



# ★ *The Border Star* ★

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

November-December 2016

## The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

### 2016 Officers

President ----- Mike Calvert  
1<sup>st</sup> V.P. ----- Pat Gradwohl  
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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  
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Karen Wells ----- (816) 429-5165

### Mailing Address

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Independence, MO 64055

### Website

[www.CWRTWM.org](http://www.CWRTWM.org)

## *President's Letter*

I don't know how many of you have shared this story of a piece of my life. At one time in the past I was a lay speaker in the Methodist Church. At one time I was filling the pulpit about 26 times a year. I tell you that to tell you this. One time many years ago the Bible verse I was to speak upon was the one with the disciples in the boat on the Sea of Galilee with the wind blowing strongly and Jesus appeared to them walking on the water. As the story unfolds, Peter walks on water to meet Jesus when the wind begins to blow and he becomes afraid and sinks. I tell you that to tell you this. To illustrate the fury of a storm at sea, I utilized the storm scene from Herman Wouk's *The Caine Mutiny*. The best thing I can tell you is that the description was so well done, you can feel the sweat and fear in the cabin. Get the book and read the passage; I know you will agree.

I tell you that to tell you this. As most of you know my dad and uncle served on the same ship in the World War II Navy. On that Sunday a long time ago as I told the story of the storm at sea, I looked out into the church pews and saw my uncle with tears streaming down his face. I wondered then what I had said to bring forth this reaction. Sometime later I finally got the courage to ask my uncle why. He related this story.

On one of the 18 crossings of the Atlantic, on convoy escort duty, their ship (USS Quick) encounter a North Atlantic winter storm off the coast of Newfoundland. The sea was so rough and heavy the captain had great difficulty keeping the ship turned into the wind, the safest way to handle the heavy wave action. Unfortunately, one large wave hit the ship perpendicular to its length, almost causing the ship to roll and end upside down. My uncle said he was sure he was going to die. The fear he had on that day came back to him as I told my story. My dad and uncle were 19 and 17 when they joined. They were two Midwest Illinois farmers who had never seen a body of water any bigger than a farm pond and were facing death that day, maybe for the first time.

Were they brave or acted bravely that day? I don't really know. Their act of bravery really occurred the day they went to the Navy recruiting office. They, like so many others before them and so many others after, did a truly selfless act that day. They decided to place their lives in danger so others could live lives with freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom of want and freedom from fear. Young men and women are still doing this today. Thank them. Don't let time go by and end up never saying "thank you." It's a regret I live with. VETERAN'S DAY, NOVEMBER 11<sup>th</sup>.

Since this will be the last *Border Star* of the year please have a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas. Thank you for all the support you have given me and the Round Table.

~Mike Calvert

*President, Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri*

## CWRTWM Calendar

### November 9, 2016 Membership Meeting

Wednesday, November 9, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall, Village Heights Community of Christ Church, 1009 Farview Drive, Independence, MO. Gregg Higginbotham: The Mending of the Civil War.

This is a call for the Annual Business Meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri when reports will be given and an election of officers and board members will be held. The new board will meet after the refreshment time.

### December Holiday Luncheon

Saturday, December 3, 2016 – Noon to 2:00 p.m.

Loose Park Garden Center, 51<sup>st</sup> Street and Pennsylvania, Kansas City, MO (one block west of Wornall Road). You can park in front of the open air pavilion and walk through to the Garden Center building. There is also some parking on Pennsylvania to the south of the building. This is in cooperation with the Union Cemetery Historical Society. The organizations provide deli trays, drinks, and tableware. You are invited to bring a dish to share. An historical program will follow the luncheon and fellowship.

## Other History Events

### Native American History Month

Saturday, November 5, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.

Arrow Rock State Historic Site, Arrow Rock, MO. Historic site manager, Mike Dickey, will give a PowerPoint lecture on “Native Missouri at the Time of the Louisiana Purchase.”

### Thanksgiving at the Anderson House

Saturday, November 5, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Anderson House at the Battle of Lexington Historic Site, Lexington, MO. In 1863 Abraham Lincoln declared Thanksgiving a National Holiday. Learn more about how it was celebrated with the Friends of the Anderson House. Free.

