



# ★ *The Border Star* ★

Official Publication of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri  
"Studying the Border War and Beyond"

February 2017

## The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

### 2017 Officers

President ----- Mike Calvert  
1<sup>st</sup> V.P. ----- Pat Gradwohl  
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Charles Childs      Vonda Clark  
Michael Clay      Perry Johnson  
Melanie Johnson      John Moloski  
Don Moorehead      Barb Wormington  
Denis Wormington

### The Border Star Editor

Dennis Myers ~ (816) 769-6490

### Meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month  
7:00 p.m. ~ Fellowship Hall  
Village Heights Community of Christ  
Church  
1009 Farview Drive  
Independence, Missouri

### Visitors Always Welcome!

### Annual Dues

Individual ----- 25.00  
Family ----- 35.00  
Student (under 21) ----- 5.00  
Newsletter Only (no meetings) 12.00

### For Information

Mike Calvert ----- (816) 898-2603  
Beverly Shaw ----- (816) 225-7944  
Pat Gradwohl ----- (816) 781-8871  
Karen Wells ----- (816) 429-5165

### Mailing Address

CWRTWM, P.O. Box 3019  
Independence, MO 64055

### Website

www.CWRTWM.org

## *President's Letter*

The month of February is rich in important birthdays. George Washington and Abraham Lincoln come to the top along with several others (you know who you are.) Sticking with Ol' Abe I would like to bring out some of the myths that surround him. Some with a modicum of truth and others so far afield that you will question or should question what you read. Thanks to the ***President Lincoln's Cottage Blog*** for all the following information. (<https://lincolncottage.wordpress.com/2008/08/08/10-myths-about-president-lincoln/>)

*-Lincoln Owned Slaves – This is one myth that simply isn't true. Lincoln did not own slaves, nor did his father. Some of his wife Mary's relatives in Kentucky did own slaves, but Lincoln can hardly be held accountable for something his wife's relatives did before he even knew her.*

*-Lincoln was depressed – There is new scholarship on this topic (see Lincoln's Melancholy), but it's still debated. Many point to the obvious signs of aging and stress on Lincoln's face over the course of the war to show how he changed physically as a result of that stress. However, stress and depression cannot be confused as one and the same.*

*-Lincoln did not want to issue the Emancipation Proclamation, he was forced to do it. Though Lincoln did not believe he had the authority to issue a proclamation of emancipation at first, and was uncertain about whether issuing it would hurt the Union cause or strengthen it, the decision was his. Upon signing it Lincoln stated that his "whole soul is in it." He considered the victory at Antietam an indication of divine will that it was his duty to move forward in the cause of emancipation.*

*-Lincoln wrote the Gettysburg Address on the back of an envelope – There are five known manuscript copies of the address – though Lincoln may have hurried the writing job, scholars agree that he did not write the Gettysburg address on an envelope during his train ride to the speech.*

*-Lincoln had male lovers/Lincoln was gay – Some scholars dismiss even the possibility, others are more willing to entertain the notion, others take any hint of affection as proof of sexual interest. This is a particularly interesting topic at the Cottage because Captain Derickson, of the Presidential Guard who protected Lincoln here, is one of the men with whom some researchers today claim Lincoln was romantically involved. One of the pieces of "evidence" most frequently brought forward is Lincoln sharing a bed with Derickson. It must be remembered that grown men sharing beds in the 19th century was commonplace, and that then, as now, sharing a bed does not always equate to romantic involvement.*

Please keep the Board in mind as we start our planning for the New Year. That means we need your ideas for activities, speakers, tours, trips, etc. Thanks for your support!

*~Mike Calvert*

***President, Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri***

## CWRTWM Calendar

### February Membership Meeting

Wednesday, February 8, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall, Village Heights Community of Christ Church, 1009 Farview Drive, Independence, MO. Our board member, John Moloski, will be speaking about “The First Action of Frank James in the Civil War.”

If you have not paid dues for 2017, you can bring them to the meeting or send a check to CWRTWM, P.O. Box 3019, Independence, MO 64055. Dues are \$25 for an individual or \$35 for a family.

### Other History Events

Special Programs for Black History Month at the National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 W. Pacific, Independence, Missouri.

