



★ *The Border Star* ★

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

May – June 2019

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

2019 Officers

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Border Star Editor

Dennis Myers ~ (816) 769-6490

Meetings

2nd Wednesday of each month
7:00 p.m. ~ Fellowship Hall
Village Heights Community of Christ
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) 10.00

For Information

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Mailing Address

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Independence, MO 64055

Website

www.CWRTWM.org

President's Letter

I opened one of the Civil War magazines I read, and in one of the up-front news articles they ran a story about the reopening of the Battle of Atlanta Cyclorama at the Atlanta History Center. It must have been twenty years ago I first saw this painting. Or is it really a painting? If they kept the version I saw, the perspective was from full size in the foreground to the horizon. The 49 foot tall by 371 foot long cyclorama was drawn to commemorate Sherman's taking of Atlanta. The execution is fascinating. The painting drew you into it. The detail was amazing. Also, there was a surprise. In the foreground and full size if you looked closely, you could see Clark Gable as a wounded Confederate soldier. A nod to GWTW. If you are ever in Atlanta, make time to see this piece of art. There is another cyclorama at Gettysburg. This one portrays Pickett's Charge. When the Park Service restored and moved the painting to the new visitor's center, they added sound. Standing on the observation platform the cannon firing actually reverberates against your body. You become part of the charge.

These Civil War cycloramas are the last two to survive. At one time there were several traveling the country. They were the "IMAX of their day." One painted by Lucien-Pierre Sargent and Joseph Bertrand depicted the battles of Vicksburg. It travelled to New York, Chicago and San Francisco and Tokyo. Painted in 1885 by Eugen Bracht, the Philadelphia Panorama Company exhibited the Battle of Chattanooga in Kansas City and Philadelphia. I saw a picture of the exhibit in Kansas City that is held at the Kansas City Library.

If you ever have the chance, I urge you to take time to view the only two remaining Civil War Cycloramas. I have been fortunate enough to see them both. Fascinating.

Note: The diorama is the three-dimensional foreground figures. The painting is the cyclorama.

My thanks to all who were able to help out at Powell Gardens. It was a great day (despite the wind.) A special thank you to Anne Mallinson for loaning her tent. See you all in May.

Mike Calvert, President
Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

CWRTWM Calendar

May 2019 Membership Meeting

Wednesday, May 8, 2019 – 7:00 p.m. Village Heights Community of Christ fellowship hall, 1009 Farview Drive, Independence, MO. Jim Ogle of Freedom's Frontier: "History of the State of Kansas."

May 2019 Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 8, 2019 – 8:00 p.m. After Refreshments the Board Members are asked to stay for a short board meeting.

June 2019 Membership Meeting and Picnic

Wednesday, June 12, 2019 – 6:00 p.m. Village Heights Community of Christ fellowship hall, 1009 Farview Drive, Independence, MO. Annual indoor picnic. The Round Table provides fried chicken, drinks, plates, and utensils. Members are asked to bring a dish to share. Program follows about 7:00 p.m. Jim Beckner "The Story of the Confederate Home at Higginsville." See June 1st calendar item for Confederate Memorial Day at the Confederate Home.

Other History Events

Saturday Lecture Series at Arrow Rock

Saturday, May 4, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. Arrow Rock State Historic Site. Dr. Frances Levine: "Maria, Carmen, Kate and Company: Women on the Santa Fe Trail."

Truman Day in Independence, MO

Saturday, May 4, 2019 – All Day. In honor of Harry Truman's 135th birthday (May 8, 1884) admission to many local attractions is just \$1. Includes the Truman Library, Truman Home, National Frontier Trails Museum, Vaile Mansion, Bingham-Waggoner Estate, Chicago & Alton Depot, and the 1859 Jail and Marshal's Home. Other activities will take place around the Square.

Clay County Museum, Liberty, MO

Sunday, May 5, 2019 – 2:00 p.m. 14 N. Main Street, Liberty, MO. Tony Meyers: "Staycation." Tony will describe a daytrip in Clay County. You can also view the new exhibit at the museum on the Battle of Liberty which displays artifacts loaned by Jay Jackson and Tony Meyers. A new film about the Battle of Liberty/Blue Mills Landing will premiere on Sept. 17, 2019 at the B&B Theatre in Liberty.

Freedom's Frontier Partners Meeting

Thursday, May 9, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site, 1515 S.E. Monroe Street, Topeka, KS.