### Victorian Christmas Decorations

Saturday, November 5, 2016 – 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Harris-Kearney House, 4000 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO. An afternoon of making Victorian Christmas decorations to create lovely, delicate ornaments for your home and Christmas

tree. All supplies provided for ages 6 and up. \$5/person or \$15/family of 4 or more. Pre-registration and payment by calling (816) 561-1821.

### Veterans Salute at the Truman Library

Sunday, November 6, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. – Wine Reception; 6:30 p.m. – Program. 500 West U.S. Highway 24, Independence, MO. Featuring Doug Bradley, author of *We Gotta Get Outta This Place: The Soundtrack of the Vietnam War*. Free event but registration is encouraged by calling (816) 268-8200. Book signing will follow. Sponsored by the Truman Library and Rainy Day Books.

### Ambassadors Meeting, Raytown Historical Society

Monday, November 7, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. Raytown Historical Society, 9705 East 63rd Street, Raytown, MO. Free.

### Gardens of Stone

Monday, November 7, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee’s Summit Road, Independence, MO. Arnold Schofield will talk about the Civil War legacy of military cemeteries and how they evolved into the National Cemetery System. Reservations – (816) 252-7228.

### Vote for Washington

Tuesday, November 8, 2016 – 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Atkins-Johnson Farm and Museum, 6607 NE Antioch Road, Gladstone, MO. Exhibit – “The Many Faces of George Washington.” This free event includes admission to the exhibit, kids’ crafts and games, hot apple cider, and a free American flag sugar cookie for the first 100 visitors.

### **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.

#### Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, November 8, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. – Buffet menu (about \$12), Golden Corral, 8800 NW Skyview Ave., Kansas City, MO (near Home Depot). Erin Pouppirt, Kaw Nation spokesperson, will speak about the Plains Indians.

#### Cass County Civil War Round Table

Tuesday, November 8, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. Pierson Hall, Cass County Library, 400 E. Mechanic, Harrisonville, MO. Local author, Diane Rogers, will speak about “Women in the Civil War.”

#### Clay County African American Legacy

Wednesday, November 9, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Fall Open House Tour of the Clay County African American Gallery and Exhibits, Garrison School Cultural Center, 502 North Water, Liberty, MO. Free admission and reception.

#### African American Experience in Missouri

Wednesday, November 9, 2016 – 6:30 p.m. Jesse Auditorium, Jesse Hall, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO. Bryan Jack will speak about the thousands of African Americans who fled the post-Reconstruction South and arrived in St. Louis destitute. The city became a barrier as formidable as the Red Sea, but some St. Louisians started relief efforts to support the Exodusters. His new book explores early black migration and an insight into St. Louis as a city, Missouri as a state, and African American life in an era of dramatic change.

#### Freedom's Fronteir

Thursday, November 10, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. Annual Luncheon and Program at the Elms Hotel, Excelsior Springs, MO.

#### The Osage World: Cultural Change in the Late 17th through Early 19th Centuries.

Thursday, November 10, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center, 600 W. Main, Jefferson City, MO. The Missouri State Archives presents Larry Grantham who writes about the excavated materials and research of Carl Chapman, Missouri's premier archaeologist.

#### Sibley Cemetery

Saturday, November 12, 2016 – 10:30 a.m. Trails West Library, 11401 E. 23rd Street,

Independence, MO. Jim Roberts, a member of the Jackson County Genealogical Society, will speak about pioneers buried at the oldest cemetery in Jackson County and western Missouri.

#### Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, November 15, 2016 – 6:30 p.m. – Dinner (\$27). Holiday Inn and Suites, 8787 Reeder Road, Overland Park, KS. Sunset Ballroom, 8th Floor. Paul Kahan will be speaking about Lincoln's Secretary of War, Simon Cameron who is the topic of his new book, *Amiable Scoundrel: Lincoln's Scandalous Secretary of War*. Dinner reservations are required and must be received by Friday Noon, November 11<sup>th</sup>. Call Susan Keipp at (816) 333-0025.