Every **Thursday** (February 2, 9, 16, and 23) a special Gallery Walk at 2:00 p.m. will explore how African Americans participated in westward expansion. Free with regular admission price (Adults-\$6, Seniors 62 & older-\$5, Youth 6-17-\$3, and 5 and under-Free).

Every **Saturday** (February 4, 11, 18, and 25) from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. visitors can use a special brochure to explore how African Americans contributed to settling the West.

On **Sunday**, February 5, the Museum will offer a special one-hour reading at 2:00 p.m. Bring the whole family for *Reading Tales from the West*, and discover stories of African American Pioneers in this escorted tour. Hear the letters of Gold Rush widow Rachel Brown and journals of other pioneers. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for children 6-17. **Advance reservations required by calling (816) 325-7575.**

Come for a brown bag lunch program on **Friday**, February 17<sup>th</sup>, for a free lecture about Stagecoach Mary Fields, an African American woman who made a name for herself in the West.

### Jackson County Genealogical Society

Saturday, February 4, 2017 – 10:00 a.m.  
Trails West Library, 11401 E. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Independence, MO. Ann Taylor will present a program on Hiram Young, an African American wagon builder and blacksmith in Independence. Visitors always welcome.

### Bleeding Kansas Program Series 2017

Sunday, February 5, 2017 – 2:00 p.m. Constitution Hall State Historic Site, 319 Elmore, Lecompton, KS. “Ride with the Devil: Hollywood and the Border Wars” by Dr. Carl Graves. Suggested Donation of \$3 for adults. In case of inclement weather, call (785) 887-6520 or (785) 887-6148 for confirmation. Series continues on February 12, 19, 26.

### Civil War in Jackson County

Tuesday, February 7, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.  
Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee’s Summit Road, Independence, MO. Gregg Higginbotham tells the story of the Civil War in Jackson County, Missouri and how the conflict turned neighbor against neighbor. RSVP to (816) 252-7228.

### Slavery in Little Dixie

Wednesday, February 8, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.  
Battle of Lexington State Historic Site, 1101 Delaware Street, Lexington, MO. Diane Mutti Burke, author of *On Slavery’s Border: Missouri’s Small-Slaveholding Households, 1815-1865*, will examine the nature of slavery in Missouri, particularly in the Little Dixie Region. She will also be available for book signing. Free.

### **Directions to Meeting Place;**

#### **Village Heights Community of Christ Church**

The address is 1009 Farview Drive in northeast Independence, Missouri. Take Highway 291 north to Highway 24. Turn east about .8 of a mile to Farview which is across the street from the Hardee’s in Susquehanna Shopping Center. Turn north and you will find the church at the intersection of Farview and Swope Drive. The parking lot is on the east side of the church, and we enter from the east side to the fellowship room. If you are unsure if weather and road conditions will prevent a meeting, you can call Beverly Shaw on her cell phone: (816) 225-7944.

### Cotton, Rag Dolls, and the Underground Railroad

Saturday, February 11, 2017 – 2:00 p.m.  
Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee's Summit Road, Independence, MO. Hear stories about the people who helped escaped slaves travel to freedom in the North and how rag dolls played a role. Then make a rag doll with creative touches. Ages 7 and up. Registration at (816) 252-7228.

Program will be repeated at the Antioch Branch 6060 N. Chestnut Ave., Gladstone, MO on Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 a.m. Register at (816) 454-1306.

### The Life of Harriet Tubman

Sunday, February 12, 2017 – 2:00 p.m.  
Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee's Summit Road, Independence, MO. Harriet Tubman was not only the Underground Railroad's most famous conductor, she also served as a Civil War nurse and spy and fought for woman's suffrage. Learn about this remarkable woman from Kristen T. Oertel, Professor of History at the University of Tulsa, and author of *Harriet Tubman, the Civil War, and Civil Rights in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century*. RSVP to (816) 252-7228.

### The Buffalo Soldiers: Their Epic Stories

Sunday, February 12, 2017 – 2:00 p.m.  
Central Library, 14 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, MO. Debra Sheffer of Park University will speak about the Buffalo Soldiers, black regiments in American wars beginning with the Civil War. Her book is called *The Buffalo Soldiers: Their Epic Stories and Major Campaigns*. RSVP to (816) 701-3407.

### The Life of Harriet Tubman

Monday, February 13, 2017 – 10:00 a.m.  
Lone Jack Library, 211 N. Bynum Road, Lone Jack, MO. RSVP to (816 ) 697-2528.

