouragement these past two years has been most appreciated.

IMPORTANT

Be Sure To Read Checking out a *possible* new meeting site

Beverly has located a possible new site to hold our meetings. We will meet at this site on Wednesday, March 10, to check it out.

The site is on the northeast corner of Shrank Road and 40 Hiway, in the Antiques Mall Building.

Shrank Road is the first stoplight east of Lee's Summit Rd. on 40 Hwy.

From the west--exit I-70 at Lee's Summit Road, go south to 40 Hwy., then east to the first stoplight. Turn left onto Shrank Road, then take a quick right into the parking lot.

From the east--Take Hwy 40 to the Shrank Road stoplight, take a right and then another quick right into the Antiques Mall parking lot.

Come early and visit the shops. Lots of neat antiques to see.

Meeting starts promptly at 7 pm, ends at 8:45. We must be out of the building by 9 pm.

Lots of free parking near the door.

Come in the center door, which faces west, take a right, go past the break room to the meeting room.

The program will be on the Wornall House. Lori Cox-Paul is the presenter.

This first meeting is free. There will most likely be a fee for future meetings.

Your opinion will be important.

The following is what I have submitted for a new video being made about
The History of Liberty

The Civil War Era in Liberty

Union troops occupied Liberty for most of the time from September 1861 to October 1864, mostly because Clay County was known for its Southern sympathies.

The events which made the headlines in that time are...

April 1861--The raid on the Missouri Depot at Liberty Landing, commonly known as the Liberty Arsenal. (Show wall of Blacksmith's shop)

September 1861--The Battle of Liberty. Although this battle is known by at least 3 other names, the Military Records show it as the Battle of Liberty.

April 1862--Rumors of a Confederate invasion caused the city to become fortified. Trenches were dug in the hills to the east and west of the city. The Federal troops even shut down all the local churches except one which refused to close. The invasion never happened.

August 1863--Order #11. Families escaping this infamous Order tried to settle in Liberty. They were met in the bottoms and turned away. The Richmond Observer noted the following in December of 1863...

July of 1864--The last Federal soldiers to be die while on duty were killed at the Engagement at Fishing River, near present day Kearney, then known as Centerville. They were based in Liberty as part of Kemper's 9th Mo. State Militia.

September-October 1864--Price's Great Missouri Raid. In support of the Confederate Army of The Missouri, guerrilla activity was very active. Many Southern families were banished, some went as far away as the Nebraska Territory.

Post War

Confederate Reunions were held every 5 years in Liberty for many years starting in 1881 and ending in 1928. (Show George Bandy's ribbons)

1904--The Confederate Soldier's Memorial in Fairview Cemetery was dedicated. There is no monument to Federal Soldiers in all of Clay County. Nuff said!!! (Show monument)

The Final Chapter of the War in Liberty

Summer of 1912--Soldiers buried in Mass Grave at William Jewell College removed to Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery. (Show site)

Fall of 1989--Grave of Thomas B. Hale, of Clay County, found in Union Cemetery in KC, some 35 miles from where he was hanged by Union troops for rounding up stray horses to sell to the Confederate Army.

May of 1993--The last section of over 1800 feet of trenches which once lined the slopes at William Jewell College were dug up and the Class of 1933 Marker was hauled away to make way for a flower garden and fountain. (Show artifacts from trenches)

May of 1994--New markers for the Mass Grave Site and Civil War Trenches were dedicated at William Jewell College on Alumni Weekend.