Courting Mr. Lincoln

Thursday, May 9, 2019 – 6:30 p.m. Plaza Library, 4801 Main Street, Kansas City, MO. Louis Bayard: "Courting Mr. Lincoln," a historical novel fleshes out the personal side of the 16th President through the eyes of Mary Todd and Lincoln's roommate and confidant Joshua Speed. RSVP to (816) 701-3407 or visit www.kclibrary.org.

Mother's Day Tea

Saturday, May 11, 2019 – 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Owens-Rogers Museum, 100 W. Moore Street, Independence, MO. 1906 Craftsman bungalow where Lela Owens-Rogers lived and where Ginger Rogers was born. \$15 ticket includes a tour of the museum, tea/coffee, and delicious pastries. Register at this address;

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eg9rfl7b821ba9d6&llr=xi9ogxn6>

Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, May 14, 2019 – 6:00 p.m. Buffet Menu (about \$12), Golden Corral, 8800 N. W. Skyview Ave., Kansas City, MO (near Home Depot). Keith Nelson: "Chouteau Family and Kansas City."

Cass County Civil War Round Table

Tuesday, May 14, 2019 – 7:00 p.m. Pearson Hall, Cass County Library, 400 E. Mechanic, Harrisonville, MO. Jay Roberts.

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 Drive which is across the street from 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 may call Beverly Shaw on her cell phone: (816) 225-7944.

Brown Bag Lunch at Shawnee Indian Mission

Wednesday, May 15, 2019 – Noon. Bring your own lunch and enjoy a program about 12:30 p.m. 3403 W. 53rd Street, Fairway, KS. North building. Come upstairs from the street. Gina Powell: “Archaeology at the Shawnee Indian Mission.”

Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, May 15, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.
Perkins Restaurant, 3939 S. Bolger Drive, Independence, MO (across from Walmart). Bruce Mathews: “Elmwood Cemetery.”

Tales of Those Interred-Woodlawn Cemetery

Thursday, May 16, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.
Woodlawn Cemetery, 701 S. Noland Road, Independence, MO. Learn the secrets of Woodlawn Cemetery from Mike Calvert.

Marshals, Thugs, & Outlaws in Jackson County

Saturday, May 18, 2019 – 11:00 a.m.
Buckner Library, 19 E. Jefferson Street, Buckner, MO. David Jackson: Introduction to those who lived, worked, and passed through the doors of the 1859 Jail and Marshal’s Home in downtown Independence, MO. RSVP to (816) 650-3212.

Roaring ‘20s Party, Harrisonville, MO

Saturday, May 18, 2019 – 5:00 p.m.
Harrisonville Chamber of Commerce Meeting Room, 1601 S. Commercial Street, Harrisonville, MO. Feel free to dress as your favorite flapper or gangster and have a roaring good time at this fundraiser for the Cass County Historical Society. \$35-Individual. \$50-Couple. Silent Auctions. For tickets call (816) 380-4396. Because the 18th Amendment is in full force, you will have to bootleg your own adult beverages into the party.

Mid-Missouri Civil War Round Table-Columbia, MO

Monday, May 20, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.
Boone County Historical Society Museum, 3801 Ponderosa Drive, Columbia, MO. Gene McArtor: “The Siege and Battle of Corinth.”

Historical Impact of Jackson County, MO

Tuesday, May 21, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.
North Independence Library, 317 W. 24 Highway, Independence, MO. David Jackson will describe how Jackson County, MO has impacted American history for nearly 200 years. RSVP to (816) 252-0950.

Restoration Revealed for 1859 Jail

Wednesday, May 22, 2019 – Noon to 1:00 p.m.
Old Jail Museum, 217 N. Main Street, Independence, MO. Take a peek below the floorboards and in the walls to learn how preservation architects are conducting research for the upcoming restoration.

Tony Horwitz to Speak at Liberty Hall, Lawrence, KS

Thursday, May 23, 2019 – 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. for security check. Lines can be long. No backpacks, large bags or large purses. Location: 644 Massachusetts Street, Lawrence, KS. He will be speaking about his new book, *Spying on the South: An Odyssey Across the American Divide*. It retraces Frederick Law Olmstead’s epic journey across the American South in the 1850’s. He is also the author of *Confederates in the Attic*. Free.

Secrets of the Sites, Independence, MO

Saturday, May 25, 2019. Take a behind-the-scenes tour to visit hidden nooks and crannies not on your typical public tour. Vaile Mansion, 1500 N. Liberty: 11:00 a.m. Bingham-Waggoner Estate, 313 W. Pacific Ave.: 1:00 p.m. National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 W. Pacific Ave.: 3:00 p.m. Free.