#### Shawnee Indian Mission Noon Program

Wednesday, November 16, 2016 – Noon (bring a sack lunch). Shawnee Indian Mission, 3403 W. 53rd Street, Fairway, KS. Aaron Barnhart will be speaking of Civil War history that can be visited using his book *The Big Divide* as a guide.

#### Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, November 16, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. Perkins Restaurant, 3939 S. Bolger Drive, Independence, MO (across from Walmart). Matt Rebholz will give a talk on his many travels to various Civil War sites and conferences.

#### Clay County Museum's 3rd Thursday

Thursday, November 17, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. 14 N. Main Street, Liberty, MO. Barbara Hughes will be speaking on “Mourning and the Impact of the Civil War.”

#### Mid-Missouri Civil War Round Table

Monday, November 21, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. Boone County Historical Museum, 3801 Ponderosa Drive, Columbia, MO. George Davis: “How Yankee Engineering Won the Civil War.”

#### 1860's Living History – Mahaffie Farm

Friday, November 25, 2016 – Noon to 4:00 p.m. Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop & Farm, 1200 E. Kansas City Road, Olathe, KS. Stagecoach rides (weather and ground conditions permitting) Mahaffie House tours, Agricultural Livestock Barn tours, Blacksmith demonstrations, Cookstove demonstrations. \$7/adults, \$5/children ages 5-11, under 5 free.

'Twas the Night Before Christmas, Harris-Kearney House. Friday and Saturday, November 25-26, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Harris-Kearney House, 4000 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO. The mid-19th century house will be adorned in greenery, ribbons, and candles and represent a celebration of English, German, Irish, and Southern American Christmas customs. Tour begins every 15 minutes. \$10/adults, \$8/seniors and retired military, \$6/students. Active military and children under 6/Free. For more info or to make reservations, call (816) 561-2821 or (913) 648-0952.

Holiday Homes Tour – Lexington, MO

Saturday and Sunday, November 26-27, 2016. On Saturday there will be a candlelight preview from 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. and must be reserved in advance for \$12. Call (660) 259-3754 or go to [www.visitlexingtonmo.com](http://www.visitlexingtonmo.com). On Sunday the tours go from Noon to 5:00 p.m. Advance tickets are \$10 or \$12 at the door. There are 5 homes ranging from very old to very new plus the Historical Anderson House at the Battle of Lexington Site where a vintage Christmas celebration will be going on with an Open House. There will be a hospitality room at Wentworth Military Academy campus.

Speaker Series at the Truman Library

Wednesday, November 30, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. – Wine Reception, 6:30 p.m. – Program. Truman Library, 500 West U. S. Highway 24, Independence, MO. U. S. Sen. Alan Simpson will be in conversation with Truman Library Director Kurt Graham. To RSVP call (816) 268-8200. Sponsored by the Truman Library and Rainy Day Books.

Holly & Mistletoe Homes Tour-Independence, MO

Thursday, December 1, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Lovely homes located from Independence near the Square to Blue Springs and on to Lee's Summit. All will be decked out for the holidays. Sweet shop at North Independence Mid-Continent Library, 317 W. 24 Highway., Independence, MO (tasty treats, raffle baskets, and a rest stop for coffee and hot tea).

Candlelight Tour at Fort Scott, KS

Friday, December 2, 2016 from 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Saturday, December 3, 2016 from 5:00 p.m. – to 9:00 p.m. With the glow of hundreds of candle lanterns, witness several interpretive scenes of Fort

Scott's history. Stay for music and light refreshments. Also a celebration of the National Park Service's 100 birthday. Advance tickets are required by calling (620) 223-0310. \$8.

Mahaffie Farm Christmas Open House

Saturday, December 3, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Mahaffie Farm, 1200 E. Kansas City Road, Olathe, KS. Free admission but stagecoach rides are \$3/person ages 3 and up depending on the weather and ground conditions. Activities include stringing popcorn and cranberries, cook stove demonstrations, blacksmith demonstrations, making a gingerbread house (\$4 for the house). Santa arrives at 1:00 p.m.

A Visit from St. Nicholas – Shoal Creek Living History.