Program to be repeated at 7:00 p.m. at the Claycomo Library, 309 NE 69 Highway, Claycomo, MO. RSVP to (816) 455-5030.

### Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, February 14, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. Buffet Menu (about \$12) Golden Corral, 8800 N.W. Skyview Ave., Kansas City, MO (near Home Depot). Toby Giese (former Round Table member)

will speak about John F. Blake, 1880 graduate of West Point, 6<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Apache Campaign, 1880s-1890's.

### Cass County Civil War Round Table

Tuesday, February 14, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Pearson Hall, Cass County Library, 400 E. Mechanic, Harrisonville, MO. Dr. Michael Monaco (sideline doctor for the Kansas City Chiefs) will be "dressed out" to speak about Civil War Medicine. Free and open to the public with refreshments.

### Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, February 15, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Perkins Restaurant, 3939 S. Bolger Drive, Independence, MO (across from Walmart). Alan Troutwine will give a talk and demonstration about the hobby of model soldiers and setting up Civil War battle scenarios.

### Underground Railroad: The Who, What and Where

Saturday, February 18, 2017 – 10:00 a.m.  
Lee's Summit Library, 150 NW Oldham Pkwy., Lee's Summit, MO . Cultural historian Brother John shares the secret codes, symbols, agents, and songs of the Underground Railroad. Ages 8 and up. RSVP to (816) 524-0567.

Program will be repeated on Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. at the Woodneath Library Center, 8900 NE Flintlock Road, Kansas City, MO. RSVP to (816) 883-4900.

### Tales from the Black West

Saturday, February 18, 2017 – 2:00 p.m.  
Blue Ridge Library, 9253 Blue Ridge Blvd., Kansas City, MO. Saddle up for an interactive musical that not only debunks the myths of cow punching but also explores the life and times of the nearly 10,000 African American cowboys and cowgirls of the Old West. Ages 7 and up. RSVP to (816) 761-3382.

This program will be repeated on March 21<sup>st</sup> at North Oak and at South Independence on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

### Presidents' Day at the Truman Library

Monday, February 20, 2017 – 10:00 a.m.  
Truman Library, 500 W. US Highway 24 in Independence, MO. Fresh- baked presidential cookies to visitors with paid admission (Adults-\$8,

Seniors 65 & over-\$7, Children 6-15-\$3. Children 5 & Under-Free). From 10:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Harry Truman – as portrayed by Niel Johnson – will greet visitors and give occasional press conferences. For more information call (816) 268-8200.

#### Mid-Missouri Civil War Round Table

Monday, February 20, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.

Boone County Historical Society Museum, 3801 Ponderosa Drive, Columbia, MO. Roundtable Discussion of the “Best and Worst Civil War Movies.”

#### Finding Your Slave Ancestors

Saturday, February 25, 2017 – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00

p.m. Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee’s Summit Road, Independence, MO. The library and the Midwest Afro-American Genealogical Interest Coalition (M.A.G.I.C.) are presenting a workshop on how to research enslaved people. **Registration is required.** Call (816) 252-7228.

#### Civil War Round Table of Kanas City

Tuesday, February 28, 2017 – 6:30 p.m. – Dinner. (\$27). Holiday Inn and Suites, 8787 Reeder Road, Overland Park, KS. Sunset ballroom, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor. Dan Smith will speak about Edward F. Winslow, who led the 4<sup>th</sup> Iowa Cavalry at the Battle of Westport. Dan and Dick Titterington edited Winslow’s Civil War memoirs which they published in 2016. Dinner reservations must be made by **Thursday** Noon, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, by calling Susan Keipp at (816) 333-0025.

#### Civil War in Jackson County

Tuesday, February 28, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.

South Independence Library, 13700 E. 35<sup>th</sup> Street, Independence, MO. Gregg Higginbotham will speak about the Civil War in Jackson County, Missouri. RSVP to (816) 461-2050.