Memorial Day Ceremony, National WWI Museum

Monday, May 27, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. 100 W. 26th Street, Kansas City, MO. Memorial Courtyard outside the Museum. Formal public program with remarks from dignitaries, a keynote address from the U.S. World War I Centennial Commissioner, Dr. Monique Seefried, and musical entertainment. Free.

Memorial Day Bell Tolling Ceremony, WWI Museum

Monday, May 27, 2019 – Noon. Memorial Courtyard. Noon. Presentation of colors, wreath laying, and a moving reading. Historic bell which was rung daily during WWI. Free.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, May 28, 2019 – 6:30 p.m. Dinner (\$29). Holiday Inn and Suites, 8787 Reeder Road, Overland Park, KS. Sunset Ballroom, 8th Floor. Jeff Patrick will present a narrative based on the diary of a Union hospital steward. Dinner reservations must be made by noon Wednesday, May 22, 2019 by calling Susan Keipp at (816) 333-0025.

Sabres and Longknives

Wednesday, May 29, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.
North Independence Library, 317 W. 24 Highway, Independence, MO. Arnold Schofield: “Sabres and

Longknives: The Civil War on the Kansas Plains.”
This will explain the conflict between the Union Army and the Plains Indians in Central and Western Kansas. RSVP to (816) 252-0950.

Saturday Lecture Series at Arrow Rock

Saturday, June 1, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. Arrow Rock State Historic Site. Dr. Michael Monaco: “Civil War Medicine – Compassion during Conflict.”

First Saturday at Shoal Creek Living History Museum

Saturday, June 1, 2019 – 10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. Shoal Creek Living History Museum, 7000 N.E. Barry Road, Kanas City, MO. Family fun with reenactors who bring the village to life, food, and craft vendors. Free but some activities do charge for their services. (Cash Only). Located inside Robert Hodge Park. From Highway 152, turn north onto Shoal Creek Parkway and then an immediate left onto Barry Road. Go west to Hodge Park. Turn right into the park and follow the road past the driving range and up the hill to the iron gate entrance.

Confederate Memorial Day, Higginsville, MO

Saturday, June 1, 2019 – 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Confederate Memorial State Historic Site, 211 W. First Street, Higginsville, MO. A Sons of Confederate Veterans chapter is arranging the ceremony this year. For a full itinerary contact Beverly Shaw at (816) 225-7944 or E-mail to bevjoshaw@hotmail.com.

National Trails Day Bus Tour to Arrow Rock

Saturday, June 1, 2019 – 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Will leave from Independence and travel the Santa Fe Trail to Old Franklin, Arrow Rock, and have lunch at Huston’s Tavern. Tour director is Ross Marshall. \$65 reservation must be received by May 20, 2019. Mail to MRO, P.O. Box 18506, Raytown, MO 64133. Bus will pick up at 8:30 a.m. sharp from the west lower parking lot of the Truman Library, 500 W. US Highway 24, Independence, MO.

Historic Liberty, MO Walking Tour

Saturday, June 1, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. History of the Town Square. Tour meets at the Jesse James Bank Museum at the corner of Water and Franklin Streets. Free.

Ice Cream Social at the Liberty, MO Square

Sunday, June 2, 2019 – Noon to 3:30 p.m. Ice Cream, games, and music. Costumes are welcome.

Civil War on The Missouri/Kansas Border

Tuesday, June 4, 2019 – 6:30 p.m. Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee’s Summit Road, Independence, MO. Gregg Higginbotham will talk about the ruthless guerrilla war on the Border and the raid on Lawrence, KS by Wm. Quantrill, and Order No. 11. RSVP to (816) 252-7228.

Hulston Mill “Civil War Days”

June 8-9, 2019 – 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.-Sat. and 9:00 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.- Sun. Midway between Greenfield and Everton on U.S. 160, 1 mile north on EE, then 1 mile right on E. Dade 92. \$5 for adults; K-12 Free with adult admission. Tour historic mill and enjoy Civil War demonstrations during the day.

Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, June 11, 2019 – 6:00 p.m. Buffet Menu (about \$12), Golden Corral, 8800 N. W. Skyview Ave., Kansas City, MO (near Home Depot). Deb Buckner “John Mackay, the Bonanza King.”

Brown Bag Lunch at Shawnee Indian Mission

Wednesday, June 12, 2019 – Noon. Bring your own lunch and enjoy a program about 12:30 p.m. 3403 W. 53rd Street, Fairway, KS. North building. Come upstairs from the street. Laura McCarthy: “The Gardner Museum.”