Saturday, December 3, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.-4:00 pm. Shoal Creek Living History, inside Robert Hodge Park, 6800 NE Barry Road, Kansas City, MO. Walking tour through the holiday decorated homes and log cabins of the 1800's while reenactors bring the village to life. Visit St. Nicholas in the Thornton Mansion in his resplendent green velvet robes, experience a Civil War encampment, warm up by the "potbellied" stove in the school, and find peace in the serene setting of an 1884 church. See how 1880's Swedish immigrants celebrated Santa Lucia Day and watch how lace was made in the Arnold House. End your visit with a brief horse drawn sleigh ride through the countryside from Noon to 4:00 p.m. (\$5 per person, age 5 and under are free).

Treasures Found at Genealogical Conferences

Saturday, December 3, 2016 – 10:30 a.m. Trails West Library, 11401 E. 23rd Street, Independence, MO. Cynthia Horn, Vice-President of the Jackson County Genealogical Society, will be sharing some of her experiences.

Candlelight Homes Tour – Weston, MO

Saturday, December 3, 2016 from Noon to 8:00 p.m. Sunday, December 4, 2016 from Noon to 5:00 p.m. Downtown Weston will have its street lamps glowing with greenery and lights. Streets leading to the tour homes will be lined with luminaries. Father Christmas will be greeting visitors. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Visit [www.westonmocom](http://www.westonmocom) or call (816) 640-2909. The Galleria is also serving High Tea on December 3,

2016 from 2:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. for \$12.95 plus tax and gratuity. Located above Main Street Galleria on the Corner, 501 Main Street, Weston, MO. Now taking reservations at Westongalleria@gmail.com or call (816) 640-2825.

#### Christmas at the Anderson House

Saturday, December 3, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 4, 2016 from Noon to 4:00 p.m. Anderson House at the Battle of Lexington State Historic Site, 1101 Delaware Street, Lexington, MO. The Anderson House is decorated for the holidays and on Saturday night there will be candlelight tours and piano music by Dave Bohling and Pat Berry. On Sunday an open house will be part of the Lexington Christmas Homes Tour. Free.

#### Battle of Prairie Grove (Arkansas) Reenactment

Saturday, December 3, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. At 7:00 p.m. a period dance will be held at the Latta Barn. Sunday, December 4, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Presentation marking the battle of December 7, 1862 will be held at 1:00 p.m. both days. Free admission but parking is \$5 per vehicle.

#### Holiday Open House – Raytown Historical Museum

Monday, December 5, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. Open House. 9705 East 63rd Street, Raytown, MO.

#### Missouri Town 1855 – A Christmas Celebration

Saturday, December 10, 2016 – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Lake Jacomo, 8010 East Park Road, Lee's Summit, MO. Visit the residents of a mid-19th century community as they prepare for Christmas. Hearth cooked meals and authentic music. Ethnic traditions. As the afternoon turns to evening, tour the village by luminary lit paths. Adults – \$7. Youth 5-13 and Seniors 62 and over – \$4. Under 5 are free.

#### Cookies and Photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus

Saturday, December 10, 2016 – Noon – 3:00 p.m. Atkins-Johnson Farm and Museum, 6607 NE Antioch Road, Gladstone, MO. Enjoy a beautifully decorated historic home. Museum admission is free. Enjoy holiday cookies and have the opportunity to purchase a photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Proceeds benefit the museum. Holiday Nights at the Atkins-Johnson Farm Saturday, December 10, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. –

9:00 p.m. Free night of holiday cheer including music and carolers, holiday crafts for adults and kids, spiced cider, vintage toy display, and a traditionally decorated farmhouse. Enjoy the crisp night air as you stroll down the Holiday luminary trail. A special appearance by Santa.

#### Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, December 13, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. Buffet menu (about \$12), Golden Corral, 8800 NW Skyview Ave., Kansas City, MO (near Home Depot). Deb Buckner will speak about Custer's best friend, Mr. Lawrence Barrett.

#### Cass County Civil War Round Table

Tuesday, December 13, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. Pierson Hall, Cass County Library, 400 E. Mechanic, Harrisonville, MO. Annual Christmas Pigout with potluck desserts to share. Program is an open Round Table when people can share something about their family using an antique or heirloom for show and tell.

#### Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, December 20, 2016 – 6:30 p.m. – Dinner (\$27). Holiday Inn and Suites, 8787 Reeder Road, Overland Park, KS. Sunset ballroom, 8th Floor. Dr. Ian Michael Spurgeon will speak about the 1st Kansas Colored Infantry. His book is *Soldiers in the Army of Freedom*. Dinner reservations must be received by Friday Noon, December 16, 2016. Call Susan Keipp at (816) 333-0025.

#### Missouri's Secessionist Senator

Tuesday, December 20, 2016 – 6:30 p.m. North Oak Library, 8700 N. Oak Trafficway, Kansas City, MO. Tom Rafiner will speak about R.L.Y. Peyton who represented border counties in the Missouri State Senate and later all of Missouri in the Congress of the Confederate States of America. Reservations by calling (816) 436-4385.

#### Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, December 21, 2016. 7:00 p.m. Perkins Restaurant, 3939 S. Bolger Drive, Independence, MO (across from Walmart). The music of Dave Para and Cathy Barton at the Christmas dinner.

## News About Members and Friends

We want to extend our condolences to **Terry Chronister** on the death of his aunt. Terry was not able to attend our Lexington trip because her funeral was held that day.

The Civil War Round Table of Kansas City has lost a valued member. **Mrs. Sylvia Gault** passed away on October 11, 2016. She was the wife of Paul Gault, a former president of the Round Table, and she was an avid genealogist who researched George S. Park and was honored by Park College. She was also active in Platte County historical groups.

**Bob Grover** has been at Centerpoint with pneumonia but is now much better.

We were glad to see **Charles and Claudetta McCorkendale** at our luncheon during the trip to Lexington. They joined us on the bus during the afternoon driving tour and visit to the Lexington History Museum. Charles contributed information about various sites along the way. **Harold and Kay Barchers** would have come with them, but Kay recently had knee surgery. We hope to see them at the Christmas luncheon.

**Carolyn Bartels and Joanne Chiles Eakin** were honored at the Quantrill Society Reunion for their historical research and publishing with the Two Trails Press.

Thank you to **Mike Calvert** who shared some of his library with the Round Table for our silent auction in October and to all the buyers who helped raise \$176 which was deposited to the Sonny Wells Little Blue Battlefield account to help the matching funds we will use in our grant application to the DAR for revising and reprinting our original "Monuments" book. Books not sold the night of our meeting were scooped up by **Paul Bond** who has been so generous with us in the past for donating his books to our silent auction. Paul has agreed to stand for election as a new board member.

We were very honored to have a private tour of the City of Lexington and the historical museum on October 15, 2016. Mike Calvert was introduced to **Don Coen**, our guide, through his daughter whom Mike works with. Don was very engaging and

generous with his time. Now we all want to go back and do one of the driving or walking tours as outlined in the visitor guide he gave us.

The "50 year ago" column in the Examiner in October noted the donation of the original manuscript of *Another Spring* by **Louela Grace Erdman** to the Jackson County Historical Society because of all the help she received from Mayme Piper its archivist. It's the story about victims of Order No. 11.

The "100 year ago" column in October also cited a list compiled by **Dr. N.H. Gaines** of the six men still living at the Confederate home at Higginsville who had a combined age of 549. He thinks this is a record for any Home or community anywhere.

In case you like to book your historical tours way in advance, you might be interested in the day trip to **Fort Leavenworth, Kansas** presented by the **Civil War Round Table of Kansas City for April 22, 2017**. It's very difficult to access Fort Leavenworth unless you have an escort, and this sounds like a comprehensive tour. The cost is \$30 for the bus tour and lunch at the Army Dining Facility (mess hall) on post is \$5.55 per person which must be paid in cash. Call Beverly Shaw at (816) 225-7944 for information.

We found on our trip to Lexington, MO that the Battle of Lexington State Historic Site and the historic Anderson House are real treasures in Lafayette County. Our late member, Dr. Gerald Anderson, claimed kin to the Anderson family. We also learned that the longtime Administrator of the site, **Janae Fuller**, has retired.