### **News about Members and Friends**

In the 100-year-ago column in the *Examiner* in November 2016, there was an interesting note about **James M. Adams** who died at age 83 in November of 1916 at his farm near Buckner. It went on to say that he was born on a farm near Atherton, and his father was Lynchburg Adams, a Virginian who came here as a pioneer in 1827, the same year

Independence was laid out as a town. The “Adams” name immediately brought to mind our late member, **Frank Adams**, whose family farm is near Atherton. Frank’s son Bruce has verified that James was Frank’s great uncle. On the night of James’ birth in 1833 there was a remarkable meteoric display. The article says “The negro slaves and superstitious whites believed it all meant that the end of the world had come. They fell on the knees and prayed for mercy. Mr. Adams liked to tell about the scenes that took place on the night of his birth when the ‘stars fell.’”

The Round Table would like to thank **Tim Baker** for getting the Lewis-Gregg Cemetery grounds back into shape in the summer of 2016 and for replacing the gate that had been vandalized.

We also appreciate the effort of **Beverly Shaw** to ask our friend **Vesta Frizzell** if she would be interested in placing her inherited GAR badges (Grand Army of the Republic, a Union veterans organization) in a Civil War Museum for posterity. **Mike Clay** suggested the Lone Jack Civil War Museum would be a good local repository where they would be well appreciated and displayed. Vesta once showed them to the Round Table when we were meeting at the Blue & Grey Book Shoppe. The upshot is that the badges have been duly donated and should be on display when the museum opens in the spring.

A hearty “attaboy” goes out to all the tourism volunteers for the City of Independence who received a rousing thank you at the annual banquet in November 2016. The total amount of donated labor was \$384,730.75, and a symbolic “check” was presented to Mayor Eileen Weir by Tourism Director Eric Urfer. Our member **Charles Bianco** is numbered among them for his work at the 1859 Jail Museum.

A recent letter from **Steve Noll**, executive director of the **Jackson County Historical Society**, says they will be mounting a capital campaign to raise funds for much needed repairs and restoration, concluding in 2019 to coincide with the 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Jail. Retiring president **Sharon Williams** praised the ongoing program with the Independence School District in which every first grade student participates which has been going on

for nine years. These field trips help the youngsters gain early exposure to social studies and local history topics. The incoming president is **Brent Schondelmeyer**.

Our Board member **Mike Clay** is dealing with a diagnosis of leukemia which came just before Christmas, but he is in good spirits and was the star contestant for the trivia quiz Mike Calvert sprang on us at the January Open Round Table. Everyone agreed they would want Mike on their team. He also volunteers as a board member for the Lone Jack Historical Society. We appreciate all the help that **Mike and Molly** give to historical organizations, especially since they are transplanted Hoosiers.

**Charles Childs** took a road trip back in November to attend the monthly meeting of the Mid-Missouri Civil War Round Table in Columbia, MO. He says it's a little further than he usually goes for a meeting, but he was interested in the topic of "How Yankee Engineering Won the Civil War." Maybe **Pat Gradwohl** will be able to arrange for the speaker, George Davis, to visit our Round Table.

I see on Facebook that **Chris and Faye Cooper** are keeping busy in their new state of Arizona. In case you want to keep in touch, they are keeping their cell phone numbers: Chris is (816) 672-9826 and Faye is (816) 672-9829. They are residing at 3176 W. Malibu Road, Golden Valley, Arizona 86413.

Karen Wells has gotten word that **Max and Donna Daniels** have retired as "Abe and the Babe." We remember fondly the many programs that the Daniels brought as they interpreted Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd Lincoln when they came to visit our late president Sonny Wellls.

Speaking of retirement, **Dennis Myers** is retiring from the Kansas City office of the FDIC on Friday, January 27, 2017 so please don't use his government E-mail address past Thursday. His personal E-mail is [Disciple1@live.com](mailto:Disciple1@live.com). Dorothy is also retiring, and they undoubtedly have many plans for their free time. With all their skills they will get snapped up in no time for interesting volunteering. However Dennis would like to step back from the monthly editing of the *Border Star* so they can do some fun things. He would be glad to talk with

anyone about what this job entails. The Editor does not write all the text; he/she organizes it into columns and paragraphs so that it comes out as a PDF document that can be duplicated and mailed by U.S. Mail or sent as an attachment to an E-mail. He/she does not have to distribute the *Border Star* – just make it attractive and readable. And sometimes correct somebody else's typo. Give Dennis a call at (816) 769-6490 if you would like to explore this opportunity.

We extend our condolences to **Karen Wells** and the Wells family for the death of our late President's sister in October in Nebraska.