Civil War on the Missouri/Kansas Border

Thursday, June 13, 2019 – 7:00 p.m. South Independence Library, 13700 E. 35th Street, Independence, MO. Gregg Higginbotham: “Guerilla War on the Border and the Raid on Lawrence, KS by Wm. Quantrill and Order No. 11.

Historical Society of Lee’s Summit, MO

Friday, June 14, 2019 – 6:30 p.m. Museum, 220 S. W. Main Street, Lee’s Summit, MO. Peggy Buhr “Post Mortem Daguerrotypes.” She will also tell about Bates County Historical Society activities.

Liberty, MO Quilt Walk

Saturday, June 15, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Quilts will be displayed at shops on the Square all day.

Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, June 19, 2019 – 7:00 p.m. Perkins Restaurant, 3939 S. Bolger Drive, Independence, MO (across from Walmart). Gregg Higginbotham: “Civil War Supplies.”

Marshals, Thugs & Outlaws in Jackson County

Monday, June 24, 2019 – 6:30 p.m. Oak Grove Library, 2320 S. Broadway Street, Oak Grove, MO. David Jackson will talk about those who lived, worked, and passed through the doors of the 1859 Jail and Marshal's Home in Independence, MO.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, June 25, 2019 – 6:30 p.m. Dinner (\$29). Holiday Inn and Suites, 8787 Reeder Road, Overland Park, KS. Sunset Ballroom, 8th Floor. Gary Nevius will discuss Civil War long guns, rifles, muskets, and carbines, using examples from his own collection. Dinner reservations must be made by Noon, Wednesday, June 19, 2019 by calling Susan Keipp at (816) 333-0025.

News about Members and Friends

We are glad to say that our **attendance** has been good for the last several months. We had 31 people on March 13th and 34 on April 10th. Part of this is due to good programs arranged by Pat Gradwohl, and part is that members have been bringing guests. Please consider asking a friend to come with you.

We send our condolences to the families and friends of **Jon Linn** (Nov. 30, 2018), **Jack Dalton Tucker** (March 18, 2019), and **Robert L. Boland** (April 16, 2019). Jon Linn helped Sonny Wells convene the first meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri in 1992 and was a Civil War historian and tour guide. Jack Tucker was Sarah Poff's father and a teacher for four decades and was an inspiration for her to become a teacher. Robert Boland was a school administrator and avid teacher of history for 40 years. He shared his love of the Civil War and trails history with family and friends and became a volunteer with the Historical Society of Lee's Summit.

Little **Emma Huling** has returned to her final resting place at Elmwood Cemetery in Kansas City. Her remains were almost lost forever because of vandalism of her family's mausoleum, but through the efforts of Speaks Family Legacy Chapels in Independence, she was respectfully returned to her family on April 27, 2019. Emma was born in 1864 and died less than a year later.

Charles Childs, our official photographer, will be doing some railroad traveling in May, June, and July, but Sarah Poff has offered her services to take pictures

of our speakers for those months. **Charles Bianco** has collected pictures of our activities since the first of the year to put in our scrapbook.

In addition to volunteering at the 1859 Jail in Independence and joining the group which volunteers at the Symphony Designers' Showhouse, **Joyce Gillespie** is chairing the Bingham-Waggoner Historical Society's 40th Anniversary Committee.

The **American Civil War Museum** is opening on May 4, 2019 in Richmond, VA. This new, 29,000-square-foot museum brings together the museum at Historic Tredegar and the Museum of the Confederacy to provide a fuller, more diverse narrative of the Civil War.

If you have some shopping to do for Mother's Day and plan to order through Amazon, please consider using **AmazonSmile**, the philanthropic arm of Amazon, which gives cash to groups such as ours. It does not alter any other provisions of Amazon and is easy to use once you have chosen the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri as your designated not-for-profit.

A series of articles in the *Examiner* concerning the comeback of hemp as a crop in Missouri prompted some memories from our members. Before the Civil War hemp was big business in Missouri especially along the Missouri River. Its production supported warehouses at Arrow Rock, Glasgow, Rocheport, and Lexington, and rope-making thrived. **Judy Tharp** who lives in Farley recalls that "volunteer" hemp could be found all over Platte County. Back in the 1960s there were raids on people near Weston selling this low-grade marijuana. She asked a farmer in bib overalls if it really grew in Platte County, and he replied, "Well, I don't know about that there Mary-Wanna stuff, but when I was a kid, we smoked a lot of hemp." **Don Gilmore** remembers that some hemp grew just south of Belton near a bridge. General Jo Shelby grew it for his rope industry in Waverly.