The Kansas City *Star* of October 16, 2016 revealed that **David Hawley** and his partners are planning to excavate another lost steamboat near Malta Bend, Missouri. However with the additional artifacts from the *Malta*, it becomes more imperative that the Steamboat *Arabia* museum find larger quarters. We have had speakers for the Round Table who brought sample artifacts from the *Arabia*.

Also in the October 16<sup>th</sup> issue of the *Star* there was a supplement called "Heroes." How wonderful it was to read something in the newspaper that was uplifting. One of the heroes was Wayne Miner, an

African American soldier in World War I. The historian who supplied information for this exciting story was **Joelouis Mattox** who is pictured at a meeting of the Wayne Miner Post of the American Legion. Joe also researches the role of Black soldiers in the Civil War, both Federal and Confederate, and gives programs at the Battle of Westport Museum, Communiversity, and the Watkins Cultural Center.

The fall issue of *Missouri Resources* magazine had a good article about “Top Spots for Learning about Missouri State History.” One is the First Missouri State Capitol State Historic Site in St. Charles, MO. First granted statehood on August 10, 1821, we will soon be celebrating our bicentennial in 2021. The “City of Jefferson” was chosen as a permanent capital, but until it could be built, the state government was located in St. Charles, MO. Our present capitol in Jefferson City is actually the third building to stand there on the banks of the Missouri River. The previous ones were destroyed by fire. If you visit the capitol, be sure to take a guided tour and see the displays of the Missouri State Museum on the first floor.

**Don Moorehead** and **Vonda Clark** are leaving the board for health reasons and we want to thank them for their many contributions, especially the research and pictures for our latest “Monuments” book. Don was the navigator and Vonda took the pictures, and they were supported by Don’s late wife, **Kathy**.

**James Muehlberger’s** book *The 116: The True Story of Abraham Lincoln’s Lost Guard*, was a finalist for the Thorpe Menn Literary Award for Excellence, named for a former Kansas City *Star* books editor.

The Examiner showed a smiling **Steve Noll**, Executive Director of the Jackson County Historical Society, on the cover of the paper on October 22, 2016. Steve is a collaborator with Bruce Mathews on a new book *Kansas City: Our Collective Memories*. Steve says, “This book was my idea basically to justify a houseful of stuff.” In the photo there is a display case with some Independence artifacts: Polly Pop bottles, which was a locally made soda now being revived. Probably the most collected historical artifacts in Kansas City are the Priests of Pallas souvenirs of this major festival for

a quarter of a century. The parade was said some years to attract 500,000 people. It ran from 1887 to 1912. Beverly Shaw has a Priests of Pallas souvenir figure which she inherited from an elderly friend in Westport.

We are glad to report that **Ruth Payne** had a wonderful time with her family when they visited Yellowstone National Park on the centennial of the National Park Service. She brought back a beautiful note card showing an Old Faithful Sunset.

We are looking forward to the dedication of the improvements at Jackson County’s **Salem Park** on 24 Highway at Blue Mills Road sometime in early December. Our low profile marker of the Battle of the Little Blue is a part of the newly configured markers there to commemorate the Santa Fe Trail going through Missouri.

Our long distance members from Los Angeles, **Orven Schanzer** and **Lisa Gilman**, are visiting Kansas City and Independence from late October until November 4<sup>th</sup>. They pick a different historical area to visit and probably know more about local history than the natives. Lisa is also a “clipper” and sends interesting articles from the *L.A. Times*.

One was about the “New Confederate flag rule.” Rep. Jared Huffman (D-San Rafael) spoke on Capitol Hill in June during a protest against Confederate symbolism on the Mississippi flag. Apparently the Department of Veterans Affairs is changing its policy on displaying the Confederate flag. It will be prohibited from being flown on any permanent flag pole at a national cemetery. It will continue to allow private organizations to display the flag on individual Confederate soldiers’ graves on certain days. It can also still be displayed at certain ceremonies and at private burials taking place at national cemeteries.

A new book called *Truevine* by Beth Macy tells the curious story of how two black albino brothers became unwilling sideshow stars. The extended title is *Two Brothers, a Kidnapping, and a Mother’s Quest: A True Story of the Jim Crow South*.