It may not seem like it now, but Spring is just around the corner, and preparations are being made for the **Annual Spring Seminar** sponsored by the Midwest Genealogy Center, a branch of the Mid-Continent Library, for all genealogy fans. It will be held Saturday, March 4, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Adam's Pointe Conference Center in Blue Springs, MO. The price is only \$60 (which includes a meal) for a jam packed day, and reservations must be made in advance by March 1 at 5:00 p.m. No walk-ins accepted. Contact Michelle at [mcotton@mymcpl.org](mailto:mcotton@mymcpl.org) or call (816) 252-7228. The featured speaker is Judy Russell, "The Legal Genealogist." Her website is [www.legalgenealogist.com](http://www.legalgenealogist.com).

The **Arabia Steamboat Museum** in the River Market of Kansas City, MO celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2016 with the unveiling of a newly built replica of the vessel's paddlewheel. It sank in the Missouri River in the 1850's, but the relics on board were reclaimed more than 130 years later. Now the Hawley family is considering the excavation of another vessel and are looking for bigger facilities.

You probably noticed that Missouri Senator Roy Blunt had many responsibilities during the recent Presidential inauguration. One of them was organizing the luncheon on that day in the National Statuary Hall where a 19<sup>th</sup> century painting by Missouri artist **George Caleb Bingham** was featured.

Blunt chose the painting "Verdict" after visiting the St. Louis Art Museum where it is part of the

permanent collection. It purports to show an election in rural Missouri and has symbolic images of slavery, the temperance movement, and women's struggles for the right to vote.

We want to welcome **Lindsay Burks** to the Battle of Lexington Historic Site in Lexington, Missouri which the Round Table had the pleasure of visiting in the fall. The tour of the Anderson House was a Civil War history lesson just by itself.

At our annual Open Round Table meeting in January, the answer to one of the trivia questions posed by Mike Calvert was "Fredericksburg." Duane Wormington mentioned that the six-part TV series called "Blood and Fury: The American Civil War" had an episode on Fredericksburg. In case you don't receive the American Heroes Channel, you can see the full episode online at [www.ahctv.com/the-union-suicide-mission-at-the-battle-of-fredericksburg](http://www.ahctv.com/the-union-suicide-mission-at-the-battle-of-fredericksburg). Some of the historians interviewed for this episode were Dr. Chris Mackowski from St. Bonaventure in New York (author of *Simply Murder: The Battle of Fredericksburg*), former National Park Service historian Donald Pfanz of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, and Dr. George C. Rable, author of *Fredericksburg! Fredericksburg!*

For the opening of the new Duluth Trading Company store near Bass Pro Shop in Independence, Missouri, the Chief Executive Officer **Stephanie Pugliese** said about their first store in Missouri, "We are delighted to open our 16<sup>th</sup> store in this historic city that was the main point of departure for so many American pioneers traveling west on the California, Oregon, and Santa Fe Trails." It's nice to know that having an interesting history can translate into economic development.

While browsing through the December 2016 *Tee Times Golf Guide*, Beverly Shaw was interested to see an article about the Excelsior Springs Golf Course in Clay County, Missouri. Built in 1915, it is one of the oldest municipal golf courses west of the Mississippi still maintaining its original layout. Designed by renowned golf course architect Tom Bendelow, it was the site of the Civil War **Battle of**

**Fredericksburg, MO** fought in 1864. A monument near the 14<sup>th</sup> green marks the site.

The **Jackson County Historical Society** gave out its annual awards at a banquet in January, and one of the recipients was FamilySearch, an LDS Church program (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints) for scanning genealogy documents for an online searchable database for anyone interested in genealogy. In the January 18, 2017 issue of the *Examiner* some of the volunteers who are about to complete an 18-month commitment and come from Richmond, Missouri every weekday to scan documents, were featured. Tom and Shelia Bridges and their friend Rachelle Ireland try to do 2,500 images per day.

Other recipients of awards from **Jackson County Historical Society** were Wide Awake Films for its documentary "The American Artist: The Life and Times of George Caleb Bingham," and *Kansas City: Our Collective Memories*, a recent book on various momentos of the Kansas City region co-authored by Steve Noll who spoke to us at our annual Christmas luncheon with the Union Cemetery Historical Society.