Connie Roman's father was cleaning out a fence row in eastern Jackson County by cutting wild hemp and burning it. A small airplane flew over and about 30 minutes later the Jackson County Sheriff's Patrol pulled into the field to arrest him on drug charges. Connie says, "Gotta be careful of the devil hemp!" There is much to report about some of our Independence, MO tourist attractions. For one thing, the **Truman Home** admission is now free, but you still have to get tickets in advance at the Visitor's

Center at 223 N. Main Street because there is a limit on how many people can tour at one time. You can also call ahead to (816) 254-9929 to see what is available. There is also an idea to build a new visitor's center on Truman Road near the bus transit center. This would free up the present visitor's center to perhaps become a firefighters' museum.

There is another way to get tickets to Independence attractions such as the **Vaile Mansion, the National Frontier Trails Museum, The Chicago and Alton Depot, the 1859 Jail and Marshal's Home, and the Bingham-Waggoner Estate. The Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum** will also be participating until it closes for renovation later this spring. The new way to get tickets is to "check them out" from a participating Mid-Continent Library branch. Library cardholders can check out four admission tickets for up to one week per location. For information go to www.mymcpl.org/museumpass.

The **1859 Jail** at 217 N. Main Street, Independence, MO will soon be undergoing a restoration which must be historically accurate, but until June 9th you can see a display called "Hunting Freedom: The Many Paths to Emancipation in Civil War Missouri" which is based on Leah Palmer's master's degree project. After that, the Jackson County Historical Society will have a display of older-style wedding dresses.

A new display at the **Bingham-Waggoner Estate** at 313 W. Pacific Ave., Independence, MO is a magnificent miniature of the house which will be displayed on the third floor. It was made by Mike Trower, a retired AT&T employee who "enjoys building things."

During the month of June the **Mid-Missouri Civil War Round Table** presents Civil War programs at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the M.U. Extension at the Moss Building in Columbia, MO. The programs will be on June 3 (Sharon Weedin: "The Vicksburg Campaign"), June 10 (Tom Rafiner: "A Chronicle of Missouri's Burnt District 1854-1870"), June 17 (James Cummings: "Three Interesting Civil War Deaths"), June 24 (Gene McArtor: "The Siege and Battle of Corinth").

The Wilson's Creek National Battlefield at Republic, MO has a \$4.5 million project to make room for more Civil War-era artifacts to be displayed at the Visitor's Center. It will add 1,873 square feet of exhibit space at the site of the first major battle west of the Mississippi River.

Other News

Quindaro is now a National Commemorative Site. The Quindaro Town Site in Kansas City, KS is now allowed to use National Park Service signage and will work towards becoming a National Historic Landmark. It marks the location of a town which grew up to serve escaped slaves.

Missouri is coming closer to replacing the statue of Thomas Hart Benton in Statuary Hall in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol with one of Harry S. Truman. The Truman Library Institute has commissioned area artist Tom Corbin as the sculptor. The statue of Benton who worked for statehood and was Missouri's first U.S. senator will be returned to Missouri.

Our adjoining state of Arkansas is also planning to replace both of its statues. One new statue will be of musician Johnny Cash who used music to call out racism and inequality for African Americans. He will be joined by Daisy Bates, a crusading African American journalist who helped organize the Little Rock Nine, black students who defied threats and enrolled in an all-white school in 1957.

Missouri Senator Roy Blunt has been criticized for a 1990 letter he signed (but did write) which answered a question about States' Rights as a cause of the Civil War but did not also list slavery as a cause. Don Gilmore reminds us that both issues were causes and that you can't take a one-sided view. We need to admit this as a starting point.

The Steamboat Arabia is looking for a new home because it has run out of room in its present location in the River Market. The City of Independence would like to be considered for a new location. The cost to build a new museum is in the \$60 million to \$90 million range. One of the considerations for a new museum is that the owners would like to add the artifacts from the Malta which is yet to be excavated near Malta Bend, Missouri. David Hawley would like eventually to dig up six boats to document the 60-year period of steamboat history.

From Len Eagleburger's April 19th newsletter of Civil War articles, we picked up a piece of trivia about Gen. Sterling Price. Troops could tell when he was getting ready to fight. He invariably wore a certain multi-colored plaid hunting shirt nicknamed his "war coat."