There seems to be a resurgence of interest in the military career of **U. S. Grant**. Thanks to Len Eagleburger's weekly newsletter of articles in print about the Civil War, Beverly Shaw saw one from the January, 2017 *Daily Beast* called "U.S. Grant is U.S. History's Mystery Man." Not everyone is so complimentary of Grant's military acumen; our friend Don Gilmore wrote a rebuttal which is available from Beverly Shaw (816) 225-7944. A recent book is *American Ulysses: A Life of Ulysses S. Grant* by Ronald C. White whom some of the Round Table members met in St. Louis at the Grant Symposium several years ago. There is also an article in the November 2016 *Smithsonian Magazine* called "Grant's Uncivil War" about the Indian wars following the Civil War.

**The Greater Kansas City National History Day** is coming up on Saturday, March 4, 2017, at the Truman Library and William Chrisman High School. Mark Adams is putting out the word that they need judges from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. He will provide breakfast and lunch for all judges. This is a way to encourage the love of history and

research in the historians of tomorrow. He uses judges from all walks of life – educators, librarians, archivists, museum personnel, national park rangers, History Day alumni, and armchair historians. ANYONE who loves history, research, or even just the pursuit of knowledge is more than welcome to judge. Contact Mark at (816) 268-8236 or mark.adams@nara.gov.

**Matthew C. Hulbert** teaches history at Texas A&M University at Kingsville. His latest book is *The Ghosts of Guerrilla Memory: How Civil War Bushwhackers Became Gunslingers in the American West*. He wrote an Opinion piece for the *Kansas City Star* on December 28, 2016 called “Civil War-era Missouri teaches us about fighting guerrilla wars.” He gave a synopsis of the Quantrill’s raid on Lawrence and Order No. 11 issued by General Thomas Ewing. His takeaway for modern times is that “Ewing’s struggle against guerrillas on the western Missouri front does teach us one very important lesson that American military strategists in the Middle East and Africa appear determined to resist: There is no good in fighting an insurgency on its own terms.

**The Kansas City Public Library** has earned for the second time in the past three years bragging rights as being among the best in the country. It marks the third time the library has been named a Five-Star Library by the trade publication *Library Journal*.

**Lecompton, Kansas** has been voted the “best small town in Kansas” according to a contest held by *Kansas Magazine*. You will recognize its name because it is the location of the “Burning Kansas” Sunday lecture series. Constitution Hall is an award winning national and Kansas landmark. It is the oldest wood-frame building in Kansas in its original location and where the infamous Lecompton Constitution was written and signed. This document called for Kansas to be admitted into the Union as a pro-slavery state. It sparked a chain of events that divided the nation and eventually climaxed in the Civil War. Lecompton is known as the “Civil War birthplace, where slavery began to die.”

So you think “social media” is a new thing? No, writing for mass public consumption began in

**Abraham Lincoln’s White House** to spread information they wanted the public to know but didn’t necessarily want to make “official.” The telegraph was just coming into its own in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and Lincoln used it to its fullest advantage. But his cabinet members and other officials were also adept at using more traditional print outlets, including their personal memoirs, to get their message out.

Will Trump pick a Presidential pup? That’s the burning question in Ann McFeatters column for the Tribune News Service which appeared in the *Examiner* on December 20, 2016. “Dogs, it should be noted, have enjoyed a glorious history in our nation’s executive mansion. Cats, a little less so – although **Abraham Lincoln** once insisted his cat Dixie was “smarter than my whole Cabinet.”

Residents of Independence, Missouri are happy to welcome a new Pioneer Woman statue at the **National Frontier Trails Museum**. It was delivered in mid-January and is near the Jim Bridger statue. The original statue was vandalized and stolen for scrap metal.

**Beverly Shaw** has a manual called *iPad for Seniors* to help you learn how to use Apple products. However she was not watching carefully when she bought it, and she does not use an Apple iPad. She would like to sell it for \$10. Call Beverly at (816) 225-7944.

Ted Hillmer, superintendent of the **Wilson’s Creek National Battlefield** south of Springfield, Missouri, wrote a letter to the editor to thank all the volunteers who helped with the annual luminaries display and the various activities celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Park Service.

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

The William Clark Quantrill Society is a non-profit corporation 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 information visit; [www.wcqsociety.com](http://www.wcqsociety.com) or send an E-mail to [wcqsociety@aol.com](mailto:wcqsociety@aol.com).

